

Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on
Access to Information, Public Participation
in Decision-making and Access to Justice
in Environmental Matters

Task Force on Access to Justice

Fifteenth meeting

Geneva, 4-5 April 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening and adoption of the agenda

Provisional programme of the meeting¹

To be held in Salle XVIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 4 April 2023

v. 3 April 2023

1. Opening and adoption of the agenda².

Timing: Tuesday, 4 April, 3–3.10 p.m.

The Chair will introduce organization of work and the main topics for the discussion.

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

2. Thematic focus:

- (a) Access to justice in cases related to climate change;

Timing: Tuesday, 4 April, 3.10–5 p.m.

Presenters:

Ms. Christina Voigt, Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (video-message)

Mr. Benjamin SCHACHTER, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR (in-person)

Ms. Eva SALPLACHTOVA, Senior Officer, Ministry of Environment, Czechia (online)

Ms. Charlotta VON TROIL, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Finland (in-person)

Ms. Nolwenn PILLANT, Legal Adviser, Ministry for Ecological Transition, France (in-person)

Mr. Roberto RANDO, Senior Complaints Officer, European Investment Bank (in-person)

Mr. Tom WITSCHAS, European ECO Forum/ UfU (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

- (b) Access to justice in cases related to biodiversity protection.

Timing: Tuesday, 4 April, 5–6 p.m. and Wednesday, 5 April, 10–11 a.m.

Presenters:

Ms. Inonge KWENDA MWEENE, Legal Officer, UNEP secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (in-person)

Ms. Petra SOWA-JANOVSKY, Legal Specialist, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria (in-person)

¹ The document was not formally edited.

² Provisional agenda, background material and other documents for the meeting are available on the meeting webpage:

Mr. Mario DE OLIVERA, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Environment and Biodiversity, Guinea-Bissau (in-person)

Mr. Guillaume FUTHAZAR, Associated Researcher, CERIC (online)

Mr. Faustino GUDIN, Judge/Professor, European Forum of Judges for the Environment (in-person)

Ms. Ruzanna GHAZARYAN, European ECO Forum / DALMA-SONA Foundation (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

3. Access to justice in energy-related cases.

Timing: Wednesday, 5 April, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

(a) *Experience of Parties and stakeholders*

Presenters:

Mr. Adam Daniel NAGY, Legal and Policy Officer, DG Environment, European Commission (in-person)

Mr. Alexandros KASSAPIS, European ECO Forum / Youth and Environment Europe (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(b) *Analysis of energy-related cases*

The Chair will introduce the item.

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

4. Stocktaking of recent and upcoming developments.

Timing: Wednesday, 5 April, 12 p.m.–1 p.m. and 3–3.30 p.m.

(a) *Report on the survey outcomes*

The Chair will introduce the item.

Ms. Natalia GURANDA, Executive Director, Aarhus Centre of the Republic of Moldova (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(b) *Experience of Parties and stakeholders*

Presenters:

Ms. Zsuzsanna BELENYESSY, Legal Officer, DG Environment, European Commission (in-person)

Ms. Alison HOUGH, European ECO Forum / EJNI (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(c) *Report from the 2023 Judicial Colloquium*

The Chair will introduce the item.

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(d) *Preparations for the WGP thematic session on access to justice*

The Chair will introduce the item.

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

5. Tools to promote effective access to justice.

Timing: Wednesday, 5 April, 3.30 p.m. – 5.45 p.m.

(a) access to independent environmental expertise;

Presenters:

Ms. Natalia KOBYLARZ, Senior Lawyer, Registry, European Court of Human Rights (in-person)

Ms. Sascha Dalen GILHUIJS, Director, STAB, Netherlands (online)

Ms. Tina JANIATOVIC, Senior Legal Adviser, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia (in-person)

Ms. Magdolna TÓTHNÉ NAGY, European ECO Forum/ Guta Association (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(b) dissemination of information on access to review procedures, collection of relevant data and statistics and access to relevant case law using e-justice initiatives, modern digital technologies and other tools;

Presenter:

Mr. Marcus LIVIO, Judge, National High Court, Brazil (online)

Ms. Olya MELEN-ZABRAMNA, European ECO Forum / Environment-People-Law (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

(c) multi-stakeholder dialogues to remove existing barriers

Presenters:

Ms. Mari CHAKRYAN, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Armenia (in-person)

Ms. Emma PAGLIARUSCO, European ECO Forum / Youth and Environment Europe (in-person)

Discussion/Statements from the floor.

6. Other business.

Timing: Wednesday, 5 April, 5.45–5.50 p.m.

7. Closing.

Timing: Wednesday, 5 April, 5.50–6 p.m.