Annotated provisional agenda for the seventh meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 3 November 2011*

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Relevant developments since the previous meeting of the Compliance Committee.
3. Consultation with Parties to facilitate implementation of the Protocol.
5. Awareness-raising on the compliance procedure.
6. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings.

* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to complete the registration form available online on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical_information/confpart.pdf), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by 17 October 2011 — either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (protocol.water_health@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map at: http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). Please allow sufficient time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1911.
II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The Compliance Committee will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document. The meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, 3 November 2011.

2. Relevant developments since the previous meeting of the Compliance Committee

2. The secretariat will inform the Committee of relevant developments since its sixth meeting (Geneva, 1–2 March 2011), including relevant outcomes of the ninth meeting of the Legal Board of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Geneva, 1–2 September 2011) and of the Workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation (Geneva, 4–5 July 2011).

3. Consultation with Parties to facilitate implementation of the Protocol

3. On the basis of the analysis of the summary reports submitted by Parties before the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Bucharest, 23–25 November 2010), the Compliance Committee had concluded, at its fifth meeting, that a number of Parties were facing difficulties in complying with the Protocol, in particular with its core obligation to set targets and target dates. To respond to that situation and to stimulate compliance among the Protocol’s Parties, the Committee had decided to enhance its facilitation and assistance functions. To that end, the Committee agreed that it would enter into consultations with a number of Parties which, on the basis of the national summary reports, appeared to have problems in implementing the Protocol (ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2010/4–EUR/10/56335/16, para. 26 and ECE/MP.WH/2010/3–EUDHP/1003944/4.2/1/9). That decision was communicated to and endorsed by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session.

4. At its sixth meeting, the Committee discussed the specific objectives of such a consultation process and considered its modalities. In particular, the Committee agreed:

(a) On the nature, scope and objectives of such consultations, their procedures, the relationship with the compliance procedure and the results of the consultation process (see ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2011/2–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2011/2);

(b) On the number of Parties the Committee could support through consultations, taking into account the capacity and resource limitations of the Committee, together with the characteristics of Parties that would most benefit from the consultations.

5. To encourage Parties to avail themselves of the consultation process, the decisions of the Committee on the scope, objectives and procedures were circulated to all Parties and presented to the members of the Bureau. A press release was also issued. Moreover, the Committee agreed to hold an information session on the consultation process in the framework of the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 1–2 November 2011).
6. The Committee will discuss the reaction from Parties to the offered consultation process, in particular the discussions and comments at the Working Group meeting, and agree on the next steps, including:
   (a) The need to revise the terms of reference of the consultation process, if relevant;
   (b) Ways and means to further publicize the consultation process;
   (c) The advisability of and opportunities for proactively engaging individual Parties and, if so, which Parties and with which modality.

4. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

7. In accordance with the decisions at its sixth meeting, the Committee will discuss opportunities and means to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights and with Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque, Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.

5. Awareness-raising on the compliance procedure

8. The secretariat and the Committee members will exchange information on efforts undertaken to disseminate information and raise awareness about the compliance procedure and will discuss future action in this area.

6. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings

9. The Committee will discuss its future programme of work, will agree on issues for consideration at its next meetings and will give indications to the secretariat on the next steps to be taken. The Committee will also agree on the dates of its eighth and ninth meetings in 2012, taking into account that the eighth meeting had been tentatively scheduled for 24 and 25 April 2012.

7. Any other business

10. Committee members wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.