

Terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation

1. The Working Group on Implementation under the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents shall be composed of not more than 10 members representing and nominated by Parties, with due consideration to the need for a balanced representation of the different geographical subregions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and gender. They shall serve as members of the Working Group for one term of office and be eligible for re-election. A term of office commences at the end of an ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties and runs until its second ordinary meeting thereafter. In case a representative of a Party is unable to complete his or her term of office or to perform his or her functions, the Party may appoint another representative. In this case the Party shall notify the Chair and the secretariat without undue delay and at least 14 days before the next meeting.
2. The Working Group shall meet at least annually.
3. Depending on the agenda, the Chair of the Working Group may invite observers, including the chairs of other subsidiary bodies, to the meetings of the Working Group in accordance with rules 6, 7 and 8 of the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, which apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to its subsidiary bodies. The Chair may also invite other individuals or organizations as observers if they have special qualifications with regard to matters on the agenda.
4. The Working Group shall:
 - (a) Monitor the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Prepare the report on the implementation of the Convention, including conclusions, on the basis of the individual country reports, in line with article 23 of the Convention;
 - (c) Make draft recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the basis of the above report and submit these, through the Bureau, to the Conference of the Parties for adoption;
 - (d) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries where the Working Group becomes aware of possible difficulties in the implementation of the Convention, to understand the situation in these countries more accurately and to provide advice and make recommendations on the implementation of the Convention, share good practices and draw attention to existing guidance and tools;
 - (e) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries, based on the review of the national implementation reports, to gather information about innovations, good practices, national guidelines and other materials of interest;
 - (f) Identify good practices and facilitate the exchange of information among Parties and other countries;
 - (g) Monitor the Convention's Assistance Programme, including the application of the Strategic Approach, and review national self-assessments and action plans;
 - (h) Review the substance and eligibility of project proposals submitted within the framework of the Assistance Programme and its Strategic Approach;
 - (i) Monitor the progress of assistance activities within the programme of work under the Convention and, if no progress is made in the implementation of the Convention, request the countries benefitting from such activities to provide an explanation;
 - (j) Carry out other tasks entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties;
 - (k) Shall conduct its business in English.
5. Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries will respond on a voluntary basis to requests by the Working Group further to items 4 (d) and (e) above.