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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**Eighteenth meeting**

Geneva, 1 and 2 July 2019

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Annotated provisional agenda for the eighteenth meeting**

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on
Monday, 1 July 2019, 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.
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. Composition of the Compliance Committee.
8. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings.

* 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 17 June 2019**, through the following link: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=dJqnqP>. 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, 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.



9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Monday, 1 July, 10–10.05 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, 1 July, 10.05–10.30 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, 1 July, 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 sixteenth meeting (Geneva, 6 and 7 March 2018), the Committee decided that the situation of those Parties that had provided information that was not sufficient to allow for an overall understanding of the targets set would be reviewed within the fourth reporting cycle under the Protocol.

5. At its seventeenth meeting (Geneva, 5 and 6 November 2018), the Committee considered the reply from Belgium to the above-mentioned request. It noted that the letter received from Belgium in March 2018 indicated that the assistance of the Committee in setting targets would be useful, reiterating, however, the lack of capacity to engage in the target-setting process in the Brussels-Capital Region. The Committee further recalled that Belgium had sent separate summary reports for its subnational entities within the third reporting cycle under the Protocol in 2016 and that no information had been submitted on the Brussels-Capital Region.

6. The Committee therefore requested the secretariat to send a letter to the Belgian authorities, recalling the obligations of Belgium to set targets and target dates under the

Protocol and to report on progress in achieving them and renewing the readiness of the Committee to provide assistance to Belgium in fulfilling these obligations, specifically as regards the Brussels-Capital Region, through a Consultation Process. Subsequently, an official letter was sent by the secretariat on behalf of the Compliance Committee.

7. Based on the response and information received, the Committee will discuss next steps in this regard under the agenda item on the Consultation Process.

4. Consultation Process

Tentative timing: Monday, 1 July, 11.00 a.m.–1 p.m.

8. 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 and 14 March 2017), the Committee decided to invite Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to engage in the Consultation Process. The three countries accepted the invitation.

9. At its fifteenth meeting (Geneva, 13 and 14 November 2017), the Committee decided that the consultation would have the following components:

- (a) A stock-taking exercise to understand the situation regarding water, sanitation 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;
- (d) Follow-up on action taken in response to that advice.

10. At its sixteenth meeting (Geneva, 6 and 7 March 2018), the Committee held consultations with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on their needs, expectations and cross-cutting priorities and individual discussions on the specific challenges faced by each country. Based on the information provided, during the intersessional period, the Committee commenced work on the interpretive note and drafted specific advice.

11. At its seventeenth meeting (Geneva, 5 and 6 November 2018), the Committee introduced the draft specific advice to the three Baltic States. Following the meeting, the specific advice was finalized by the secretariat and sent to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, accompanied by an official letter on behalf of the Committee. The specific advice was also made available on the Consultation Process webpage. The Committee will discuss the possible follow-up to the Consultation Process with the three Baltic States, including with regard to the implementation of the specific advice.

12. The Committee will also discuss the above-mentioned interpretive note clarifying the relevant legal provisions of the Protocol.

13. With regard to a future Consultation Process, based on the response and information received from Belgium, the Committee will discuss the possible provision of assistance in fulfilling the country's obligations to set targets and target dates under the Protocol and to report on progress in achieving them.

5. Awareness-raising on the compliance procedure

Tentative timing: Monday, 1 July, 3–4 p.m.

14. The Committee members and the secretariat will report on their efforts to promote and present the compliance procedure at various forums and events, such as the Judicial Colloquium on the Role of Judiciary in Promoting the Rule of Law in Environmental Matters (Geneva, 27 and 28 February 2019), the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development for the ECE Region (Geneva, 21 and 22 March 2019) and the 2019 World Water Day.

15. The Committee will also be informed about information on the compliance procedure shared with the relevant non-governmental organizations active in the areas of human rights, migrants and refugees.

16. The Committee will discuss other initiatives and specific steps to be taken to further raise awareness of the compliance procedure.

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

Tentative timing: Monday, 1 July, 4–6 p.m. and Tuesday, 2 July, 10 a.m.–12.00 p.m.

17. The Committee will discuss the first draft of its report to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fifth session, prepared by the Chair, with support of the secretariat, on the basis of contributions received from Committee members.

18. In particular, the Committee will discuss the compliance of Parties with reporting requirements under the Protocol. Committee members who reviewed the national summary reports submitted by Parties and other States in the framework of the fourth reporting exercise will present their findings. In particular, the Committee will focus on:

(a) The analysis of implementation and/or application of the Protocol's provisions by Parties and other States;

(b) The cross-cutting issues stemming from the national summary reports;

(c) The completeness of the summary reports in accordance with requirements set out in article 7 of the Protocol and in the revised template for summary reports as adopted at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

(d) The quality and accuracy of the data in the reports;

(e) The procedural aspects of the reporting process, including public involvement and timeliness in reporting;

(f) Recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session and possible recommendations to specific Parties;

(g) A possible decision on further work by the Committee on the national summary reports.

19. The Committee will then agree on the procedure and timeline for the finalization of its report to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session, as well as of the draft decision on general issues of compliance.

7. Composition of the Compliance Committee

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 2 July, 12–12.40 p.m.

20. The Committee members will discuss the composition of the Compliance Committee after the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

21. At its fourth session, the Meeting of the Parties elected four Committee members to replace members whose terms had expired. According to decision I/2 on review of compliance, at the fifth 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 fifth session.

8. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 2 July, 12.40–12.50 p.m.

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

9. Other business

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 2 July, 12.50–12.55 p.m.

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

10. Adoption of the report

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 2 July, 12.55–1.00 p.m.

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