
Economic Commission for Europe

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

Bureau

Forty-ninth meeting

Geneva (online), 28 and 29 June 2022

Annotated provisional agenda of the forty-ninth meeting

To be held remotely via Webex

I. Provisional agenda

- A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the provisional agenda**
- B. Update on financial and in-kind resources provided in the biennium 2021-2022**
- C. Preparations for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP-12) and related updates and considerations**
 - 1. CoP-12 draft annotated provisional agenda and opening of the meeting.
 - 2. Thirtieth anniversary of the Convention.
 - 3. Status of ratification, representation and credentials.
 - 4. Report of the Bureau on its activities since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 - 5. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.
 - 6. Activities of the Working Group on Implementation:
 - (a) Special Session: Seminar on good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Other activities of the Working Group on Implementation since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 - 7. Assistance to countries in the Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.
 - 8. UN/OECD Seminar in follow-up to the Beirut port explosion.
 - 9. Risk assessment for industrial accident prevention:
 - (a) Presentation of risk assessment reports and future work;
 - (b) Update of the location criteria.
 - 10. Prevention of accidental water pollution.

11. Orientation Paper: Roadmap for action to strengthen mine tailings safety within and beyond the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region.
12. Workplan for the Convention for the biennium 2023-2024 and its financing.
13. Natech risk management:
 - (a) ECE/OECD Seminar on effective management of technological risks triggered by natural hazards;
 - (b) Decision on Natech risk management in the ECE region and beyond.
14. Contribution to implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and SDGs.
15. Industrial Accident Notification System.
16. Outreach, awareness-raising and strategic partnerships.
17. Emerging risks and developments.
18. Date and venue of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

D. Progress in the implementation of the long-term strategy for the Convention, communication, outreach and engagement strategy and decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism

E. Other business

F. Closing of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Day 1, Tuesday, 28 June 2022

(9:00 – 17:15, provisional timing indicated in brackets)

8.50 – 9.00 *Dialling in by participants via Webex*

A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (9:00-9:05)

This provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Bureau. The Chair will open the meeting and introduce the meeting etiquette. The secretariat will also deliver brief opening remarks. The Bureau will thereafter be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

B. Update on financial and in-kind resources provided in the biennium 2021-2022 (9:05-9:40)

The secretariat will provide the Bureau with an update of the financial and in-kind resources available and pledged to support the implementation of the workplan for 2021-2022, and the related availability and planning for staff and consultancy support. In this context, it will share information on the approach and outline to the official document on the use of financial and in-kind resources to be prepared for CoP-12, for the Bureau's consideration and agreement.

In addition, the Chair will provide an update on the actions taken in follow-up to a previous meeting of the Bureau's small group on financing. Bureau members will be invited to speak about their efforts to attract financing for the Convention's workplan.

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the financial situation and to consider further efforts to attract resources to enable further implementation of the workplan– with due consideration of the sustainable financial mechanism, which places a particular responsibility on the Bureau. This can naturally feed into the discussion for attracting financing for the future workplan, under agenda item C.10.

C. Preparations for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP-12) and related updates and considerations (9:40-10:00)

The Chair, supported by the secretariat, will inform the Bureau about the proposed agenda and approach to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Geneva, 29 November - 1 December 2022), as well as its co-organisation by Norway and the related support provided.

Bureau members will be invited to consider providing additional support to the travel and accommodation of participants from EECCA and SEE countries, and to the secretariat's related arrangements and preparation of the meeting.

The secretariat will present information on the organizational arrangements, including the forthcoming meeting invitation. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the invitees to the Conference, in addition to the competent authorities, also reflecting on partner organizations and stakeholders to be invited.

In addition, the Bureau will be invited to provide guidance on the promotion of the Conference, and consider actions which the secretariat and Bureau members can take. Such

actions can include press releases or video statements, among others, announcing and inviting to the Conference.

Furthermore, the secretariat will share information on the meeting modalities as a mainly in-person event, with the possibility for remote connection, in particular for representatives from beyond the ECE region. The possibility for remote interventions for an interpreted session will be limited to 30 minutes for each 3-hour segment and is thus proposed to be limited.

The secretariat will also present an overview of the expected official documentation for consideration by CoP-12. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the approach to the presentations and documents for each of the CoP-agenda items, in their respective sequence, in the following.

1. CoP-12 draft annotated provisional agenda and opening of the meeting (10:00-10:15)

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the draft provisional agenda for the meeting, reflecting on it more broadly. It will also be invited to discuss its opening by the Chair, the Deputy Executive-Secretary of ECE and the Director-General of the Directorate for Civil Protection of Norway.

