
Economic Commission for Europe

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

Working Group on Implementation

Fiftieth meeting

Geneva, 29 to 30 May 2024

Annotated provisional agenda of the fiftieth meeting

To be held in Geneva, at the Palais des Nations,* on 29 May, starting at 9.00 a.m. and ending on 30 May at 2 p.m.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Implementation of the Convention.
 - (a) Status on implementation reports and the sending of official letters.
 - (b) Draft report on the implementation of the Convention.
 - (c) Draft decision on strengthening the implementation of the Convention.
 - (d) Ideas for improving the reporting format and guidelines.
 - (e) Good Practices on the implementation of the Convention.
 - (f) Draft decision on the identification of tailings management facilities as hazardous activities.
3. Development of a guide of good practices on the implementation of the Convention.
4. Establishment of an interactive network for the exchange of information and sharing of experiences.
5. Teleconferences and engagement with beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme on implementation issues.
 - (a) Pre-discussions.
 - (b) Teleconferences.
 - (c) Follow-up.
6. Assistance and Cooperation Programme.
 - (a) Update on implemented and planned activities.
 - (b) Update on the country dossiers and engagement strategies.
 - (c) Other business related to monitoring the implementation of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme.
7. Presentation of the e-tool with integration of Natech and tailing risks.

* The meeting will be held in room H.307-2 (on 29 May) and H.307-1 (on 30 May).

8. Composition of the next Working Group on Implementation.
9. Other business.
10. Closing of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

This provisional agenda was prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe secretariat in agreement with the Chair of the Working Group.

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Expected timing: 9h00-09h10

The Chair of the Working Group on Implementation will open the meeting and invite the Working Group to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

The secretariat will provide further information on its contacts with the countries invite to a teleconference and the schedule for the teleconferences at the meeting.

2. Implementation of the Convention

(a) Status on implementation reports and the sending of official letters

Expected timing: 9h10-09h30

The secretariat will report on the receipt of additional implementation reports since the last meeting of the Working Group. It will also report on the sending of official reminder letters to Parties and committed countries that failed to submit an implementation report.

(b) Draft report on the implementation of the Convention

Expected timing: 9h30-11h30

The secretariat will present the draft tenth report on the implementation of the Convention. All members of the Working Group will be invited to provide comments on each chapter of the draft report. The Working Group will discuss how to address the comments and decide on the process for the finalization of the report, bearing in mind that the report will be shared with the Bureau in advance of its meeting on 13–14 June 2024.

Background documents:

- Draft 10th report on the implementation of the Convention
- National implementation reports, available at <https://wiki.unece.org/display/TEIA/Implementation+Reports>.

Coffee/Tea break: 10h30-11h00

(c) Draft decision on strengthening the implementation of the Convention

Expected timing: 11h30-12h

The secretariat will present the draft decision on strengthening the implementation of the Convention. All members of the Working Group will be invited to provide comments on the draft decision. The Working Group will discuss how to address the comments and decide on the process for the finalization of the decision, bearing in mind that it will be shared with the Bureau in advance of its meeting on 13-14 June 2024.

Background documents:

- Draft decision on strengthening the implementation of the Convention
- Decision 2020/2 – Strengthening the implementation of the Convention, available at https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/Decision%202020_1-.pdf.

(d) Ideas for improving the reporting format and guidelines***Expected timing: 12h00-12h05***

The secretariat will provide an updated overview of the recommendations from members of the Working Group regarding improvements of the reporting format and guidelines. The Working Group will be invited to agree on these recommendations and may wish to request the secretariat to forward them to the next Working Group for its update of the reporting format and guidelines for the next reporting round.

(e) Good Practices on the implementation of the Convention***Expected timing: 12h05-12h10***

The secretariat will report on the progress made with adding good practices in the implementation reports to the Convention's website.

The Working Group may wish to discuss further issues resulting from the review of the national implementation reports.

Background information and documents:

- Good Practices identified in the eighth (2014-2015) and ninth (2016-2018) reporting periods: <https://unece.org/environment-policy/industrial-accidents/good-practices-implementing-industrial-accidents-convention>.
- (f) Draft decision on the identification of tailings management facilities as hazardous activities**

Expected timing: 12h10-12h30

At its forty ninth meeting, the Working Group reviewed and agreed on a draft background note on the *Consideration for the Industrial Accidents Convention and its Guidelines on the Identification of Hazardous Activities to more comprehensively cover the hazards and risks of tailings management facilities*, with smaller comments. It also expressed support for the elements for the related draft decision that was still to be developed.

