

Economic and Social Council

Distr. General
26 May 2014

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Compliance Committee

Second meeting

Geneva, 1 and 2 April 2014

Report of the second meeting of the Compliance Committee

Introduction

1. The second meeting of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Protocol on PRTRs) to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters took place in Geneva on 1 and 2 April 2014. Seven of the nine members were present at the meeting; Ms. Vadzar and Mr. Vasileski did not attend.

I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

2. The meeting was opened by the Committee Chair, Mr. Alistair McGlone.
3. The Committee adopted its agenda as set out in document ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2014/1.

II. Synthesis report on the implementation of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers

4. The Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs, at its third meeting (Geneva, 20–21 November 2013) had taken note of the decision by the Bureau to task the Compliance Committee with the preparation of a synthesis report on the status of implementation of the Protocol on the basis of national implementation reports (NIRs), to be submitted to the Protocol's Meeting of the Parties at its second session (Maastricht, the Netherlands, 3–4 July 2014).

5. Pursuant to that decision, the first draft of the synthesis report had been prepared by the Committee's members through electronic means prior to the meeting. The Committee then continued drafting the report at the meeting, and agreed to conclude its preparation through electronic means. The consolidated draft would then be sent to the Protocol's Bureau for its comments. The Chair of the Compliance Committee would finalize the report taking into consideration the comments received.

III. Submissions, referrals and communications

6. The Committee took note of the report by the secretariat that there had been no submissions, referrals or communications since the Committee's first meeting.

IV. Future work

7. The Committee considered that the reporting exercise provided a good basis for identifying major trends and challenges in relation to implementation of the Protocol on PRTRs, and that the Committee had a potential role to play in facilitating the Protocol's implementation. It agreed to discuss the matter further through electronic means after the meeting and to bring it to the attention of the Meeting of the Parties at its second session. The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting parallel to the second session of the Meeting of the Parties, on 3 and 4 July 2014, in Maastricht, with an open session on the morning of 4 July 2014.

V. Adoption of the outcomes of the meeting

8. The Committee adopted the major outcomes presented by the Chair at the meeting and requested the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, to finalize the report and incorporate the adopted outcomes and decisions. The Chair then closed the meeting.
