

Economic Commission for Europe

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

Bureau

Small Group on Financing

Geneva (online), 29 June 2021

Annotated provisional agenda of small Group on financing

To be held remotely , starting at 2:30 p.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m.

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
2. Follow-up to the Bureau's forty-sixth meeting:
 - (a) Funding status and challenges (20 min)
 - (b) Discussion on funding opportunities and next steps (1 hour 20 min):
 - (i) Implementation of the Sustainable Financial Mechanism: High-level letters and follow-up, facilitated by the Bureau and national focal points (20 min)
 - (ii) Dedicated follow-up with donor countries, in particular for multi-year contributions, including the EU (40 min)
 - (iii) Opportunities related to development cooperation agencies (20 min)
3. Exchange of views on draft workplan 2023-2024 (20 min)
4. Other business
5. Closure of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the 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. The Bureau's small group, which was confirmed at the Bureau's first meeting in the biennium (Geneva and online, 23 February 2021) will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document. The Chair and the secretariat will open the meeting.

2. Follow-up to the Bureau's forty-sixth meeting

The Group will be invited to consider selected issues meriting attention in follow-up to the last meeting of the Bureau (see above) and the joint Bureau and Working Group on Implementation meeting (online, 24 February 2021), mainly on identifying fundraising opportunity, next steps and actions.

(a) Update on funding received and remaining challenges

The secretariat will present an update of the funding status for the Convention's 2021-2022 workplan, drawing attention to any additional contributions communicated since the Bureau meeting and the continued challenges of securing funding for activities in 2022. The Group will then be invited to discuss.

(b) Discussion on funding opportunities and next steps

The Group will be invited to discuss direct outreach strategies to competent authorities under the Convention, and other national authorities, as well as funding options from development cooperation agencies. This will cover, among other components, initiating communication with new donors, maintaining regular communication with existing donors and approaches to ensure the continuation of multi-year contributions for projects and activities, mostly under the Convention's Assistance and Cooperation Programme. The Chair will then invite the Group members to sign-up for respective outreach responsibilities in a shared table following the discussion. Members will be encouraged to make contact with potential and current donors. They will also be invited to discuss how to encourage other members of the Bureau to support fundraising efforts, as this is a shared responsibility.

(i) **Implementation of the Sustainable Financial Mechanism: High-level letters and follow-up, facilitated by the Bureau and national focal points** (20 min)

The secretariat will provide an update of the sending of high-level letters to Ministers or Heads of the Competent Authorities. The Group will be invited to discuss dedicated follow-up to these letters, with their respective national authorities and actions to facilitate the follow-up by the national focal points.

(ii) **Dedicated follow-up with donor countries, in particular for multi-year contributions, including the EU** (40 min)

The Group will be invited to discuss dedicated options for following up with donor countries on larger, often multi-year contributions, sometimes involving several countries. In this context, it will be invited to specifically consider related options to reach out donors who provided such contributions in the past (including France, Germany (in-kind), Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland), while not excluding other options.

The Group will be invited to specifically discuss the EU's support for the Convention's workplan, reach and visibility. This will include the EU's a specific funding scheme and outreach to its Divisions and Institutions.

(iii) **Opportunities related to development cooperation agencies**
(20 min)

The secretariat will present its background research done on development cooperation agencies, resulting in a list of such agencies which focus on areas related to the Convention's work and specifically target eligible EECCA or SEE countries.

The Group will be invited to specifically discuss options for making contact with respective development cooperation agencies, in view of funding projects included in the Convention's workplan, and respective responsibilities.

(d) Exchange of view on draft Workplan 2023-2024

The Group will be invited to further discuss the EU's request at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to further align the Convention's next workplan with the long-term strategy until 2030 (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1) and to further differentiate its core and non-core activities, to exchange related ideas and agree on next steps.

4. Other business

Members of the Group wishing to raise other business are invited to contact the secretariat.

5. Closing of the meeting

The Chair is expected to close the meeting on 29 June 2021 at 4:30 p.m.