The Working Group will be invited to review the draft decision on the identification of tailings management facilities as hazardous activities for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as prepared by the small group on mine tailings safety. It will also be invited to provide comments and inputs for improving it, in advance of the Bureau reviewing and finalizing the decision at its fifty-fourth meeting (Geneva, 13-14 June 2024).

Background information and documents:

- Draft decision on the identification of tailings management facilities as hazardous activities

Lunch break: 12h30-13h45

3. Development of a guide on good practices on the implementation of the Convention

Expected timing: 13h45-15h10

At its Special Session: Seminar on Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Implementing the Convention (Geneva, 3–4 February 2022), the Working Group recommended the development of a Guide on Good Practices in Implementing the Industrial Accidents Convention, which was subsequently included in the Convention’s workplan for 2023–2024. At its forty-ninth meeting, the Working Group agreed that with the partial funding made available by the Netherlands in October 2023 a framework could be developed along with guidance on one working area of the Convention as a pilot. It requested the secretariat to develop a draft framework for the entire guide for the review by the Working Group at its next meeting.

The secretariat will present the draft framework of the guide, and the Working Group will be invited to provide feedback. The Working Group will also be invited to agree on the pilot area to be developed as well as additional ways forward for developing the guidance, should additional funding be made available. The members of the Working Group will report on their efforts made to explore funding opportunities for the development of the guide.

Background information and documents:

- Draft framework for the Guide on Good Practices in Implementing the Industrial Accidents Convention.

4. Establishment of an interactive framework for the exchange of information and sharing of experiences

Expected timing: 15h10-15h30

At its Special Session: Seminar on Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Implementing the Convention, the Working Group also recommended the establishment of an interactive network for the exchange of information and sharing experience about the implementation of the Convention.

The secretariat will provide a brief update on the technical work completed in developing the e-group since the Working Group’s last meeting and report on foreseen next steps. The Working Group will be invited to reflect on the next steps and methods to managing the e-group once launched.

Coffee/Tea break: 15h30-16h00

5. Teleconferences and engagement with beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme on implementation issues

(a) Pre-discussion

Expected timing: 16h00-16h30

The members of the subregional groups will present the agendas and questions for the teleconference(s), scheduled by the secretariat at the members' request for the present meeting. The Working Group may wish to pre-discuss how to conduct the teleconference(s).

(b) Teleconferences

Expected timing: 16h30-17h00 (29 May) and 9h00-10h00 (30 May)

The Working Group will conduct the teleconferences with invited beneficiary countries under the Assistance and Cooperation Programme.

(c) Follow-up

Expected timing: 10h00-10h30

Following the teleconferences, the Working Group will be invited to agree on the follow-up actions to take.

Coffee/Tea break: 10h30-11h00

6. Assistance and Cooperation Programme

(a) Update on implemented and planned activities

Expected timing: 11h00-11h20

The secretariat will provide an update of the developments related to the assistance activities since the last meeting of the Working Group as well as of the activities planned for 2024 and beyond. The members of the Working Group will be invited to provide advice, if any, on the implementation of the activities.

(b) Update on the country dossiers and engagement strategies

Expected timing: 11h20-11h50

The members of the subregional groups will be invited to present their updated country dossiers and country engagement strategies, including recommendations for next steps, for discussion with all members of the Working Group on Implementation.

Background documents:

- Engagement strategies for beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme, available at <https://wiki.unece.org/display/TAAP/Country+Dossiers>.

(c) Other business related to monitoring the implementation of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme

Expected timing: 11h50-12h00

The Working Group on Implementation, in particular the members of respective subregional groups, may report on outstanding items from previous meeting minutes, and proposed questions/issues for discussion.

Lunch break: 12h00-13h00

7. Presentation of the e-tool with integration of Natech and tailing risks

Expected timing: 13h00-13h15

The Vice-Chair from the Russian Federation will present the final iteration of the e-tool integrating Natech and tailing risks, including the updates made following the feedback provided by the members of the Working Group after the last meeting.

8. Composition of the next Working Group on Implementation

Expected timing: 13h15-13h35

In view of the elections for the Working Group on Implementation at the CoP-13, members of the Working Group may wish to indicate or confirm, if possible, their availability to serve as a member for the next four-year term (2025–2028). The members of the Working Group will also be invited to inform about their planned attendance at CoP-13.

9. Other business

Expected timing: 13h35-13h50

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

10. Closing of the meeting

The Chair will close the meeting at about 2 p.m. on 30 May 2024.
