

**Economic Commission for Europe**

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

**Seventh session**

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

**Third session**

Minsk, 13–16 June 2017

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda**

## Informal notes on the agenda

Note by the secretariat

This paper presents an overview of agenda items (in chronological order) and the associated documentation (official, informal “INF” and other) for the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (MOP-7) and to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (MOP/MOP-3). Finally, the paper presents **actions that the delegates are invited to take** under the various agenda items.

The items to be considered by the Meetings of the Parties in **joint session** are indicated **in green**; those by the Meeting of the Parties to the **Convention in yellow** and those by the Meeting of the Parties to the **Protocol in blue**.

Timing of the items is indicative and subject to changes depending on the deliberations during the meeting.

The sessions will be paperless. You will be invited to access the official, informal and background documentation for the meeting from the meeting webpage at: [http://www.unece.org/env/eia/meetings/mop\\_7.html#/](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/meetings/mop_7.html#/)

Information on credentials can be found from the above page under the heading “preparatory and practical”.

For all other practical and logistical information, please see the host country website at: <http://mopminsk.ck.by>

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
<b>Tuesday, 13 June 3–3.45 p.m.</b>	<b>Item 1. Opening of the session</b>		MOP-7 and MOP/MOP-3 will be opened by the Chair of the Bureau, Mr. George Kremlis (European Commission). Delegates will be welcomed by a representative of the Government of Belarus.
	<b>Item 2. Organizational matters</b>		
	(a) Election of the Chair of the MOP at its seventh session for the general segment		The Bureau recommends <b>election of</b> the Chair of the Bureau, Mr. Kremlis, as Chair of the MOP-7 and the MOP/MOP-3 for the general segment.
	(b) Election of the Chair of the MOP/MOP at its third session for the general segment		
	(c) Adoption of the agenda	Annotated provisional agenda for the seventh session of the MOP and the third session of the MOP/MOP (ECE/MP.EIA/22– ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/6)	The MOPs are expected to adopt their agenda for their respective sessions.
(d) Report on credentials		The secretariat will report on the credentials received. Delegations should provide the secretariat with their <b>credentials before the start of the session</b> . ( <u>Only Parties with valid credentials can vote and participate in the adoption of decisions or declaration</u> ).	
(e) Status of the Convention and its amendments and the Protocol	Status of ratification of the Convention, its amendments and	Delegations are expected to inform the meeting of <b>planned ratifications</b> of the Convention or its amendments, or of the	

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		its Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.2)	<p>Protocol. This should include information from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Delegations of the 9 States that were Parties to the Convention</b> at the time of adoption of the first amendment (27 February 2001) (<b>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom</b>) regarding progress with the ratification of the first amendment.</li> <li>- <b>Signatories of the Protocol (Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Republic of Moldova and the UK) and other delegations</b> on their preparations to ratify the Protocol.</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, 13 June 3.45–6 pm</b>	<p><b>Item 3. Outstanding issues</b></p> <p><b>Outstanding MOP-7 and MOP/MOP-3 issues</b></p> <p><b>3 (a) Draft joint decisions</b></p> <p>(i) Draft decision on the adoption of the workplan</p>	<p>Draft joint decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol</p>	<p>The MOP and MOP/MOP are expected to discuss and finalize draft <b>decision VII/3–III/3</b> on the adoption of the workplan.</p> <p>Delegations will be invited to review each item in the workplan (annex I) and the waiting list (annex II), and to provide the</p>

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		<p>(ECE/MP.EIA/2017/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/1)</p> <p>Informal assessment of the completion of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.3)</p>	<p>information necessary to complement and finalize the workplan on organizational arrangements, expected outcomes, time schedule and budget. Delegations will be invited to pledge funds for waitlisted activities, to allow their inclusion into the workplan. Activities that continue to lack confirmed funding and/or lead country/organization will remain waitlisted.</p>
	<p>(ii) Draft decision on the budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance</p>	<p>Report on the budget and financial arrangements in the period since the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/3)</p> <p>Status of contributions to the trust fund (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.4)</p> <p>Preliminary information on pledged contributions for the period 2017–2020 (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.5)</p> <p>Draft joint decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/1)</p>	<p>The MOPs are invited <b>to comment on the financial report for the period 2014–2017, and note any updates on recent contributions.</b></p> <p>Delegations will be invited to <b>pledge contributions</b> to the trust fund for the Convention and the Protocol.</p> <p>The MOPs are expected to <b>discuss and finalize draft decision VII/4–III/4</b> on the budget, financial arrangements.</p>

