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Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Fourth session

Geneva, 22 October 2021

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Development of the Protocol

Draft decision IV/2 on the development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers

Prepared by the Bureau

Summary

The Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers at its eighth meeting (Geneva, 16 and 18 December 2020) approved as amended at the meeting the draft decision on development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR/WG.1/2020/Inf.5) and mandated the Bureau to finalize it for submission and adoption at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2020/2, para. 33).

The present document was prepared pursuant to the above-mentioned mandate. The document contains a draft decision on the development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. The draft decision is being submitted to the Meeting of the Parties for consideration and adoption.



The Meeting of the Parties,

Recalling decisions and major outcomes related to the development of the Protocol adopted by the Working Group at its seventh (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2019/2) and eighth meetings (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2020/2),

Aware that some Parties are interested in information on possible approaches for Parties to develop pollutant release and transfer registers, going beyond the current requirements of the Protocol,

Recalling that, pursuant to article 6 (2) of the Protocol, having assessed the experience gained from the development of national pollutant release and transfer registers and the implementation of the Protocol, and taking into account relevant international processes, the Meeting of the Parties shall review the reporting requirements under the Protocol and shall consider specified issues in its further development,

Recalling also that, pursuant to article 20 of the Protocol, Parties may propose amendments to the Protocol and that such proposals are to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties,

1. *Welcomes* the Report on the development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2019/6) prepared by the Bureau;

2. *Adopts* the Report on the outcomes of the survey on the experiences in implementing the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2020/4) as a reference document for Parties, with a view to informing Parties' consideration of possible options for ensuring that the Protocol's objectives are better met;

3. *Invites* Parties to submit appropriate amendments to the Protocol pursuant to its article 20, in time for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties at its next regular or extraordinary session;

4. *Tasks* the Working Group of the Parties, assisted by the Bureau, with facilitating an exchange of information between Parties, taking into account inputs from interested stakeholders, on possible amendments, and with preparing draft decisions containing amendments to the Protocol proposed by Parties for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties at its next regular or extraordinary session.
