

Agenda item 7b: Other activities of the WGI since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Geneva, Switzerland and online, 29 November-1 December 2022

Helena Fridh, Sweden, Chair of the Working Group on Implementation

OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

- Terms and reference of the Working Group on Implementation (WGI)
- WGI Members 2021-2024
- Activities in the biennium 2021-2022
 - Engagement with countries
 - Development and testing of an e-tool for self-assessment and action plans under the strategic approach
 - Facilitation of late submissions of national implementation reports for the ninth reporting round (2016–2018)
 - Update of the reporting format and guidelines for the tenth reporting round (2019-2022)
 - Deadlines for the tenth reporting round (2019-2022)

TERMS AND REFERENCE OF THE WGI

WGI shall:

- (a) Monitor the implementation of the Convention;
- (b) Prepare the report on the implementation of the Convention, including conclusions, on the basis of the individual country reports, in line with article 23 of the Convention;
- (c) Make draft recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the basis of the above report and submit these, through the Bureau, to the Conference of the Parties for adoption;
- (d) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries where the Working Group becomes aware of possible difficulties in the implementation of the Convention, to understand the situation in these countries more accurately and to provide advice and make recommendations on the implementation of the Convention, share good practices and draw attention to existing guidance and tools;
- (e) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries, based on the review of the national implementation reports, to gather information about innovations, good practices, national guidelines and other materials of interest;
- (f) Identify good practices and facilitate the exchange of information among Parties and other countries;
- (g) Monitor the Convention's Assistance Programme, including the application of the Strategic Approach, and review national self-assessments and action plans;
- (h) Review the substance and eligibility of project proposals submitted within the framework of the Assistance Programme and its Strategic Approach;
- (i) Monitor the progress of assistance activities within the programme of work under the Convention and, if no progress is made in the implementation of the Convention, request the countries benefitting from such activities to provide an explanation;
- (j) Carry out other tasks entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties;
- (k) Shall conduct its business in English

WGI MEMBERS 2021-2024

Second four-year term: 2021-2024

10 members:

Ms. Helena Fridh (Sweden) – Chair

Mr. Raphael Gonzalez (Switzerland) – Vice-Chair

Ms. Anna Tsarina (Russian Federation) – Vice-Chair (since early Feb. 2022)

Ms. Tatyana Lógutova (Belarus), replaced Mr. Pavel Chukharev (Belarus)

Ms. Laura Vizbule (Latvia) → Until Oct. 2021, without replacement

Mr. Vitali Mutaf (Republic of Moldova)

Ms. Nicolette Bouman (Netherlands)

Ms. Sanja Stamenkovic (Serbia)

Ms. Reelika Kuusik (Estonia)

Ms. Mária Šebestová (Slovakia)

During 2021-2022, 5 online meetings, WGI41-WGI46, including the WGI Special Session: seminar on good practices and lessons learned

ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENNIUM 2021-2022

Engagement with countries

- Updated country dossiers
- Supported countries in the preparation or update of self-assessments and action plans (SA¹: Azerbaijan, Montenegro, Ukraine. AP²: Montenegro) (Natech in SA and/or AP: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan).
- Conducted 4 teleconferences (Armenia, Ukraine, North Macedonia and Uzbekistan)
- Online meeting with Azerbaijan, organized by the secretariat
- Technical mission to Montenegro, participation of the Serbian member of the Working Group

¹ self-assessment

² action plan

ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENNIUM 2021-2022

Development and testing of an e-tool for self-assessment and action plans under the strategic approach

- Following three rounds of review with feedback from the Working Group and secretariat, the e-tool was finalized by the member from the Russian Federation in 2021 and tested by the Belarussian member of the Working Group in 2022 when updating the national self-assessment and action plan of Belarus.
- Working Group recommends the use of the e-tool for beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme in order to simplify the preparation of their self-assessments.

Self-assessment of working area 1: Identification of hazardous activities

Criteria for self-assessment of progress

| Indicator | Description | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | The indicator is fully operational and implemented by the competent authorities, the operators or both | | | | | | |
| 5 | The indicator has been adopted and covers all the relevant elements, but is only partly operational in practice (due to lack of resources) | | | | | | |
| 4 | Relevant procedures, standards have been adopted by the competent authorities and operators | | | | | | |
| 3 | A decision has been taken at the level of policymakers to introduce or update the indicators. Relevant stakeholders are identified | | | | | | |
| 2 | Initial discussions at the national level or among authorities, experts and operators are leading to the introduction of the indicators | | | | | | |
| 1 | Little awareness among competent authorities of the need to introduce the indicator or of the requirements for setting it up | | | | | | |
| 1. Mechanism for data collection | <p>Set of procedures, implementation rules and actions allowing the relevant authorities to collect adequate data for the identification of hazardous activities (HA) from the operators, the type of data to be collected, schedules and procedures for data collection</p> <p>The relevant elements to be defined in a governmental act or national practice (Stage 1) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those responsible for data collection The type of data to be collected including the characteristics and quantities of chemicals The data format to be used by HA operators to present data to the competent authorities The frequency or schedule of data collection <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any necessary training programme is designed <p>Stage 1 is achieved when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and financial resources are secured Training is regularly conducted The necessary improvements and revisions are undertaken | | | | | | |
| 2. Mechanism for data analysis and validation | <p>Set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that the authorities and HA operators correctly apply the system for the identification of substances compliant with Annex I of the convention and use the relevant criteria, recommended by the convention, in a cross-border context. Collected data should be complete and adequate to identify HA and correspond to the real situation in the country. The country establishes an official HA list and ensures its availability at the national level and to neighbouring countries.</p> <p>The relevant elements to be defined in a governmental act or national practice (Stage 2) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those responsible for data analysis and data validation The elements to be included in the data analysis The validation procedure and time intervals of data validation The availability of a validated list of HA within the country for authorities at the ministerial and lower levels, and for other stakeholders and for the authorities in neighbouring countries <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant criteria are applied in identification of HA that potentially fall under the scope of the Convention Any necessary training programme is designed <p>Stage 2 is achieved when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and financial resources are secured Training to implement the mechanism is regularly conducted The necessary improvements and revisions are undertaken | | | | | | |

ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENNIUM 2021-2022

Facilitation of late submissions of national implementation reports for the ninth reporting round (2016–2018)

- Working Group at its forty-first meeting agreed to take steps to encourage those Parties and committed countries that had not yet submitted a report for the ninth reporting round (2016–2018) to do so as soon as possible. Those steps included contacting the focal points of those countries and, if that approach was unsuccessful, requesting the secretariat subsequently to prepare high-level letters. This resulted in the submission of three additional implementation reports for the ninth reporting round by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Georgia in 2021 (in order of submission), complementing the other implementation reports submitted late.
- Only two committed countries Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have not provided their reports.

LATE REPORTS FOR THE NINTH REPORTING ROUND 2016-2018

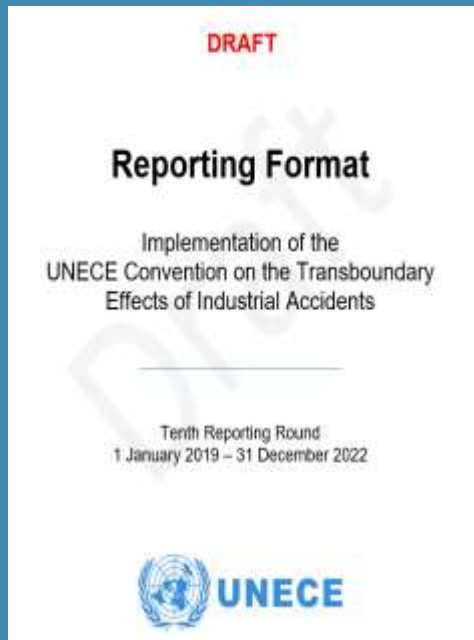
Parties and committed countries that submitted their national implementation reports late for the ninth reporting round (2016–2018)

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Quarter</i> | <i>Parties/committed countries</i> | |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| 2019 | IV | Netherlands | (P) |
| | | Estonia | (P) |
| | | Denmark | (P) |
| | | Uzbekistan | (C) |
| 2020 | I | - | |
| | | | |
| | II | Montenegro | (P) |
| | | Luxembourg | (P) |
| | | Greece | (P) |
| | | Azerbaijan | (P) |
| III | Kazakhstan | (P) | |
| IV | - | | |
| 2021 | I | - | |
| | | - | |
| | III | Bosnia and Herzegovina | (P) |
| | | Albania | (P) |
| | IV | Georgia | (C) |

Abbreviations: C, committed country; P, Party.

Note: No implementation report submitted by Kyrgyzstan or Tajikistan (both committed countries). Countries referred to in table are listed in chronological order of submission.

10TH REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION



- Update of the reporting format and guidelines for the tenth reporting round (2019-2022)
 - Inclusion of questions to facilitate reporting on tailings management facilities, Natech events, risk assessment, cybersecurity, good practices, public information and gender, age and disability inclusion;
 - Reformatting of the template and guidelines to make reporting and subsequent analysis more user-friendly;
 - Restructuring and reordering of some of the sections for consistency purposes;
 - Use of special editorial tools to prevent changes in the reporting questions and facilitate adherence to word limits.

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| I. | Competent Authorities and Focal Points | 4 |
| II. | Policy for Implementation of the Convention..... | 6 |
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| IV. | Prevention of Industrial Accidents..... | 12 |
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| VI. | Mutual Assistance | 20 |
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| IX. | Decision-making on Siting and Land-use Planning..... | 24 |
| X. | Good Practices in Implementation | 25 |
| XI. | Reporting on Past Industrial Accidents | 26 |
| | Annex 1 - Template for the notification of hazardous activities in accordance with Article 4 of and Annex III to the ECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents | |

10TH REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

The reporting format and template will be finalized and circulated by email to competent authorities and national focal points in early 2023.

The deadline for Parties and committed countries to submit their national implementation report for the tenth reporting round is 31 October 2023.

Reports submitted after the deadline cannot be analysed by the Working Group for preparing the overall report on implementation (ECE/CP.TEIA/32/Add.1, decision 2016/2, para 4).

The Working Group wishes to encourage Parties and committed countries to report in a timely manner.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!