

AARHUS CONVENTION CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATION Tenth meeting

to be held in Salle XI, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland,
on 28 February 2017 starting at 2 p.m.

Provisional agenda

2:00-2:15 **Opening**
Opening remarks
Introduction of the participants
Adoption of the agenda

2:15-4:30 **Activities relating to the implementation of the Convention**

The secretariat will present the key outcomes of the Survey on capacity-building strength and needs of Parties from the South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Considering the outcomes of the survey, the participants will discuss ongoing and planned capacity-building activities focusing on developments since the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention and the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. Based on the information collected by the secretariat from the partner organisations prior to the meeting, the participants will be invited to update on specific aspects of projects and activities, such as geographical scope, target groups, available and required funding, cooperation with partner organizations and challenges encountered in implementation of activities. The discussion will focus on the following thematic areas:

- Overall implementation of the Convention;
- Access to justice;
- Public participation in decision-making;
- Access to information, including electronic information tools and pollutant release and transfer registers;
- Genetically modified organisms;
- Public participation in international forums;
- Compliance with the Convention.

Background documents¹:

- Convention's Work Programme for 2015-2017 (Decision V/6, ECE/MP.PP/2014/2/Add.1)

¹ Documents are available from http://www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhus/mop5_docs.html#/ and http://www.unece.org/prtrmopp2_docs.html#/ respectively. The draft background documents will be distributed to the attending participants shortly before the meeting.

- Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 (Decision V/5, ECE/MP.PP/2014/2/Add.1),
- Report on capacity-building (ECE/MP.PP/2014/7) and its accompanying document (AC/MOP-5/Inf.1);
- Protocol's Work Programme for 2015-2017 (Decision II/3, ECE/MP.PRTR/2014/4/Add.2)
- Protocol's Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 (Decision II/2, ECE/MP.PRTR/2014/4/Add.2);
- draft Report on capacity-building and its accompanying document (AC/MOP-6/Inf.1).

4:30-5:00 **Activities relating to Convention's outreach to other regions and the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration**

The UNECE Secretariat and partner organisations are expected to provide information on activities relating to Convention's outreach to other regions and the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration.

5:00-5:55 **Further steps**

The UNECE Secretariat and partner organisations are expected to deliberate on further steps with regard to the preparation for the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs.

5:55-6:00 **Conclusions and closure of the meeting**