

**FIRST SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL
ON POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS (PRTR MOPP-1)**

Palais des Nations, Geneva, 20-22 April 2010

**PROGRAMME FOR AGENDA ITEMS 14 AND 15
OF THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT**

Wednesday, 21 April 2010

15:00 – 15:20 Ceremonial opening statements

Opening remarks by the Chair of the High-Level Segment

Welcome address: H.E. Mr. Andrey Vasilyev, UNECE Deputy Executive Secretary on behalf of Mr. Ján Kubiš, Under-Secretary General, United Nations, and Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Opening address: Mr. Jan Dusik, Chair of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic

**Agenda item 14:
Achievements, opportunities and challenges in establishing
pollutant release and transfer registers: perspectives from
government, industry and the public.**

**15:20 – 16:20 First Panel – Achievements and opportunities in implementing
the PRTR Protocol**

The focus of this module, which will include short demonstrations of operational PRTRs, will be on achievements of Parties in establishing PRTRs and on the opportunities thereby created. The European Union's 'E-PRTR', which entails reporting of PRTR data by a large majority of the current Parties to the Protocol, will be presented along with various national PRTR systems. Participants will be encouraged to share examples of good practices in implementing the provisions of the Protocol or otherwise promoting PRTRs, as well as innovative uses of PRTRs and PRTR data.

Mr. Daniel Martin-Montalvo, E-PRTR desk officer, on behalf of Ms. Soledad Blanco, Director of Directorate C - Industry in DG Environment, European Commission

Mr. Raimonds Vejonis, Minister, Ministry of the Environment,
Latvia

Dr. Gérard Poffet, Vice Director, Federal Office for the
Environment, Switzerland

Ms. María Jesús Rodríguez-de-Sancho, Director General of Air
Quality and Industrial Environment, General Directorate of
Environmental Quality and Assessment, Ministry of the
Environment and Rural & Marine Affairs, Spain

Mr. Hrvoje Curko, Permanent Mission on behalf of Mrs. Marijana
Mance Kowalsky, Director, Directorate for International Co-
operation and Sustainable Development, Ministry of
Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction,
Croatia

Discussion

Mr. Andrzej Jagusiewicz, Chief Inspector of Environment
Protection, Poland

Dr. Joachim Heidemeier, Head of Section, Section on Emissions to
Water, Federal Environment Agency, Germany

Mr. Lars Petter Bingham, Senior Adviser, Climate and Pollution
Agency, Norway

Ms. Mary Taylor, Friends of the Earth Europe

Discussion

16:30 – 16:50 *Coffee break*

**16:50 – 17:35 Second Panel – Main challenges in developing PRTRs and the
need for capacity building and technical assistance**

*The establishment of PRTRs poses many challenges, especially but
not only in countries with economies in transition and developing
countries. This module will examine those challenges and identify
measures to overcome them, including through capacity building
and provision of technical assistance.*

Ms. Magda Toth Nagy, Senior Expert, on behalf of Ms. Marta
Szigeti Bonifert, Executive Director, Regional Environmental
Center for Central and Eastern Europe

Ms. Elena Vasilyeva, Director, IC Volgrad-Ecopress, Russia

Discussion

17:35 – 17:55

National PRTR developments around the world: exchange of experiences and exploring synergies

While the Protocol is open to accession by any Member State of the United Nations, there are many interesting PRTR developments around the world undertaken by States that are not Parties to the Protocol, some of which have extensive experience in implementing PRTRs. Establishing a dialogue between all States that share the common goal of promoting PRTR development should be of benefit to Parties and non-Parties to the Protocol alike. This module will provide a brief opportunity for exchange of experience with countries not thus far associated with the Protocol.

Ms. Ana María Contreras-Vigil, Director General of Air Quality Management and Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico

Discussion

17:55 – 18:00

Summary conclusions

Thursday, 22 April 2010

11:30 – 12:15

**Agenda item 15:
Global and regional initiatives to promote the development of pollutant release and transfer registers**

Various international and regional processes deal with the issue of PRTRs, some formalised and others less so, some dealing with specific topics and others having a more cross-cutting mandate. The bodies due to be established under the Protocol will form part of this landscape. This agenda item will provide an opportunity for exchanging information about the activities carried out within these processes and exploring the possibilities for cooperation and coordination with a view to avoiding duplication and maximising synergies.

Mr. Achim Halpaap, Chair, International PRTR Coordination Group and Associate Director, Training Department, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Geneva

21 April 2010 at 15:00

Mr. Michel Amand, Chair, OECD Task Force on PRTRs, and
Chair, Aarhus Convention Working Group on PRTRs, Belgium

Ms Vera Barrantes, Training Associate, Chemicals and Waste
Management Programme, UNITAR, on behalf of Mr. Roberto
Rodriguez-Rojas, Executive Secretary, Central American
Commission for Environment and Development

Ms. Lesley Onyon, Senior Programme Officer, United Nations
Environment Programme (UNEP) - Strategic Approach to
International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Secretariat

Discussion

12:15 – 12:20

Summary conclusions