

## **Economic Commission for Europe**

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

### **Working Group on Implementation**

**Thirty-seventh meeting**

Geneva, 11 February 2019

## **Annotated provisional agenda of the thirty-seventh meeting**

**To be held in Geneva, at the Palais des Nations (room S4), starting at  
10.00 a.m. and ending at 5.00 p.m. on 11 February**

### **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Implementation of the Convention, including reporting.
3. Engaging with countries on implementation issues.
4. Monitoring of the Strategic Approach.
5. Collection of good practices and exchange of information.
6. Meetings scheduled for 2019–2020.
7. Other business.
8. Closing of the meeting.

### **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

This provisional agenda was prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Working Group.

#### **1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**

The Chair will open the meeting and invite the Working Group on Implementation to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

The Chair will report on recent changes in the composition of the Working Group and other key decisions related to the activities of the Working Group taken at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Industrial Accidents Convention (Geneva, 4–6 December 2018). The secretariat will present the linkages between the revised long-term strategy of the Convention for 2030 and the work of the Working Group.

Documentation:

- Long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030

## 2. Implementation of the Convention, including reporting

According to paragraph 4 of the updated terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation, the Working Group shall:

- (a) Monitor the implementation of the Convention;
- (b) Prepare the report on the implementation of the Convention, including conclusions, on the basis of the individual country reports, in line with article 23 of the Convention;
- (c) Make draft recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the basis of the above report and submit these, through the Bureau, to the Conference of the Parties for adoption;

The secretariat will present the final draft version of the reporting format and guidelines for the ninth reporting period (1 January 2016 to 31 December 2018), updated based on the comments provided by members of the Working Group in 2016 and at and following its last meeting. The Working Group will be invited to discuss and agree on the reporting format and guidelines, including modalities for their finalization and circulation in view of the deadline of 31 October 2019 for countries to submit their completed reports.

The Working Group may wish to agree on responsibilities for analysing the implementation reports and discuss time lines and modalities for requesting clarification, if needed, of countries' replies in their national implementation reports for inclusion into the overall synthesis report.

The secretariat will present the new online platform on which the implementation reports are stored.<sup>1</sup>

Documentation:

- Final draft version of the reporting format and guidelines
- Recommendations by the Working Group on Implementation for changing the 2014–2015 reporting format and guidelines (as of June 2016)

## 3. Engaging with countries on implementation issues

According to paragraph 4 of the updated terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation, the Working Group shall:

- (d) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries where the Working Group becomes aware of possible difficulties in the implementation of the Convention, to understand the situation in these countries more accurately and to provide advice and make recommendations on the implementation of the Convention, share good practices and draw attention to existing guidance and tools.

According to paragraph 5, Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries will respond to requests by the Working Group further to item 4 (d) on a voluntary basis.

The members of the subgroups (Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe)<sup>2</sup> will be invited to report back on their engagement activities since the last meeting,

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://wiki.unece.org/display/TEIA/Implementation+Reports>.

to update the Working Group on recent developments and to suggest next steps. The members of the Working Group will also report on their contacts with Focal Points and/or representatives of Albania, Georgia and Montenegro in the framework of the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties or otherwise, as suggested at the last meeting. The Working Group will be invited to discuss the information provided and agree on the next steps.

In view of making the country dossiers more user-friendly, Ms. Tsarina will be invited to report on the progress made in this regard since the last meeting.

At its last meetings, the Working Group agreed to invite Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan to a teleconference. The secretariat will provide further information on its contacts with the countries and the schedule for the teleconference at the meeting. The Working Group on Implementation, in particular the members of respective subregional groups, may wish to present the agenda of the teleconference and proposed questions/issues for discussion.

The Working Group will be invited to make recommendations for countries to be invited to a teleconference at its next meeting.

In line with its modus operandi, the Working Group can also engage with other Parties and reporting countries on implementation issues. The Working Group may want to discuss its approach towards this, possibly by coming back to this issue upon its review of the implementation reports.

Documentation:

- Country dossiers per subregion (Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern Europe and South Eastern-Europe), prepared by the members of the Working Group

#### 4. Monitoring of the Strategic Approach

According to paragraph 4 of the updated terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation, the Working Group shall:

- (g) Monitor the Convention's Assistance Programme, including the application of the Strategic Approach, and review national self-assessments and action plans;
- (h) Review the substance and eligibility of project proposals submitted within the framework of the Assistance Programme and its Strategic Approach;
- (i) Monitor the progress of assistance activities within the programme of work under the Convention and, if no progress is made in the implementation of the Convention, request the countries benefitting from such activities to provide an explanation;

The secretariat will briefly present the new online platform on which the self-assessments and action plans were made available to facilitate the access to these documents by members of the Working Group.

The members of the Working Group will be invited to provide, to the extent possible, an update on the implementation of the actions identified by countries in their national action plans and to make recommendations for how to proceed to improve countries' application of the Strategic Approach, including by following-up with countries on their

<sup>2</sup> Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia): Mr. Gonzalez (Switzerland) and Ms. Raap (Netherlands); Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan): Ms. Fridh (Sweden), Ms. Tsarina (Russian Federation) and Ms. Vizbule (Latvia); Eastern Europe (Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine): Mr. Chukharev (Belarus) and Mr. Iberl (Germany); South-Eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia): Mr. Buljan (Croatia), Ms. McCann (United Kingdom) and Ms. Sanja Stamenkovic (Serbia).

implementation of the actions and supporting them in the preparation of needs-driven project proposals.

Ms. Tsarina will present a demo form, prepared based on the Benchmarks document, that could be used to facilitate the conduct of the national self-assessments. The Working Group will be invited to provide feedback and agree on the next steps regarding the possible future use of the form.

The Working Group may wish to discuss and agree on the feedback and recommendations for the next steps on monitoring the Strategic Approach.

Documentation:

- Self-assessments and action plans by the countries, available online
- Demo version of the Benchmarks document
- User-friendly version of the Benchmarks document

## 5. Collection of good practices and exchange of information

According to paragraph 4 of the updated terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation, the Working Group shall:

- (e) Engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries, based on the review of the national implementation reports, to gather information about innovations, good practices, national guidelines and other materials of interest;
- (f) Identify good practices and facilitate the exchange of information among Parties and other countries.

According to paragraph 5, Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries will respond to requests by the Working Group further to item 4 (e) on a voluntary basis.

The secretariat will provide an update about the implementation of activities under the area of exchange of information in the Convention's workplan for 2017–2018, notably with regard to the seminar on land-use planning and industrial safety (Mechelen, Belgium, 16–17 May 2018), and under the area of facilitation of implementation in the Convention's workplan for 2019–2020.

The Working Group will be invited to take note of the information provided and to discuss the further use and promotion of the good practices identified at these seminars to raise awareness about how countries could make use of the information that is available, including the template for notification of hazardous activities adopted by the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the implementation guide developed under the Central Asian project.

Documentation:

- Draft priorities, workplan and resources for the Convention for 2019–2020
- Template for notification of hazardous activities as adopted by the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties

## 6. Meetings scheduled for 2019–2020

The Working Group will discuss the schedule and venues of its meetings in the biennium 2019–2020, including the possibility to hold the next meeting in Sweden.

**7. Other business**

Members of the Working Group wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

**8. Closing of the meeting**

The Chair will close the meeting at 5 p.m. on 11 February 2019.

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