



# Report by the Chair of the Committee on Environmental Policy

*Elisabete Quintas Da Silva*  
Chair

*132<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the  
Executive Committee  
Geneva, 13 February 2024*



# United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



## ENVIRONMENT

### **28<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on Environmental Policy (Geneva, 1–3.11.2023)**

33 UNECE member States and Mauritania, representatives from national, regional and international organizations and bodies, & civil society

### **Follow-up to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference**

- Assessment of the environmental consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine
- Regionwide approach to sustainable infrastructure
- Fourth cycle of EPRs

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## ENVIRONMENT

### Environmental Performance Reviews

- *Submitted for publication:*  
Azerbaijan
- *Reviewed:*  
Mauritania and Kyrgyzstan
- *Ongoing:*  
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan,  
Mauritania,  
Tajikistan
- *In the pipeline:*  
Montenegro and Moldova

UNECE

### Azerbaijan

Environmental Performance Reviews





### UNECE multilateral environmental agreements

- Air Convention (EB, Geneva, 11-14.12.2023):
  - Launched: the revision of the Protocol to Abate Acidification Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone
  - Ljubljana - new host of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East
  - New ratifications to the protocols: **Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia**
- Espoo Convention & its Protocol on SEA (MoPs, Geneva, 12-15.12.2023):
  - 12 country specific compliance decisions
  - Remaining 2 agenda items to be addressed by intermediate session to be organized in 2024
- Water Convention & Protocol on Water and Health new parties:
  - Convention: Nigeria, Iraq, Namibia, Panama and Gambia;
  - Protocol: North Macedonia



### UNECE multilateral environmental agreements

- Industrial Accidents Convention
  - An update to the Guidelines to facilitate the identification of hazardous activities for the purposes of the Convention
  - National implementation reports (tenth round of reporting)
  - MoP in 2024 (Geneva, 27–29 November 2024)
- Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTRs
  - Convention new Party: Guinea-Bissau
  - Twenty-seventh meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (Geneva, 26–28.06.2023)
  - Tenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs (Geneva, 27–28.11.2023)

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## ENVIRONMENT

### Follow-up to the UNECE 70th Session at

- CEP-28:
  - better complementarity with other activities within the ECE
  - strategic foresight at the subprogramme level



### Technical cooperation activities

- National SoER of Uzbekistan
- Effective public participation in Uzbekistan
- National Programme for Industrial Safety and Stakeholders Consultation under the NPD for Industrial Safety in Serbia
- Supporting the accession to the Protocol on Water and Health
- Mine tailings safety and the prevention of accidental water pollution in Central Asia



The Executive Committee is invited to approve

- the programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2024, as contained in document ECE/CEP/2023/5;
- the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for the period 2024–2028, as contained in document ECE/CEP/AC.10/2023/2/Add.1
- the extension of the mandate and terms of reference of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, as contained in the annex to document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2021/3, until 31 December 2025



**Thank you for your attention**

More information is available on the UNECE website:

<https://unece.org/environment-policy>