Documentation

Draft annotated provisional agenda for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/43)

2. Thirtieth anniversary of the Convention (10:15-10:45)

In light of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention, the secretariat will present the proposed agenda item under which delegations will be invited to reflect on the Convention's thirtieth anniversary, highlighting up to three key achievements they intend to take toward accelerating implementation of the Convention and make progress in line with the long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030 (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1). Delegations will be encouraged to show an image or a picture on a slide which can figuratively illustrate the achievement(s) and action(s) they wish to present. The secretariat will other present other ideas for how to celebrate the 30th anniversary in the margins of CoP-12. The Bureau will be invited to exchange its views, discuss and advise.

Documentation

Long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030 (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1).

3. Status of ratification, representation and credentials (10:45-11:00)

Based on a proposal by the secretariat, the Bureau will be invited to agree how to handle this item, including the reporting on ratification and representation, and on credentials, the latter traditionally delivered by one of the Vice-Chairs. It will also be invited to discuss the expected welcoming of Ukraine as a new Party to the Convention, following the adoption of the accession bill, under this item.

Coffee break (10:50-11:05)

4. Report of the Bureau on its activities since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (11:00-11:30)

The Chair will present the draft outline of the report on the activities of the Bureau in 2021–2022, in cooperation with the Vice-Chairs, and how these activities have contributed to the implementation of the long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030, adopted by the

Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1). The Bureau is also expected to confirm its previous practice of backing up its written report to the CoP with a presentation by the Chair, and to discuss the elements to be highlighted therein.

Documentation

Long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030 (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1)

5. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (11:30-12:00)

Following an invitation by the Chair, Bureau members will be invited to express their availability and respective backing by their competent authorities for their nomination for a future term in the Bureau. On this basis, the Bureau will be invited to discuss the possible future composition of the Bureau, including its Chair and Vice-Chairs, and possible actions it could take in this respect. At its forty-sixth meeting (February 2021), the Bureau agreed to consider options to attract the sub-regions not represented for nomination for Bureau membership for the next biennium.

Furthermore, the Chair will invite the secretariat to recall the relevant rules of procedure concerning elections and to share information of the experience of UNECE bodies of holding such elections in cases when consensus could be not reached. On this basis, the Bureau will be invited to discuss a proposed approach to reaching consensus, and in its absence, holding elections at the Conference of the Parties.

Documentation

Rules of procedure for the Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/37 (consolidated version))

Terms of reference of the Bureau (ECE/CP.TEIA/32/Add.1)

6. Activities of the Working Group on Implementation (12:00 – 12:30)

(a) Special Session: Seminar on good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Convention

The Chair of the Working Group on Implementation will report on the conduct of the Working Group's Seminar on good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Convention (Geneva and online, 3-4 February 2022), including the seminar conclusions and recommendations. The Chair of the Working Group will also present the proposed activities for inclusion into the workplan for 2023-2024, notably the: (i) Establishment of an interactive network for the exchange of information and sharing of experiences; and the (ii) Development of a guide of good practices on the implementation of the Convention.

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar and agree on the integration of the follow-up activities in the workplan for 2023-2024.

Documentation

Conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group on Implementation's Special Session: Seminar on Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Implementing the Convention, as contained in the annex of the Activities of the Working Group on Implementation since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/5, annex I) - draft

(b) Other activities of the Working Group on Implementation since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties

The Chair of the Working Group on Implementation will report on other activities by the Working Group in the period since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, notably on the development of an e-tool to facilitate self-assessments and the update of the format and guidelines for the tenth round of reporting. In this regard, the Chair will introduce the draft report of the Working Group on Implementation to the CoP.

The Bureau will be invited to take note of the information and share its views.

Documentation

Activities of the Working Group on Implementation since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/5) – draft

7. Assistance to countries in Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (12:30 – 13:00)

The secretariat will present the outcomes of the key assistance activities organized in the framework of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme and other capacity-building activities since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, focusing on providing updates on assistance activities since the Bureau's last meeting and their proposed continuation or conduct of new activities in the biennium 2023-2024. In this context, the secretariat will also present an outline of the background document on assistance activities carried out in this biennium.

The Bureau will be invited to take note of the activities conducted thus far and to advise on the conduct of future activities in the course of this and the next biennium. In addition, the Bureau will be invited to advise on attracting the financial resources for the continued conduct of assistance activities to support addressing the needs of beneficiary countries.

