

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

Sixtieth session Geneva, 14–17 October 2024 Item 1 of the provisional agenda Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixtieth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 14 October 2024*

I. Provisional agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Follow-up to decisions IX/4f and IX/4l.
- 3. Submissions.
- 4. Committee initiative.
- 5. Information gathering: Convention matters.
- 6. Review of implementation.
- 7. Other business.
- 8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

Members of the Committee are requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e., by 20 September 2024, through the following link: https://indico.un.org/event/1007256/ (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).



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, in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.¹ The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt the present agenda.

2. Follow-up to decisions IX/4f and IX/4l

2. Discussion under agenda item 2 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

3. Further to its deliberations at its fifty-ninth session (Geneva, 18–21 June 2024), the Committee is expected to follow up on decision IX/4f of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation.² It will welcome the delegation of Belarus, which expressed a wish to provide the Committee with some clarifications regarding its legislation in response to the Committee's request to submit its report on the implementation of the decision in advance of the Committee's sixty-first session (Geneva (online), 11–14 February 2025).³

4. The Committee will also follow up on 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.⁴

3. Submissions

5. Discussions under agenda item 3 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

6. 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.

7. Further to the Committee's deliberations at its fifty-ninth session, Belarus and Poland were invited to participate in the session on Tuesday, 15 October 2024, with a view to presenting information and opinions on the matter under consideration, in accordance with paragraph 9 of the Committee's structure and functions.⁵ The Committee will then consider the matter in a closed session before proceeding to draft its findings and recommendations.

¹ 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).

² ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2024/4, para. 90.

³ ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2024/2, para. 22.

⁴ Ibid., paras. 91.

⁵ Ibid., para. 26.

4. Committee initiative

8. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

9. 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). In particular, it will continue drafting its findings and recommendations with a view to finalizing them at its sixty-first session in February 2025.⁶

10. The Committee will also consider its initiative concerning mining by Ukraine at the Muzhiyevo goldmine. Further to the Committee's deliberations at its fifty-ninth session, Hungary and Ukraine were invited to participate in the session on Tuesday, 15 October 2024, with a view to presenting information and opinions on the matter under consideration, in accordance with paragraph 9 of the Committee's structure and functions. The Committee will then consider the matter in a closed session before proceeding to draft its findings and recommendations.⁷

5. Information gathering: Convention matters

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

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

(a) Ukraine, regarding the lifetime extension of 12 power units located at Rivne, South-Ukrainian, Zaporizhzhya and Khmelnitsky nuclear power plants;

(b) Germany, regarding the planned construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal;

(c) Bulgaria, regarding "Ada Tepe" mine.

6. Review of implementation

13. Discussions under agenda item 6 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 (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/, respectively).

15. Further to its consideration at its fifty-ninth session, the Committee will continue its consideration of the specific compliance issues concerning:

(a) Kyrgyzstan, identified through the sixth review of the implementation of the Convention;⁸

(b) North Macedonia, identified through the third review of the implementation of the Protocol.⁹

⁶ Ibid., para. 47.

⁷ Ibid., para. 77.

⁸ Ibid., paras. 85–86.

⁹ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/8, para. 56.

7. Other business

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

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

17. 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.