

## 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

### Working Group of the Parties

#### Fifth meeting

Geneva, 23 and 24 November 2016

Item 7(a): Preparations for the third session of the

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol - Hosting and preparatory timeline

### **Note on the preparatory timeline for the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention and third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol**

prepared by the secretariat<sup>1</sup>

This document outlines an indicative preparatory timeline for the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention, the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the PRTR Protocol and their associated meetings, suggested to be held back-to-back from 10 to 15 September 2017 respectively.<sup>2</sup> The timeline is prepared on the basis of a similar note drafted for the previous sessions of the Meetings of the Parties.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
<b>Submission of Aarhus Convention National Implementation Reports and PRTR Protocol National Implementation Reports</b>	15 December 2016 (recommended)
<b>Launch of the UNECE web-pages dedicated to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (AC MoP-6) and third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the PRTR Protocol (PRTRs MoPP-3) respectively, containing information on online registration</b>	February-March 2017
<b>Launch of a host-country website on practical arrangements for AC MoP-6 and PRTRs MoPP-3, which will be linked to the relevant UNECE AC MoP-6 and PRTRs MoPP-3 web-pages</b>	February-March 2017
<b>Mailing of invitation letters by UNECE and opening of online registration</b>	April-May 2017

<sup>1</sup> This document was not formally edited.

<sup>2</sup> The outline of the Protocol's MOPP-3 agenda is presented in document ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2016/11 available from <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/prtr/wgp5.html#/>

<b>Registration</b>	
<b>(a) for delegates from non-governmental organizations (NGOs):</b>	
Online registration and submission of the requests for financial support	1 June 2017
Submission of registrations to the European ECO-Forum by the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat	10 June 2017
Submission of a proposal from the European ECO-Forum to the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat on the composition of NGOs delegation and on provision of financial support to NGOs	25 June 2017
<b>(b) for other delegates eligible to apply for financial support:</b>	
Submission of official nomination letters for delegations together with online registration and requests for financial support to the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat	10 June 2017
<b>(c) for all other delegates:</b>	
Submission of official nomination letters for delegations and online registration	25 June 2017
<b>Submission of credentials to the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat</b>	To facilitate the procedure of verification of credentials, Parties to the Convention and to the Protocol are invited to submit the credentials of delegates or a copy of the credentials to the secretariat before 1 August 2017. Those Parties that submitted a copy of the credentials should present their originals to the secretariat before AC MOP-6 and PRTRs MoPP-3, on arrival at the meeting. It is strongly recommended that originals of the credentials should be submitted to the secretariat as soon as possible but no later than three hours before the opening of AC MoP-6 and PRTRs MoPP-3 respectively.

<b>Official Documents<sup>3</sup></b>	
<b>For AC MoP-6</b>	
Initial discussion on draft decisions and on draft AC MoP-6 agenda, and on a concept of possible draft Declaration	Working Group of the Parties, 15-17 June 2016
Discussion on and approval of draft decisions and of provisional AC MoP-6 agenda, discussion on possible draft Declaration	Working Group of the Parties, 4-6 April 2017
Finalization of the AC MoP-6 agenda and other official documents by the secretariat for submission to the editing and processing by the Documents Management Service of United Nations Office at Geneva <i>Documents will be uploaded on the AC MoP-6 webpage as soon as they become available</i>	1 May 2017 and 1 June 2017 respectively <i>(subject to the availability of documents)</i>
Discussion on and approval of the remaining draft decisions and of the draft Declaration, as required	Preparatory segment of AC MoP-6 and joint High-level Segment
<b>For PRTRs MoPP-3</b>	
Discussion on and approval of draft decisions and of provisional PRTRs MoPP-3 agenda, discussion on possible draft Declaration	Working Group of the Parties, 23-24 November 2016
Finalization of the PRTRs MoPP-3 agenda and other official documents by the secretariat for submission to the editing and processing by the Documents Management Service of United Nations Office at Geneva <i>Documents will be made uploaded on the PRTRs MoPP-3 webpage as soon as they become available.</i>	1 May 2017 and 1 June 2017 respectively <i>(subject to the availability of documents)</i>
Discussion on and approval of any possible remaining draft decisions and of the draft Declaration, as required	MoPP-3 and joint High-level Segment

<sup>3</sup> Please note that documents prepared in advance for AC MoP-6 and PRTRs MoPP-3 are divided into the following categories:

Category I (official documents for possible action, for instance agenda and decisions);

Category II (official background documents, for instance synthesis report);

Category III (other not official documents relevant to the agenda, for instance national implementation reports).

<b>Nominations for the Compliance Committee under the</b> - Aarhus Convention <sup>4</sup> - PRTR Protocol	
Submission of nominations for the Compliance Committee ( <i>to the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat</i> ) <sup>5</sup> - By Parties, Signatories and NGOs (in the fields of the Convention/Protocol) - In one of the official languages (English, French or Russian) - Including CV not exceeding 600 words and any supporting material	As soon as possible but not later than 19 June 2017
Dissemination of nominations for the Compliance Committee ( <i>by the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol secretariat</i> ) <sup>6</sup>	31 July 2017

<sup>4</sup> See document ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2016/9 on membership to the Compliance Committee under the Aarhus Convention available from <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhus/wgp20.html#/> and document ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2016/10 on membership to the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on PRTRs available from <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/prtr/wgp5.html#/>

<sup>5</sup> Nominations for the Committees should be sent to the secretariat in at least one of the official languages of the Convention/Protocol no later than 12 weeks before the opening of the MOPs. See paragraph 5 (a) of the annex to Decision I/7 (Review of Compliance) of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.8) and paragraph 5 (a) of the annex to Decision I/2 (Review of Compliance) of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2/Add/1).

<sup>6</sup> The secretariat should distribute the nominations (including the curricula vitae) for the Committees at least six weeks before the opening of MOPs. See paragraph 5 (c) of the annex to Decision I/7 (Review of Compliance) in conjunction with rule 10 of the annex to Decision I/1 (Rules of Procedure) (ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.2) of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention; as well as paragraph 5 (c) of the annex to Decision I/2 in conjunction with rule 10 of the annex to Decision I/1 (Rules of Procedure) of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.