

UNECE Monthly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS*

March 2013

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
1 Kiev	Multi-stakeholders workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation <i>Focal point:</i> Chantal Demilecamps <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 24 68 <i>E-mail:</i> chantal.demilecamps [at] unece.org	—	The objectives of the workshop are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to discuss the results offered by the self-evaluation tool on achieving equitable access to water and sanitation in Ukraine (scorecard);- to define priority actions to ensure more equitable access;- to critically assess the process on assessing equitable access to water and sanitation in Ukraine and the self-evaluation tool (scorecard framework). <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/water/pwh_work/equitable_access.html
1	Draft Convention on Restrictions Imposed on International Road Transport of Goods <i>Focal point:</i> Robert Nowak <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 12 67 <i>E-mail:</i> robert.nowak [at] unece.org	VII	Following the decision of the Working Party on Road Transport, this meeting of the informal expert group will discuss the “Draft convention aligning bilateral agreements on international road transport with the mandatory rules of multilateral instruments governing international road transit”. The informal expert group meeting has been organized to coincide with the seventy-fifth session of the Inland Transport Committee (26-28 February). <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc1/sc1doc_2012.html
11-13	Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes <i>Focal point:</i> Serguei Malanitchev <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 41 46 <i>E-mail:</i> serguei.malanitchev [at] unece.org	VII	The delegations will work on a number of technical aspects of the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes, such as certification of cut seed tubers, tolerances for mild and severe virus symptoms, requirements on sprouted tubers, field inspection procedures, potato tuber moth, etc. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/meetings/ge.06/2013-in-session.html

* Not an official record; for information only. Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
11-15	WP.29 Meetings		
11	Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work (WP.29/AC.2) <i>Focal point:</i> Juan Ramos Garcia <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 19 98 <i>E-mail:</i> juan.ramos.garcia [at] unece.org	XI	<p>At its 111th session, the Committee will consider the agenda for the 159th session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), as well as a draft agenda for the June 2013 session.</p> <p>AC.2 will provide recommendations to the World Forum on several items needing coordination among its 6 subsidiary Working Parties and its more than 40 informal working groups.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://live.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29age.html</p>
12-15	World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) <i>Focal point:</i> Juan Ramos Garcia <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 19 98 <i>E-mail:</i> juan.ramos.garcia [at] unece.org	XII	<p>Under the 1958 Agreement, the agenda of the 159th session lists 35 amendments to existing UN Regulations.</p> <p>The global harmonization of vehicle regulations should continue to be considered in the framework of the 1998 Agreement. A proposal for amendments to UN Global Technical Regulations (UN GTRs) on controls, tell-tales and indicators for two-wheeled vehicles will be considered. In addition, the status of the work on 10 priorities should also be considered.</p> <p>Besides, WP.29 will receive reports of its six subsidiary bodies, on pollution and energy, noise, brakes and running gear, lighting, passive safety and general safety. The WP.29 and subsidiary bodies' programme of work will also be considered.</p> <p>WP.29 will continue consideration of the actions to be undertaken under the pillar for safer vehicles of the Plan of Decade of Action for road safety.</p> <p>During the World Forum session, the Administrative Committee of the 1958 Agreement (AC.1) and the Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreement (AC.3) will meet to vote the above-mentioned proposals.</p> <p>During this session, it is expected to have an exchange of views on how to develop the 1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections (PTI) of Vehicles.</p> <p>The agenda and the documents could be consulted in the World Forum website.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://live.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29age.html</p>
12-13 Luxembourg European Commission premises	Fourth meeting of the Task Force on Public Participation under the Aarhus Convention: Joint event on public participation in decision-making in the nuclear domain <i>Focal point:</i> Fiona Marshall <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 42 26 <i>E-mail:</i> fiona.marshall [at] unece.org	—	<p>The fourth meeting of the Task Force (TF) is a joint event organized under the auspices of the Aarhus Convention's Task Force on Public Participation in Decision-making (TF on PPDM), the Directorate-General Energy of the European Commission and the Association nationale des comités et commissions locales d'information (ANCCLI), as foreseen in the Aarhus Convention's work programme (decision IV/6).</p> <p>At this meeting, participants will be invited to discuss and provide input on the third draft of the Recommendations on Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making. The</p>

