



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

## World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

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

### Compliance Committee

#### Seventeenth meeting

Geneva, 5 and 6 November 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the seventeenth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on  
Monday, 5 November 2018, at 10 a.m.\*

## I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Consideration of submissions, referrals and communications.
3. Review of compliance with the obligation to set targets and target dates under the Protocol.

\* As part of the accreditation procedures for meetings at the United Nations Office at Geneva, delegates are requested to register online for the meeting, as soon as possible and **no later than 15 October 2018**, through the following link: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=3yPCRx>. On their way to the meeting, delegates 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, <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>). Please allow sufficient time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1606.



4. Consultation Process.
5. Awareness-raising on the compliance procedure.
6. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session.
7. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 5 November, 10–10.10 a.m.*

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

### **2. Consideration of submissions, referrals and communications**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 5 November, 10.10–10.30 a.m.*

2. In accordance with the procedures set out in decision I/2 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on the review of compliance (ECE/MP.WH/2/Add.3-EUR/06/5069385/1/Add.3), the Committee is expected to consider:

- (a) Any submission by Parties relating to specific issues of compliance (decision I/2, annex, paras. 13–14);
- (b) Any referral by the joint secretariat relating to specific issues of compliance (ibid., para. 15);
- (c) Any communication from the public relating to specific issues of compliance (ibid., paras. 16–22).

### **3. Review of compliance with the obligation to set targets and target dates under the Protocol**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 5 November, 10.30–11.00 a.m.*

3. At its fourth session (Geneva, 14–16 November 2016), the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol adopted decision IV/2 on general issues of compliance, which requests Parties to communicate their targets to the joint secretariat for wider dissemination. Further to that decision, Parties that had not communicated their targets were contacted by the secretariat on behalf of the Committee and requested to provide information about their progress in the target-setting processes or to communicate the targets that had been formally established. All the countries contacted responded to this request and some communicated their targets.

4. At its fifteenth meeting (Geneva, 13–14 November 2017), the Committee discussed the specific situation of the countries that had been contacted, focusing only on whether the information provided by each Party was sufficient to allow for an overall understanding of

the targets set by each country without entering a substantive review. Having considered the responses, the Committee requested the secretariat to write to a number of countries, requesting a further update on progress or clarification. At the time of its sixteenth meeting (Geneva, 6–7 March 2018), the Committee had not yet received replies from Albania, Belgium and the Russian Federation and decided that it would revisit the issue of possible follow-up action through electronic consultations by email as necessary.

5. Based on the information ultimately received from the three Parties, the Committee decided to consider the reply from Belgium at its seventeenth meeting and to review the situation of Albania, the Russian Federation and other Parties during the fourth reporting cycle under the Protocol.

6. The Committee will therefore discuss its next steps based on the responses and information received from Belgium.

#### **4. Consultation Process**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 5 November, 11.00 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–6 p.m.*

7. Based on decision IV/2 of the Meeting of the Parties on general issues of compliance (ECE/MP.WH/13/Add.2-EUPCR/1611921/2.1/2016/MOP-4/06/Add.2) and the decision on consultations with Parties taken at the Committee's fourteenth meeting (Geneva, 13–14 March 2017), the Committee decided, prior to its fifteenth meeting, to invite Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to engage in the Consultation Process. The three countries accepted the invitation.

8. At its fifteenth meeting, the Committee decided that the consultation would take place between November 2017 and November 2018 and would have the following components:

- (a) A stock-taking exercise to understand the situation regarding water and health in each country;
- (b) An interpretive note clarifying the relevant legal provisions of the Protocol, based on the information gathered and lessons learned during the process;
- (c) Provision of specific advice in writing and during the meeting in November;
- (d) Follow-up on action taken in response to that advice.

9. At its sixteenth meeting, the Committee held consultations with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, including plenary discussions on their needs, expectations and cross-cutting priorities and individual discussions on the specific challenges faced by each country. The Committee also requested the Parties concerned to send the Committee a detailed written statement of their expectations of the Consultation Process. The three countries sent those statements to the Committee after the meeting.

10. During the intersessional period, the Committee commenced work on the interpretive note and drafted specific advice for communication to the Parties concerned prior to its seventeenth meeting.

11. At the meeting, the Committee will hold consultations with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The consultations will comprise:

- (a) Presentations by the three Parties on developments in their water and health situation since the last meeting of the Committee and on the usefulness of the Consultation Process thus far;

(b) Discussion of progress so far on the interpretive note clarifying the relevant legal provisions of the Protocol based on the information gathered and lessons learned during the process and on discussions with the Parties;

(c) Parallel sessions with each Party in order to present specific advice;

(d) A plenary discussion at which the Parties will exchange experience and ideas and agree on follow up to the Committee's advice.

## **5. Awareness-raising on the compliance procedure**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 6 November, 10.00–10.30 a.m.*

12. The Committee members and the secretariat will report on their efforts to promote and present the compliance procedure at various forums and events.

13. The Committee will discuss specific steps and initiatives designed to raise awareness of the compliance procedure.

## **6. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 6 November, 10.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.*

14. The Committee will discuss the preparation of the report on its activities, to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session pursuant to paragraph 33 of the annex to decision I/2 on the review of compliance.

15. The Committee will agree on the format and the content of the report on its activities to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties. The Committee is expected to agree on the outline of the report and to make a work-sharing arrangement for drafting its various sections in light of the expertise and scientific or legal backgrounds of Committee members.

## **7. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 6 November, 12.30–12.40 p.m.*

16. The Committee will agree on the dates of its eighteenth and nineteenth meetings and on the issues to be considered.

## **8. Other business**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 6 November, 12.40–12.45 p.m.*

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

## **9. Adoption of the report**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 6 November, 12.45–1.00 p.m.*

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

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