Documentation

Progress report on the implementation of assistance activities in 2021–2022 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/6) - outline

Lunch break: 13:00 – 13:45

8. UN/OECD Seminar in follow-up to the Beirut port explosion (13:45 – 14:15)

The Austrian Vice-Chair of the Bureau, who acted as Chair of the Advisory Group, will present on the organization and outcomes of the UN/OECD seminar in follow-up to the 2020 Beirut port explosion: Lessons learned, experiences and good practices in managing risks of ammonium nitrate storage, handling and transport in port areas, preventing accidents and mitigating their consequences (Geneva and online, 14 December 2021). The secretariat will present on the envisaged further work by ECE and partner organizations, following related discussions with partner organizations and the Parties having initiated and supported the conduct of the seminar (EU, France, Germany).

The Bureau will be invited to share its views on the seminar, the envisaged follow-up activities, as reflected in the draft 2023-2024 workplan.

Documentation

Conclusions of the UN/OECD seminar in follow-up to the 2020 Beirut port explosion: Lessons learned, experiences and good practices in managing risks of ammonium nitrate storage, handling and transport in port areas, preventing accidents and mitigating their consequences (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/INF.3)

9. Risk assessment for industrial accident prevention (14:15-14:45)**(a) Presentation of risk assessment reports and future work**

The Swiss Vice-Chair, leading the small group on risk assessment, will present highlights of the two reports on risk assessment methodologies, his proposed approach for presenting these at the CoP and envisaged follow-up activities for the next biennium. He will also recall other recommendations for follow-up activities resulting from the 2018 seminar on risk assessment methodologies. The Bureau will be invited to share its views on the draft reports, the follow-up activities and the proposed approach to presenting them at the CoP.

(b) Update of the location criteria

The Swiss Vice-Chair will present the deliberations of the small group on risk assessment on the possible update of the location criteria in view of the use of risk assessment methodologies.

The Chair of the Working Group will be invited to report on the deliberations of the Working Group on Implementation on the recommendation to consider updating the location criteria in view of tailings management facilities, resulting from the Working Group's Seminar on Good Practices in February 2022.

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the deliberations and recommendations by the small group on risk assessment and the Working Group on Implementation. The Bureau will also be invited to decide on the way forward, including how to present the information at CoP-12.

Documentation

Risk assessment for industrial accident prevention: Overview of Risk Assessment Methods (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/8) - draft

Risk assessment for industrial accident prevention: Selected Case Studies and Available Software Tools (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/9) - draft

10. Prevention of accidental water pollution (14:45-15:15)

The Serbian co-Chair of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG) will report on the Group's activities carried out since the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. He will also present the approach to the JEG Seminar and will present the items proposed by the JEG for inclusion into the 2023-2024 workplan for the Convention, along with their envisaged lead Parties and budget. The Bureau will be invited to review and agree on the JEG-related items to be included in the Convention's workplan for 2023-24, and the corresponding budget.

11. Orientation paper: Roadmap for action to strengthen mine tailings safety within and beyond the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region (15:15 – 16:00)

The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will report on the development of the orientation paper outlining key objectives to further strengthen mine tailings safety and actions to be taken in this respect, prepared in cooperation with a small group of the Bureau and the secretariat. The secretariat will also highlight the proposed presentations by partner organizations under this agenda item.

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the draft orientation paper, including the proposed actions and priorities therein, as well as their presentation and the related discussion at the CoP.

Documentation

Orientation paper: Call for action to strengthen mine tailings safety within and beyond the ECE region (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/7) - draft

Coffee break: 16:00 – 16:15

12. Workplan for the Convention for the biennium 2023–2024 and its financing (16:15-17:15)

The secretariat will present the draft plan of action for the next biennium. The Bureau will be invited to exchange its views, discuss and advise, in particular on attracting the financial resources to enable a predictable, sustainable implementation of the workplan. It will be invited to discuss specific actions which can be taken to reach out to Parties to encourage pledges in advance of the CoP.

The secretariat will also present the draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance, which the Bureau will be invited to endorse.

Documentation

Priorities, workplan and resources for the Convention for 2023–2024 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/11) - draft

Draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/12) - draft

Day 2, Wednesday, 29 June 2022

(9:30 – 15:30; provisional timing in brackets)

9.15 – 9.30 Dialling in by participants via Webex

13. Natech risk management (9.30-10.15)

(a) ECE/OECD Seminar on effective management of technological risks triggered by natural hazards

The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will present information on the planning for the joint ECE/OECD seminar on effective management of technological risks triggered by natural hazards, elements of the respective background document and the draft programme for the seminar, prepared in cooperation with the OECD Natech Steering Group and the small group of the Bureau.