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	(iii) Draft decision on guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects	<p>Draft joint decisions (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/1)</p> <p>Draft general guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/6–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/6)</p> <p>Draft technical guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/11–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/10)</p>	Delegations will be invited to <b>comment on the draft joint decision VII/5–III/5</b> on guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects, and the related general and technical guidance documents.
	(iv) Draft decision on the development of a strategy and an action plan for the future application of the Convention and the Protocol	Draft joint decisions (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/1)	Delegations will be invited to <b>review and finalize</b> draft <b>decision VII/7–III/6</b> on the development of a strategy and an action plan for the future application of the Convention and the Protocol
	<b>Outstanding MOP-7 issues</b>		
	<b>3 (b) Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention</b>		
	(i) Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Convention	Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/8)	The MOP is expected to <b>discuss and finalize</b> draft <b>decision VII/2</b> on the review of compliance with the Convention.

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<b>Tuesday, 13 June</b>  <i>6-7.15 p.m. (after the plenary session)</i>	<b>Side event by CEE Bankwatch Network on “Good practice recommendations on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities”</b>	Provisional programme	
<b>Wednesday, 14 June</b>  <b>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</b>	<p>3 (b) (i) Draft decision on the review of compliance of the Convention (Continued, as needed)</p> <p>(ii) Other draft MOP decisions</p> <p>- Draft decision on reporting and review of implementation</p> <p>- Draft decision on application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities</p>	<p>Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/7)</p> <p>Good practice recommendations on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/10)</p> <p>Practical examples of the</p>	<p>Delegations will be invited <b>to comment on and finalize</b>, as needed, <b>the other draft decisions and related documents</b> under consideration by the MOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft <b>decision VII/1</b> on reporting and review of implementation – <i>Note that as of [1 May 2017] the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had not reported</i></li> <li>Draft <b>decision VII/6</b> on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities.</li> </ul>

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		application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.6)	
	<p><b>Outstanding MOP/MOP-3 issues</b></p> <p><b>3 (c) Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft decision on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol</li> <li>- Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Protocol</li> </ul>	<p>Draft decision on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/7)</p> <p>Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/8)</p>	<p>Delegations will be invited <b>to comment on and finalize draft decisions</b> under consideration by the MOP/MOP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft <b>decision III/I</b> on reporting and the review of implementation of the Protocol – <i>Note that as of [1 May 2017] the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had not reported</i></li> <li>• Draft <b>decision III/2</b> on review of compliance with the Protocol</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Outstanding MOP-7 and MOP/MOP-3 issues</b></p> <p><b>3 (d) Draft Minsk declaration</b></p> <p><b>3 (e) Nomination of officers</b></p>	<p>Draft Minsk declaration (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/2)</p> <p>Informal list of nominations (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.7)</p>	<p>Delegations will be invited <b>to discuss and finalize</b> the draft <b>declaration</b> prepared by the Bureau.</p> <p>Delegations will be invited <b>to review a list of nominations</b> for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members of the Bureau (Chair and Vice-Chairs);</li> <li>• Officers for the Working Group (Chair and Vice-Chairs);</li> <li>• Members of the Implementation Committee (and their alternates).</li> </ul> <p>The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be expected to <b>consider the endorsement</b> of the</p>

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
	<b>3 (f) Tentative calendar of meetings for the next intersessional period (2017–2020)</b>	Provisional schedule of meetings (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.8)	<p>nominations in turn – and forward them to the high-level segment for formal election</p> <p>The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be invited to <b>agree on</b> a tentative calendar of meetings.</p> <p>Delegations may wish to put forward <b>proposals for hosting meetings.</b></p>
<i>Wednesday, 14 June 1–1.30 p.m.</i>	<i>Side event by Finland, Canada and Denmark - Greenland: “Producing good practice recommendations for EIA and Public Participation in the Arctic”</i>		
<b>Wednesday, 14 June 3–5.30 p.m.</b>	<b>Item 4. Panel discussion on the contribution of the Convention and the Protocol to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the future of the treaties</b>	Information note for the panel discussion on the contribution of the Convention and the Protocol to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and the future of the treaties (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.9)	Delegations will be invited to <b>participate in the moderated discussion from the floor</b> by making brief interventions and asking questions.
<b>Thursday, 15 June 10 a.m. –1 p.m.</b>	<b>Item 3. Outstanding (MOP, MOP/MOP and/or joint) issues continue</b> (as needed)		
	<b>Item 5. Review of the workplan</b>	<p>Informal assessment of the completion of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.3)</p> <p>Summary report on technical assistance and capacity-building activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/5–</p>	



