

Report on the International PRTR Coordinating Group Activities (Item 3.a.)

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Chair of the International PRTR Coordinating Group



International PRTR Coordinating Group

The International PRTR Coordinating Group (ICG) is an open/informal group **which overall objective is:**

- to enhance coordination and cooperation at the global level among international organizations, governments, NGOs and other interested parties on their efforts related to the development and implementation of PRTR systems, facilitating the exchange of information on though the ongoing and planned PRTR-related activities carried out by its participants and partners worldwide.
- to raise awareness and promote PRTRs in international fora.

Bureau and meetings

- UNITAR and Spain currently serve on the Bureau. The UNECE Aarhus/PRTR Secretariat also serves as secretariat.
- Meetings of the ICG usually take place yearly, *back to back* with the OECD WP on PRTRs meetings. The last one (14^hICG) was held on January, 2022 in virtual format but keeping with this tradition. (Next one, January, 2023... face to face, hopefully!!!!!!)

All the updated information on the ICG is available on the UNECE/PRTR website:

<https://unece.org/environment-policypublic-participation/international-prtr-coordinating-group>.



Main outcomes 2021-2022

ADOPTION of the revised Terms of Reference of the ICG

- The participants **reiterated their commitment to coordination and synergies** in relation to the work on PRTRs..
- Welcomed **good practices and innovative approaches** shared by participants during the **tour de table and “hot-topic” (*) sessions**:

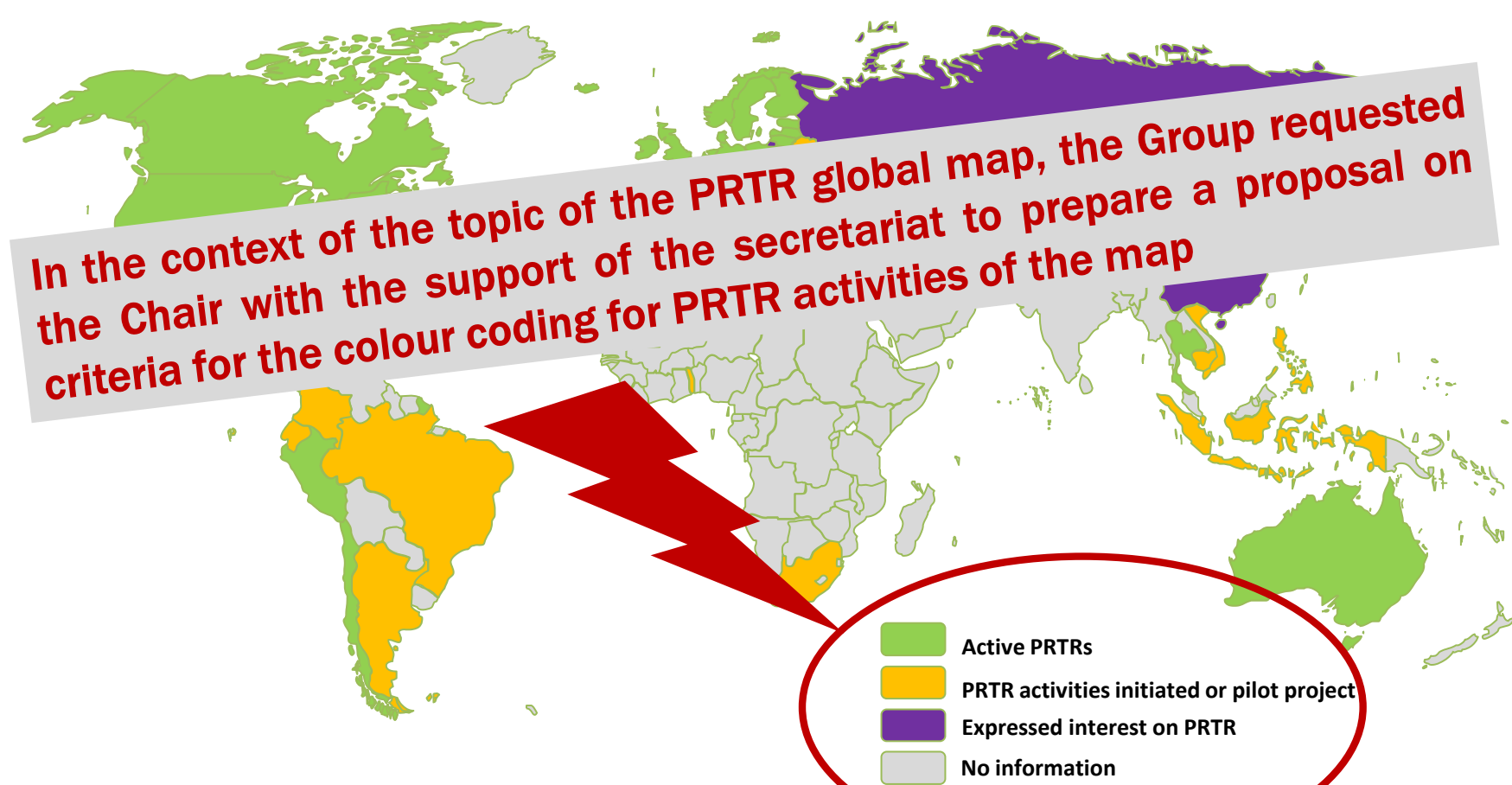
(*) PRTR “hot topic”:...any topic that is innovative or considered as a priority in the implementation of PRTRs

- **Using PRTR data for:** *evaluating progress in sustainable and circular economy policies, promoting benchmarking exercises, more contextual data information,..*
- **Improving national PRTR systems:** *Reviewing and revising PRTR-related legislation, (reporting modalities, scopes of PRTRs,...); Up-dating guidance documents, Addressing data quality issues, improving data management and data flow; Responding to specific data needs of users (contextual information...); Improving PRTR data integration with other national data sets, such as national statistic plans.*
- **Improving international cooperation and harmonizing different PRTRs:** *Further development of the Protocol on PRTRs; Update data for the OECD centre for PRTR data and PRTR.net, Develop online modules for capacity building on PRTRs...*

- Agreed also, to be continue with discussions on the role of the ICG and on how to improve cooperation and coordination among the Group’s participants.
- Pursuant to the adopted revised ToR, the Chair and the ViceChair re-elected for another mandate and decided to elect a second Vice-Chair at its next meeting bearing in mind the diverse geographic representation of the officers of the Group

Main outcomes 2021-2022

PRTR GLOBAL MAP 2021



The designations employed and the presentation of the material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Colors used are illustrative.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**

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