



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in
a Transboundary Context serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Implementation Committee

Fifty-eighth session

Geneva, 27 February–1 March 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session

To be held online, starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 27 February 2024*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Membership of the Implementation Committee.
3. Review of decisions of the Meetings of the Parties.
4. Follow-up to decisions IX/4b–V/4b, IX/4c–V/4c, IX/4d to IX/4l and V/4d.
5. Submissions.
6. Committee initiative.
7. Information gathering:
Convention matters.
8. Review of implementation.

* Members of the Committee are requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e. by **13 February 2024**, through the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1007053/> (the use of the Internet Explorer browser is recommended). Should any difficulties be encountered when attempting to register, please email the secretariat (eia.conv@un.org ; maricar.delacruz@un.org).



9. Other business.
10. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The present provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in agreement with the Implementation Committee Chair,¹ in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.² The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt the present agenda.

2. Membership of the Implementation Committee

2. The members of the Implementation Committee are expected to introduce themselves. The Committee will then elect its Chair and Vice-Chairs.
3. The secretariat and the continuing Committee members will introduce the new members of the Committee to the key documents used by the Committee.

3. Review of decisions of the Meetings of the Parties

4. The Committee will review decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth session and by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fifth session (Geneva, 12–15 December 2023) as included in the report of the two sessions (ECE/MP.EIA/32–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/15 and its three addenda (forthcoming)). In particular, it will consider the decisions on:

- (a) General issues of compliance with the Convention and the Protocol (decisions IX/4 and V/4, respectively);
- (b) Country-specific compliance (decisions IX/4a–V/4a to IX/4c–V/4c, IX/4d to IX/4l and V/4d);
- (c) The review of implementation of the Convention and the Protocol (decisions IX/5 and V/5, respectively);
- (d) Amendments to the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and procedures for review of compliance (as adopted by decisions IX/4 and V/4);
- (e) Adoption of the workplan for 2024–2026 (decision IX/2–V/2);
- (f) Financial arrangements for 2024–2026 (decision IX/1–V/1).

4. Follow-up to decisions IX/4b–V/4b, IX/4c–V/4c, IX/4d to IX/4l and V/4d

5. Discussion under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

¹ Acting in that role until the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

² The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's operating rules through decision IV/2, annex IV (ECE/MP.EIA/10), and later amended them through decisions V/4, annex (ECE/MP.EIA/15), VI/2, annex II (ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1) and IX/4 and V/4 (ECE/MP.EIA/32/Add.2 – ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/15/Add.2 and ECE/MP.EIA/32/Add.3 – ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/15/Add.3).

6. The Committee is expected to follow up on country-specific decisions of the Meetings of the Parties, in particular, to examine actions to be taken by individual Parties and to agree on the contents and the timelines of the reports to be submitted by them to the Implementation Committee. The decisions involved include:

(a) Decision IX/4b–V/4b on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol in respect of its national legislation;

(b) Decision IX/4c–V/4c on compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina with its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol in respect of the construction of Buk Bijela hydropower plant on the Drina River;

(c) Decision IX/4d on compliance by Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;

(d) Decision IX/4e on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Belarusian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets;

(e) Decision IX/4f on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;

(f) Decision IX/4k on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta;

(g) Decision IX/4l on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the extension of the lifetime of Rivne nuclear power plant;

(h) Decision V/4d on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Protocol in respect of the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the Period up to 2025 with Projections up to 2030 and the Programme for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Period 2017–2023.

5. Submissions

7. Discussions under agenda item 5 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

8. The Committee will examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session. It will also continue its examination of the submission by Belarus expressing concerns about compliance by Poland with its obligations under the Convention with respect to the construction of a barrier on the territory of the transboundary United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "Bialowieza Forest" World Heritage Site, dated 12 April 2023.

6. Committee initiative

9. Discussions under agenda item 6 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

10. The Committee will continue to consider its initiative concerning the planned lifetime extension by France of unit 1 of Tricastin nuclear power plant, opened at the Committee's fifty-seventh session (Geneva, 29 August–1 September 2023). It is also expected to formulate questions for the related hearing with France, scheduled for the Committee's fifty-ninth session (Geneva, 18–21 June 2024), further to paragraph 9 of the Committee's structure and functions.

7. Information gathering

11. Discussions under agenda item 7 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

Convention matters

12. The Committee will continue its consideration of the information gathering concerning:

- (a) Ukraine, regarding the planned construction of units 3 and 4 of Khmelnytsky nuclear power plant;
- (b) Ukraine, regarding the planned activity related to mining at the Muzhiyevo goldmine;
- (c) Ukraine, regarding the lifetime extension of 12 power units located at Rivne, South-Ukrainian, Zaporizhzhya and Khmelnytsky nuclear power plants;
- (d) Germany, regarding the planned construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal;
- (e) North Macedonia, regarding the development of a new gold-copper mine;
- (f) Bulgaria, regarding several planned mining activities;
- (g) France, regarding the planned lifetime extension of 31 units of eight nuclear power plants.

8. Review of implementation

13. Discussions under agenda item 8 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of its operating rules.

14. The secretariat will bring to the attention of the Committee general and specific compliance issues identified in the seventh review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2023/9) and the fourth review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/9). The Committee is expected to take these into account in its work, in accordance with decisions IX/5 and V/5 of the Meetings of the Parties.

15. The secretariat will consult the Committee on minor technical adjustments to be made to the questionnaires for reporting on implementation of the Convention and Protocol during the period 2022–2024, taking into account the suggested improvements to the questionnaires during the previous reporting round (see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2022/INF.9).³

16. Time permitting, the Committee will continue its consideration of the specific compliance issues concerning:

- (a) The European Union, identified through the first review of implementation of the Protocol;⁴
- (b) Kyrgyzstan, identified through the sixth review of the implementation of the Convention;⁵
- (c) Serbia, identified through the second review of the implementation of the Protocol;⁶
- (d) North Macedonia, identified through the third review of the implementation of the Protocol.⁷

³ This informal document was submitted to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment at its eleventh meeting (Geneva, 19–21 December 2022) and is available on the web page for that meeting (<https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Environmental-Impact-Assessment/events/364357>).

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/3, para. 5.

⁵ ECE/MP.EIA/2020/8, paras. 15–16.

⁶ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/9, paras. 37–39.

⁷ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/8, para. 56.

9. Other business

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

10. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session

18. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.
