



Advance copy

Economic Commission for Europe

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

Ninth session, resumed

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

Fifth session, resumed

Geneva, 10 December 2024
Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of decisions:
decisions to be taken by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention**

Draft decisions on compliance with the Convention

Proposals by the Implementation Committee

Summary

The present document contains draft decision IX/4i on compliance with the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, finalized by the Implementation Committee under the Convention and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its fifty-seventh session (Geneva, 29 August–1 September 2023) considering comments made by delegations at the twelfth meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment (Geneva, 13–15 June 2023).

The adoption of draft decision IX/4i was deferred to the current resumed ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (Geneva, 10 December 2024) by the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (Geneva, 12–15 December 2023) due to the adjourned decision-making. The resumed ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention is expected to review the draft decision and agree on its adoption.

^a See ECE/MP.EIA/32–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/15 (forthcoming)

1. Decision IX/4i on compliance by Czechia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the lifetime extension of four reactors of Dukovany nuclear power plant

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention,

Recalling articles 11 (2) and 14 bis of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,

Recalling also its decision IX/4¹ on general issues of compliance with the Convention adopted at its ninth session (Geneva, 12–15 December 2023),

Having considered the findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee regarding compliance by Czechia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the lifetime extension of four reactors of Dukovany nuclear power plant,²

Having considered also the report on the activities of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth session, in particular, the section concerning Czechia,³

1. *Endorses* the findings of the Implementation Committee that, in accordance with the information provided to the Committee, Czechia was in non-compliance with articles 2 (3) and 3 (1) of the Convention when extending the lifetime of units 1–4 of Dukovany nuclear power plant and preparing said units for long-term operation without applying the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the fact that Czechia committed to notifying Austria and Germany ahead of future lifetime extensions of nuclear power plants or significant changes in the licences of the operating units of the nuclear power plants in its territory in accordance with article 3 (1) of the Convention, as requested by both Parties;

3. *Invites* Czechia to continue bilateral consultations and cooperation with Austria and Germany for information exchange on long-term, operation-related activities regarding the units of Dukovany and Temelin nuclear power plants in an appropriate way;

4. *Encourages* Czechia to prepare bilateral agreements on the application of the Convention with Austria and Germany;

5. *Requests* Czechia to ensure that the Convention is fully applied in the context of any future decision-making regarding any lifetime extension activities of any Czech nuclear power plant, including that:

(a) All impacts of operational states and accidents are properly taken into account during the environmental impact assessment procedure;

(b) When considering whether the lifetime extension constitutes a major change, the activities implemented to prepare for long-term operation prior to the last licence renewals are taken into account;

(c) Czechia notifies, in accordance with article 3 (1) of the Convention, any Party that it considers may be affected, including Austria and Germany;

6. *Recommends* that Czechia follow the good practice recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties that, given the great public concern and national interests involved when it comes to nuclear energy-related activities, a wide notification, that is to say, beyond neighbouring Parties, could prevent later misunderstandings and potential disputes;⁴

¹ ECE/MP.EIA/2023/6.

² ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2023/11.

³ ECE/MP.EIA/2023/13–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/13.

⁴ Good Practice Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/10), para. 28, endorsed by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session (Minsk, 13–16 June 2017), through decision VII/6 (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.2).

7. Welcomes the cooperation of Czechia in the proceedings, which facilitated the considerations of the Committee.
