

1 February 2021
English only

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Transboundary
Effects of Industrial Accidents

Bureau

Forty-seventh meeting

Working Group on Implementation

Forty-second meeting

Geneva (online), 24 February 2021

Annotated provisional agenda of the joint meeting

To be held remotely (through WebEx), starting at 9.30 a.m. and ending at 12.30 p.m.

The joint meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the Bureau and meeting of the Working Group on Implementation.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the joint meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Follow-up on the seminar on mine tailings safety.
3. Organization of a seminar on the Beirut accident.
4. Update on the work on risk assessment.
5. Assistance and Cooperation Programme.
 - (a) Update on ongoing and planned assistance activities;
 - (b) Financing;
 - (c) Implementation of the communication, outreach and engagement strategy.
6. Other business.
7. Closure of the joint meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the joint meeting and adoption of the agenda

This provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents in consultation with the Chair of the Bureau and the Chair of the Working Group on Implementation. The Bureau and the Working Group on Implementation will be invited to adopt the agenda as set out in the present document.

The joint meeting will be chaired by both the Chair of the Bureau (items 1-4) and the Chair of the Working Group on Implementation (items 5-7).

The members of the Bureau and Working Group on Implementation will be invited to introduce themselves briefly.

2. Follow-up on the seminar on mine tailings safety

The secretariat will present the evaluation, conclusions and final report of the seminar on mine tailings safety (online, 1 December 2020). The seminar had been prepared by the former Bureau's small group on mine tailings safety.¹

The joint meeting will be invited to reflect on the conclusions and report of the seminar, and discuss how to support the implementation of decision 2020/1 on strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region and beyond, in particular with regard to operative paragraphs in the decision, planned activities and cooperation with other organizations such as UNEP, notably in the lead-up to UNEA-5. The members of the Working Group on Implementation may wish to specifically reflect on the follow-up to the implementation of paragraph 8, which requests Parties to report in their national implementation reports on the identification and notification of mine tailings facilities that fall under the Convention's definition of hazardous activities.

The secretariat will also present the new Online Toolkit and Training for Strengthening Mine Tailings Safety available on the UNECE webpage. The Bureau and Working Group on Implementation will be invited to take note and to advise on the further promotion of the new Online Toolkit and Training.

Documentation:

- Summary of evaluations on the seminar
- Report on the seminar on mine tailings safety
- Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/42, see annex for the conclusion of the seminar on mine tailings safety)
- Decision 2020/1 on strengthening mine tailings safety in the ECE region and beyond (ECE/CP.TEIA/42.Add.1 and ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/L.1)

3. Organization of a seminar on the Beirut accident

In view of the suggestion raised by the European Union and related discussion on any other business at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Bureau and the Working Group on Implementation will be invited to discuss the possible organization of a seminar on

¹ The small group was composed of four members – Mr. Michael Struckl (Austria), Mr. Gerhard Winkelmann-Oei (Germany), Ms. Tandberg (Norway) and Ms. Martine Rohn-Brossard (Switzerland).

the Beirut accident, in cooperation with the secretariat and partners. They will be invited to advise on the substantive organization of the seminar, taking into consideration the elements highlighted in the secretariat's background note and the carrying out of an advance survey. Bureau and Working Group on Implementation members will also be invited to express their willingness in becoming members of a small group to further guide the seminar's preparation.

Documentation:

- Concept note on the organization of the Beirut seminar

4. Update on the work on risk assessment

The Vice-Chair of the Bureau from Switzerland, with the support of the secretariat and small group on risk assessment,² will present an update on the work on risk assessment and the next steps for the development of the risk assessment reports. The joint meeting will be invited to take note of the information presented and endorse the envisaged next steps.

5. Assistance and Cooperation Programme

The joint meeting will be invited to discuss assistance activities, in particular under the Assistance and Cooperation Programme, on the basis of a secretariat presentation.

Documentation:

- Priorities, workplan and resources for the Convention for 2021–2022 (ECE/CP.TEIA/42/Add.1 and ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/L.3)

(a) Update on on-going and planned assistance activities

The secretariat will provide an update on ongoing and planned assistance activities under the current workplan. The joint meeting will be invited to advise on and endorse the proposed activities. It is the Working Group's role to advise on substantively carrying out the activities and the Bureau's role to ensure resources are available for their financing.

(b) Financing

In addition, the joint meeting will be invited to discuss how to enable the further financing of Assistance and Cooperation Programme activities, especially for those activities lacking funding in the Convention's workplan, including in its Table 3.

(c) Industrial Safety Measurement Indices (ISMI)

The joint meeting will be briefed of the exchanges at the prior Working Group on Implementation meeting on the Industrial Safety Measurement Indices (ISMI) tool, which is included in the Convention's workplan for 2021–2022. The tool is being developed in the framework of a pilot project, under the leadership of the Major Accidents and Hazards Bureau of the EU Joint Research Centre (JRC) to monitor and analyse progress towards implementation of the EU Seveso III Directive (and to facilitate the self-assessment under the Convention's Strategic Approach, where applicable), with the aim to facilitate digital reporting and analysis of the status of implementation. The joint meeting will also be informed of an existing off-line e-tool, prepared by the Working Group member from the

² The small group is comprised of seven members in total both from the Convention's Bureau —Mr. Michael Struckl (Austria, Vice-Chair), Mr. Evgeny Baranovsky (Belarus), Mr. Martin Merkofer (Switzerland, Vice-Chair), Ms. Suzana Milutinovic (Serbia)— and the Working Group on Implementation —Ms. Laura Vizbule (Latvia), Mr. Raphael Gonzalez (Switzerland) and Ms. Sanja Stamenkovic (Serbia).

Russian Federation, that could be used to facilitate the preparation of the national self-assessments.

The joint meeting will be invited to take note and to consider reviewing the outcomes of the pilot project of developing ISMI, the related partnership with the EU Joint Research Centre and the implications for the further work under the Convention following its envisaged completion in 2022.

6. Other business

Members of the Bureau or the Working Group on Implementation wishing to raise other business are invited to contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

7. Closure of the joint meeting

The Chairs of the two bodies are expected to close the joint meeting on 24 February at 12.30.