<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
	5 (a) Compliance with and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol	ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/5)	<p>Delegations will be invited to report and/or comment on progress in workplan activities for compliance with and implementation of the Convention and/or the Protocol, since the sixth meeting of the Working Group on EIA and SEA (7–10 November 2016), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further development and update of the Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries (having involved also sub-regional workshops held in Kazakhstan in February 2017 and in Kyrgyzstan, in April 2017);</li> <li>• Pre-accession legislative assistance to Kazakhstan: Seminar on the development of an SEA system (14 November 2016); A national round-table discussion on legal implementation of the Protocol (25 January 2017); a high-level round table, (6 April 2017);</li> <li>• Technical advice to Armenia for improving its legislation to implement the Protocol: A second legal roundtable on developing the national legal framework on SEA (Armenia, 16 February 2017)</li> </ul>
	5 (b) Subregional cooperation and capacity-building		Delegations will be invited to <b>report on progress</b> in implementing or preparing subregional cooperation and capacity-building events since the Working Group’s sixth

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	5 (c) Exchange of good practices	Report of the Working Group on EIA and SEA on its sixth meeting (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/4, annexes I and II)	<p>meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9<sup>th</sup> seminar on Baltic Sea subregion (Riga, December 2016)</li> <li>• Subregional coordination and experience sharing event on SEA (Ukraine, postponed to November 2017)</li> </ul> <p>Delegations may note the summary reports of the events held at the Working Group's sixth meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brainstorming session on the future of the Convention and the Protocol (Austria, Finland and the Netherlands)</li> <li>- Workshop on the global application of the Convention and the Protocol (EIB and the secretariat);</li> </ul> <p>Delegations will be invited <b>to report on progress in implementing other activities</b> since the sixth meeting of the Working Group. (The development of good practice recommendations regarding nuclear energy will be discussed under item 3 (b) ii above.)</p>
	5 (d) Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA		<p>Delegations and the secretariat will be invited <b>to report on workshops and other events and activities</b> for promoting ratification and application of the Protocol since the Working Group's sixth meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation by IAIA of informal pamphlets on key issues;</li> <li>• Training on the role of environmental</li> </ul>

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			<p>authorities in SEA quality control (Georgia, 28 November 2017);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEA awareness raising workshop for planning authorities and consultants (Georgia, 30 November–1 December 2016)</li> <li>• High-level round table for awareness raising regarding SEA, (Ukraine, 28 February 2017);</li> <li>• Training workshop on practical application of SEA (Ukraine, 15–16 March 2017);</li> <li>• Event to discuss progress, and further needs and priorities on SEA and EIA in Georgia (26 April 2017)</li> <li>• Training workshop on practical application of SEA (Georgia, 27 April 2017)</li> </ul>
<i>Thursday, 15 June, 1–2.30 pm</i>	<i>Side event by Belarus on “EIA as a tool for achieving sustainable development goals”</i>		
<b>Thursday, 15 June 3–5 p.m.</b>	<b>Item 6. Review of compliance, review of implementation and work done by the Implementation Committee</b>	<p>Fifth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/9)</p> <p>Second review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/9)</p> <p>Report on the activities of the Implementation Committee (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/4–</p>	<p>Delegations will be informed of the finalization of the draft reviews of implementation by the secretariat based on the comments made during and after the Working Group’s sixth meeting.</p> <p>Delegations may wish <b>to comment on the Implementation Committee’s report</b> on its activities to be presented by the Implementation Committee Chair.</p>

