

Seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention

Side-event

“Good practice recommendations on the application of the Espoo Convention to nuclear energy-related activities”

Provisional programme

June 13, 18.00 - 19.15

Venue: Hotel Beijing, Minsk, room “Lotus”, 1st floor

Organized by CEE Bankwatch Network¹

The main goal of the side event is to discuss practical experiences with application of Espoo Convention in nuclear energy-related projects with the focus on **“Good practice recommendations on the application of the Espoo Convention to nuclear energy-related activities”** developed by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment on the request of the Six Meeting of Parties to the Convention (see decisions VI/71 and VI/3–II/32).

The event shall:

- provide an opportunity to share and discuss “good practice” cases from different countries, reflecting on experience of governments, Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and representatives of a relevant other MEA, such as Aarhus;
- raise awareness among parties and stakeholders about challenges and good practices in applying Espoo Convention to nuclear energy-related issues;
- highlight the importance to have common guidance/approach for the application of the Convention across Parties to ensure fairness and effectiveness of cooperation;

The “good practice recommendations” are prepared for adoption at Seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention.

The event will be held in a form of a panel discussion, and addressed to representatives of Parties, observers, and other participants of the MOP.

¹ A network of environmental NGOs across Central and Eastern Europe monitoring the activities of international financial institutions, www.bankwatch.org

18.00 -18.10	Opening remarks (Iryna Holovko, CEE Bankwatch Network) Introduction (A. Andrusevych, European ECO Forum)
18.10- 18.50	<p>Introduction to “Good practice recommendations”. Examples of good practices and challenges in application of Espoo to projects in nuclear energy projects (J. Kresbach, Austria, member of editorial group)</p> <p>Challenges of applying Espoo and Aarhus Conventions to nuclear decision-making, as reflected in opinions and recommendations of implementation and compliance committees (J. Jendroška, Espoo Implementation Committee, ACCC)</p> <p>Trends in transparency and stakeholder engagement in nuclear decision-making processes in France (N. Reynal, ASN, France)</p> <p>Importance of enhanced public participation in decision-making on nuclear projects and role of Espoo Convention (Jan Haverkamp, Greenpeace CEE/Nuclear Transparency Watch)</p>
18.50-19.10	Questions and open discussion (facilitated by A. Andrusevych)
19.10	Closing remarks (G.Kremlis, European Commission)