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Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on
the Protection and Use of Transboundary
Watercourses and International Lakes

Implementation Committee

Ninth meeting

Geneva, 7–9 March 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the ninth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on Wednesday,
7 March 2018, at 2.30 p.m.*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Joint session with the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health.
3. Role of the Committee in the global opening of the Convention.
4. Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative.
5. Review of the template for national reports on the implementation of the Convention.
6. Review of the national reports on the implementation of the Convention.

* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to register online as soon as possible, but **by no later than 22 February 2018** through the following link: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=iqWG7G>. 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, Avenue de la Paix 14 (see the map on the Economic Commission for Europe website, www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html). Please allow sufficient time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 91 1606.



7. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session.
8. Composition of the Implementation Committee.
9. Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings.
10. Any other business.
11. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 7 March, 2.30–2.35 p.m.

The Implementation Committee under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) will be invited to adopt the agenda for its ninth meeting, as set out in the present document.¹

2. Joint session with the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 7 March, 2.35–5.25 p.m.

At its eighth meeting (Haparanda, Sweden, 23–24 May 2017), the Committee decided to hold a joint session with the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health to the Water Convention, which will take place back to back with the Compliance Committee's sixteenth meeting (Geneva, 6–7 March 2018). The joint session will consist of two segments: a closed session between the two Committees; and a public event open to participation by civil society and members of other relevant bodies, such as the Compliance Committee under the ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies.

During its closed session, the Compliance Committee and the Implementation Committee will discuss issues of common interest, such as the process, content and value of reporting by Parties and other States, the promotion of both mechanisms (in particular among non-governmental organizations), opportunities for joint promotion, experience with the Consultation Process and the interpretive function of the two Committees.

The public event will be organized as a round-table discussion on the role of non-State actors in supporting implementation and compliance with multilateral environmental and human rights agreements.

3. Role of the Committee in the global opening of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 8 March, 9.30–10.15 a.m.

At its sixth meeting (Geneva, 3–4 May 2016), the Committee received a mandate from the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention to support the secretariat in answering questions from countries outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

¹ Information and documents for the meeting will be made available on a dedicated web page of the Convention's website (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=46358>).

(ECE) region interested in acceding to the Convention. The Committee will be informed about recent developments linked to the accession and implementation of the Convention in countries outside the ECE region and past and planned secretariat efforts to build capacity on the Convention in interested non-ECE countries. The Committee will discuss its potential involvement in future activities.

4. Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative

Tentative timing: Thursday, 8 March, 10.15–10.25 a.m.

In accordance with the relevant procedures set out in decision VI/1 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, the Committee is expected to consider:

- (a) Any request for advice by a Party or Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation or application of the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2, decision VI/1, annex I, paras. 18–23);
- (b) Any submission by Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation and compliance (ibid., paras. 24–27);
- (c) Undertaking a Committee initiative (ibid., paras. 28–29).

5. Review of the template for national reports on the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 8 March, 10.25–11 a.m.

The Committee will be informed about the outcome of a technical meeting on the template for reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and implementation of the Water Convention (Budapest, 16–17 January 2018). In particular, it will hear about decisions on how to revise the reporting template and the elements for a decision on reporting to be reviewed by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its thirteenth meeting (Geneva, 29–30 May 2018) and subsequently forwarded to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session (Astana, 10–12 October 2018) for consideration. The Committee will discuss possible additional inputs to the next steps of the process.

6. Review of the national reports on the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 8 March, 11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. and 2.30–4 p.m.

On the basis of a compilation of inputs by Committee members, the Committee will discuss the results of their analysis of national reports submitted by Parties during the pilot reporting exercise, and consider how the analysis should be presented to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session.

7. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session

Tentative timing: Friday, 9 March, 9.30 a.m.–12.25 p.m.

On the basis of a draft extended outline prepared by the secretariat, the Committee will discuss its report to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session in accordance with decision VI/1, annex I, paragraph 44.

The Committee will discuss and agree on the content of its report, including the inclusion of a draft decision on general issues of implementation for possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties with recommendations to enhance implementation of the Convention and reporting.

The Committee will also agree on the process, timeline and distribution of tasks for finalization of the report not later than 15 weeks in advance of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties, i.e., by 27 June 2018.

8. Composition of the Implementation Committee

Tentative timing: Friday, 9 March, 12.25–12.40 p.m.

The Committee will discuss the composition of the Implementation Committee after the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

At its seventh session, the Meeting of the Parties elected four Committee members to replace members whose terms had expired. According to decision VI/1, at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties, Parties should proceed with the election or re-election of five Committee members to fill the positions of the five members whose terms will expire by the eighth session.

9. Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings

Tentative timing: Friday, 9 March, 12.40–12.50 p.m.

The Committee will agree on issues for consideration at its next meetings. The Committee will also agree on the dates of its tenth and eleventh meetings.

10. Any other business

Tentative timing: Friday, 9 March, 12.50–12.55 p.m.

The Committee will discuss other matters as proposed by its members.

11. Adoption of the report

Tentative timing: Friday, 9 March, 12.55–1 p.m.

The Committee will agree on the modalities for the preparation and adoption of the report on its ninth meeting.
