



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 June 2013

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the
Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Working Group on Development

Third meeting

Geneva, 3–4 September 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda of the third meeting

To be held in room VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on 3 September 2013*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Amendment of annex I of the Convention.
3. Amendment of the Convention.
4. Discussion of the future work of the Working Group on Development of the Convention.
5. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

The Working Group on Development is expected to plan its work for the period up to the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, following the mandate received from the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting held in November 2012.

* Members of the Working Group on Development are requested to confirm their participation to the Convention secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the meeting.

This provisional agenda was prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) secretariat in agreement with the Chair of the Working Group on Development.

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The Chair of the Working Group on Development will open the third meeting and invite the members of the Working Group to adopt the agenda as set out in the present document.

2. Amendment of annex I of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties entrusted the Working Group on Development to draft a revised annex I to bring it into line with the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.4) and to maintain consistency with corresponding EU legislation.¹ It decided that the proposed amendment should be circulated to the Parties not less than 90 days in advance of its next meeting.

As of May 2013, the secretariat had received feedback on the revision of annex I from 11 members of the Working Group on Development. The overwhelming majority of members expressed the opinion that annex I of the Convention should be harmonized to the maximum possible extent with annex I of the Seveso III Directive, including Part 2 on the named substances.

The Working Group on Development is expected to agree on the proposed changes and to plan its work in this area until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3. Amendment of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, wishing to minimize the frequency of amendments to the Convention, also requested the Working Group to evaluate the possible amendment of the Convention to address the following provisions and issues:

- (a) Revised and additional definitions (art. 1);
- (b) Revised scope (art. 2);
- (c) Strengthened public participation (art. 9);
- (d) Revised scope of mutual assistance (art. 12);
- (e) Clarified frequency of meetings (art. 18, para. 1);
- (f) Clarified or strengthened reporting obligations (art. 23);
- (g) Accession by other Member States of the United Nations (art. 29);
- (h) Application of amendments to new Parties (art. 29);
- (i) Provisions on land-use planning;
- (j) Provisions on the review of compliance;
- (k) Governance structures under the Convention.

¹ Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC.

The Conference of the Parties would then prioritize issues at its eighth meeting with a view to adopting an amendment at its ninth meeting.

The secretariat prepared and distributed to the members of the Working Group on Development a background paper on possible amendments to the Convention. As of May 2013, the secretariat had received feedback on the background paper on possible amendments to the Convention from seven members of the Working Group. The feedback from Working Group members was reviewed by the secretariat and a document summarizing the proposed amendments was prepared. The secretariat also prepared a draft proposed amendment for the changes that were accepted by all Working Group members.

The Working Group on Development is expected to agree on the proposed changes and to discuss some outstanding questions.

4. Discussion of the future work of the Working Group on Development of the Convention

The Working Group on Development is invited to discuss and to agree on its future work, including amendment of annex I and the Convention.

Regarding the amendment of the Convention, the Working Group is invited to consider prioritizing the proposed changes that represent amendments of substance to the Convention and to focus on them. If such changes are agreed, the Working Group could then focus on secondary changes aimed at bringing more legal clarity or focus on certain technical details and changes aimed at improving the organization of activities under the Convention.

5. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting

The meeting is expected to agree on the main decisions taken.

The Working Group on Development is expected to decide on the date and location of its next meeting in 2014, before the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Chair is expected to close the meeting no later than 6 p.m. on 4 September 2013.
