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)
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
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 Ló gutova (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
Engagement with countries

- Updated country dossiers
- Supported countries in the preparation or update of self-assessments and action plans (SA\textsuperscript{1}: Azerbaijan, Montenegro, Ukraine. AP\textsuperscript{2}: 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

\textsuperscript{1} self-assessment

\textsuperscript{2} action plan
ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENN IUM 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.
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.
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**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.
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.

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Reporting Format

Implementation of the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Tenth Reporting Round
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2022

UNECE

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I. Competent Authorities and Focal Points ................................................................. 4
II. Policy for Implementation of the Convention .......................................................... 6
III. Identification and Notification of Hazardous Activities with Potential to Cause Transboundary Effects ................................................................. 8
IV. Prevention of Industrial Accidents ......................................................................... 12
V. Emergency Preparedness and Response ................................................................. 14
VI. Mutual Assistance .................................................................................................. 20
VII. Scientific and Technological Cooperation and Exchange of Information ................ 21
VIII. Information to and Participation of the Public ....................................................... 21
IX. Decision-making on Siting and Land-use Planning ................................................ 24
X. Good Practices in Implementation ....................................................................... 25
XI. Reporting on Past Industrial Accidents .................................................................. 26

Annex I - 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
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/CPTEIA/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!