

**Economic Commission for Europe**

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

**Bureau**

**Twenty-fourth meeting**

Geneva, 28 November 2023 (hybrid)

## **Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Bureau<sup>1</sup>**

### **Attendance**

Bureau members: Ms. Enkeleda Shkurta (Albania, Vice-Chair, acting Chair), Ms. Malgorzata Kicia (European Union, Vice-Chair), Ms. Marie-Rose van den Hende (Belgium, online), Mr. Eduard Hlavatý (Czechia), Ms. Kateryna Luchko (Ukraine) and Ms. Teresa Palomar (Spain).

Observers: Mr. Iñigo de Vicente-Mingarro (Spain) and Mr. Christian Schaible (European ECO-Forum).

Apologies: Mr. Tone Kvasič (Slovenia, Chair).

### **I. Opening and adoption of the agenda**

1. The Chair opened the meeting highlighting that the Bureau is expected to focus its discussion on the outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Protocol's Working Group of the Parties (Geneva, 27-28 November 2023), which will require a follow up by the Bureau. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda for the meeting based on the below-mentioned items.

### **II. Preparations for the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties**

2. The Bureau welcomed the interest of Lithuania to host the fifth session of the Protocol's Meeting of the Parties (MoPP5) planned to be held in fall of 2025 back-to-back with the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (MOP8).

3. Pursuant to the decisions taken by the Working Group of the Parties at its tenth meeting<sup>2</sup> the Bureau considered its major tasks related to the substantive preparations for MoPP5. Thus, the Bureau with the support of the secretariat will prepare the following documents for consideration by the Working Group of the Parties at its next 11<sup>th</sup> meeting (November 2024):

a) draft agenda for MOPP5;

b) draft declaration, to be prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of the Aarhus Convention, for a possible joint high-level segment under the auspices of MOPP5 and MOP8;

c) draft decision on the work programme for 2026-2029 in line with the note on the work programme for 2026-2029 considered by the Working Group of the Parties;

d) finalized draft decision on financial arrangements based on the note on future financial arrangements under the Protocol on PRTRs approved by the Working Group of the Parties;

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<sup>1</sup> This document was not formally edited.

<sup>2</sup> See [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/Protocol\\_WGP-10\\_Outcomes\\_27Nov\\_as\\_adopied.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/Protocol_WGP-10_Outcomes_27Nov_as_adopied.pdf).

e) revised draft decision on promoting innovative approaches for modernizing pollutant release and transfer registers, their global promotion and synergy, in the light of the comments provided by participants at the meeting of the Working Group of the Parties and those to be submitted to the secretariat in writing by 1 March 2024;

f) draft decision on reporting requirements.

4. The Bureau will also prepare, in cooperation with the Bureau of OECD Working Party on PRTRs, draft agenda for the fourth Global Round Table on PRTRs, scheduled to take place back-to-back with the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group of the Parties in November 2024.

5. The Bureau requested the secretariat to provide it with information regarding preparation of the above documents in advance of its next meeting.

### **III. Next meeting of the Bureau**

6. The Bureau noted that its next meeting might take place in late Spring/early Summer 2024.

### **IV. Closing of the meeting**

7. The Chair thanked the participants for their active participation and closed the meeting.

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