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
Friday, 16 June 10 a.m.–1 p.m.	<p data-bbox="515 351 1030 414"><b>Item 7. Opening ceremony for the high-level segment</b></p> <p data-bbox="515 526 1030 590">(a) Election of the of officers for the high-level segment</p> <p data-bbox="515 782 1030 845">(b) Introductory speeches by the Co-Chairs</p> <p data-bbox="515 893 1030 1021">(c) Report on the panel discussion on the contribution of the Convention and the Protocol to the achievement of the SDGs and the future of the treaties</p> <p data-bbox="515 1212 1030 1324"><b>Item 8. Panel discussion on the role of the Protocol and the Convention in addressing climate change</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1030 271 1411 303">ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/4)</p> <p data-bbox="1030 1212 1411 1404">Information note on the panel discussion on the role of the Convention and the Protocol in addressing climate change (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.10)</p>	<p data-bbox="1411 526 1975 734">The Bureau recommends the <b>election</b> of H.E., Mr. Andrei Kovkhuto, Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus and H.E, Mr. Neno Dimov, Minister of Environment and Water of Bulgaria as co-Chairs of the MOP-7 and MOP/MOP-3 for the high-level segment.</p> <p data-bbox="1411 893 1975 1085">The MOPs will be invited to <b>note and comment</b> the report on the panel discussion on the contribution of the Convention and the Protocol to the achievement of the SDGs and the future of the treaties. presented by the moderator;</p> <p data-bbox="1411 1101 1975 1165">It is also expected <b>to consider</b> possible <b>follow-up actions</b> to the panel discussion.</p> <p data-bbox="1411 1212 1975 1420">Delegations will be invited to make <b>short interventions</b> (maximum 3 minutes) from the floor in response to the panel discussion providing specific examples of how the Convention and the Protocol have been applied to addressing climate change in their countries,</p>

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
Friday, 16 June 3–6 p.m.	<b>Item 9. Statements by Ministers and high-level representatives</b>		once all panellists have spoken.  Delegations are requested to <b>register statements</b> in advance of the session, by informing the secretariat. Delegations are reminded of the time limit of <b>3 minutes</b> for statements.
	<b>Item 10. Adoption of decisions</b>		
	<b>10 (a) Decisions to be taken jointly</b>	<p>Draft joint decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/1)</p> <p>Report on the budget and financial arrangements in the period since the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/3)</p> <p>Report on the activities of the Implementation Committee (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/4–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/4)</p> <p>General guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety</p>	<p>The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be invited to adopt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Decision VII/3–III/3</b> on the adoption of the workplan;</li> <li>• <b>Decision VII/4–III/4</b> on the budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance;</li> <li>• <b>Decision VII/5–III/5</b> on guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects</li> <li>• <b>Decision VII/7–III/6</b> on the development of a strategy and an action plan for the future application of the Convention and the Protocol</li> </ul>

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
		<p>aspects (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/6–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/6)</p> <p>Technical guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/11–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/10)</p>	
	<b>10 (b) Decisions to be taken by the MOP</b>	<p>Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/7)</p> <p>Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/8)</p> <p>Fifth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/9)</p> <p>Good practice recommendations on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/10)</p>	<p>The MOP will be invited to adopt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Decision VII/1</b> on reporting and review of implementation of the Convention</li> <li>• <b>Decision VII/2</b> on the review of compliance with the Convention</li> <li>• <b>Decision VII/6</b> on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities</li> </ul>
	<b>10 (c) Decisions to be taken by the MOP/MOP</b>	<p>Draft decision on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/7)</p> <p>Draft decision on the review of compliance with the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/8)</p> <p>Second review of</p>	<p>The MOP/MOP will be invited to adopt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Decision III/1</b> on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol;</li> <li>• <b>Decision III/2</b> on the review of compliance with the Protocol;</li> </ul>

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		implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/9)	
	<b>Item 11. Adoption of the declaration</b>	Draft Minsk declaration (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/2)	The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be invited to adopt the Minsk <b>declaration</b> .
	<b>Item 12. Election of officers for the next intersessional period</b>	Informal list of nominations (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/INF.7)	The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be expected to <b>elect</b> officers of the Working Group, members of the Bureau, and members of the Implementation Committee, following earlier agreement (item 3 (e)).
	<b>Item 13. Date and venue of next meetings</b>		The MOP and the MOP/MOP will be expected to decide on the <b>date and venue</b> of the eighth session of the MOP to be held in conjunction with the fourth session of the MOP/MOP.
	<b>Item 14. Other business</b>		Delegations wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.
	<b>Item 15. Conclusion of the session</b>		
	(a) Adoption of the outline report of the session		The MOPs will be invited to agree on the <b>main decisions taken</b> and authorize the secretariat to complete the report after the session under the guidance of the Bureau.
	(b) Closing of the session		