The Bureau will be invited to consider the approach to and agenda of the seminar, and to advise, incl. on possible speakers.

Documentation

ECE/OECD seminar on effective management of technological risks triggered by natural hazards (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/3)

Seminar programme (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/INF.2)

(b) Decision on Natech risk management in the ECE region and beyond

The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will introduce the draft decision on Natech risk management in the ECE region and beyond. The Bureau will be invited to share its views and advice on the draft decision.

Documentation

Draft decision on Natech risk management in the ECE region and beyond (ECE/CP.TEIA/2022/4) - draft

14. Contribution to implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and SDGs (10:15 – 10:45)

The Bureau member from Slovenia will be invited to report on the co-organization by ECE, the European Investment Bank (EIB), OECD, Norway and Slovenia of a focused thematic discussion on industrial/chemical accident risk in the framework of the European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR), entitled “Preventing another Sandoz, Baia Mare or Beirut accident: Perspectives on risk management in the context of the Sendai Framework” (online, 24 November 2021).

The secretariat will provide supplementary information on ECE’s presence at EFDRR, as well as the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (Bali and online, 25-27 May 2022), including its organization of a joint side event, together with the Water Convention, on “Governance of climate and technological risks in transboundary water bodies” (online, 27 May 2022).

The secretariat will furthermore highlight its cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), with the potential to result in concrete project activities, under the Convention’s workplans. It will also highlight its proposal for a presentation by UNDRR at the CoP on cooperation with UNECE and the outcomes of EFDRR and the Global Platform at the CoP as well as for an intervention from the EIB on the work conducted thanks to its co-financing.

The Bureau will be invited to take note of the information provide, and to discuss the achievements and how best to build on them in order to foster policy and governance linkages among industrial accidents prevention, preparedness and response and broader DRR.

15. Industrial Accident Notification System (10:45-11:15)

The secretariat will share information on the envisaged connectivity test of the Industrial Accident Notification System and an online consultation of the Points of Contact organized in summer 2022. In addition, the Bureau member from Switzerland will report on the sub-regional connectivity test conducted with neighbouring countries. Any other Bureau member will be invited to report on envisaged tests, for example France. The Bureau will be invited to take note and advise on the envisaged presentation of these issues at the CoP. It will also be invited to specifically consider the required resources necessary to upgrade the IAN system.

Coffee break (11:15-11:30)

16. Outreach, awareness-raising and strategic partnerships (11:30-12:00)

The secretariat will provide an update on: (a) targeted communication; (b) its participation in international and regional meetings and forums; (c) meetings with partner organizations to coordinate joint activities, including inter-agency coordination meetings; and (d) working visits and missions to Parties and other stakeholders, and donor meetings. The secretariat will also share information on the proposed approach to sharing this information at the CoP and to inviting Parties to also share information on their communication, outreach and partnership efforts in order to promote the Convention. The Bureau will be invited to advise.

Lunch break (12:00-13:00)

17. Emerging risks and developments (13:00-13:30)

The long-term strategy stipulates that the Convention will be a flexible and modern instrument capable of addressing new and emerging risks. The secretariat will present the proposed agenda item under which the CoP will be invited to consider various emerging issues of concern. The Bureau will be invited to exchange its views and suggest presentations to be covered under this agenda item.

18. Date and venue of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (13:30-13:45)

The Bureau will be invited to discuss options for the hosting of CoP-13 in 2024.

D. Progress in the implementation of the long-term strategy, communication, outreach and engagement strategy and decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism (13:45-15:15)

At its forty-first meeting (Geneva, 13 February 2019), the Bureau agreed to review implementation of progress towards the implementation of the long-term strategy and the communication strategy – along with the decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism – at its meetings in advance of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Based on a presentation by the secretariat, the Bureau will be invited to share its views to discuss and brainstorm how to foster further progress towards the implementation of the long-term strategy, the communication, outreach and engagement strategy and sustainable financing, and how to bring relevant aspects to the attention of the CoP.

Documentation

Long-term strategy of the Convention until 2030

Communication, outreach and engagement strategy

Decision 2018/2 fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism

(all contained in ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1)

E. Other business (15:15-15:25)

Members of the Bureau wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

F. Closing of the meeting (15:25-15:30)

The Bureau is invited to confirm the date and location of its next session, normally held back-to-back with the CoP, i.e. on Monday afternoon, 28 November in Geneva, before the Chair formally closes the session.