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
			<p>Recommendations are intended to improve the implementation of the Convention's provisions on public participation in decision-making.</p> <p>Participants will also be invited to discuss key issues of concern for Parties and stakeholders with respect to public participation in decision-making in the nuclear domain, such as obstacles and challenges to effective public participation on nuclear-related issues, as well as good practices and innovative tools to address them.</p> <p>The meeting will be held at the premises of the European Commission (Meeting room M6, Jean Monnet Building (JMO), Rue Albert Wehrer, Kirchberg, L-2920 Luxembourg.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/ppdm_nuclear.html</p>
12-14	<p>Implementation Committee (Espoo Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Tea Aulavuo <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1723 <i>E-mail:</i> tea.aulavuo [at] unece.org</p>	XI	<p>The Implementation Committee's objective is to review compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), with a view to assisting them fully to meet their commitments.</p> <p>In its twenty-seventh session, the Committee will examine, in closed sessions, submissions by Parties regarding other Parties' compliance with the Convention; it will finalize its findings and recommendations on submission by Lithuania regarding Belarus and prepare its draft findings and recommendations on submission made by Armenia regarding Azerbaijan.</p> <p>The Committee will also consider its initiative on Azerbaijan, and a written clarification received from Portugal regarding its implementation of the Convention.</p> <p>The Committee will then assess progress by Parties in reporting on their implementation of the Convention in the period 2010–2012 and provide guidance for the preparation of the draft reviews of implementation of the Convention and the Protocol on SEA.</p> <p>Finally, the Committee is expected to continue its consideration of the information gathered from Ukraine, Romania and Lithuania and of the information by a non-governmental organization from Belarus.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30072</p>
13 Bishkek	<p>Ninth meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Kyrgyzstan (Water Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Peep Mardiste <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 34 48 <i>E-mail:</i> peep.mardiste [at] unece.org</p>	–	<p>The NPD on IWRM focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) implementation of river basin management approach through development of the river basin management plan for the Chu River; (b) setting targets and target dates at national level in the context of the UNECE/WHO-Europe Protocol on Water and Health; (c) improving the use of economic instruments for water resource management in the Issyk-

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
			<p>Kul basin.</p> <p>The ninth meeting of the Steering Committee will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) review the development of the river basin plan for the river Chu; (b) review targets developed in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health; and (c) discuss Post-2015 Development Agenda on Water, among other topics. <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/env/water/npd/countrydialogues/kg.html</p>
13-15	Meetings under the Water Convention		
13-14	<p>Strategic Workshop on the future work under the Protocol on Water and Health (Water Convention)</p> <p><i>Focal point:</i> Alisher Mamadzhonov <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 24 42 <i>E-mail:</i> alisher.mamadzhonov [at] unece.org</p>	XVI	<p>The Strategic workshop – Future work on water and health in the pan-European region: Building on results achieved and identifying priorities for the Protocol on Water and Health for 2014-2016 has the following main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revisit current challenges and needs in the protection of human health and well-being through improved water management; - Reviewing and analysing the work carried out under the Protocol; - Discussing and agreeing on future objectives and develop a strategy that will guide the development of the Protocol’s programme of work for 2014-2016. <p>The ideas stemming from the workshop will be further developed in the course of 2013, broadly consulted with all Parties, non-Parties and concerned partners, and finally formally adopted at the third session of the Meeting of the Parties in November 2013.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/env/water/strategic_workshop_protocol_2013.html</p>
14-15	<p>Meeting of the Bureau of the Protocol on Water and Health (Water Convention)</p> <p><i>Focal point:</i> Alisher Mamadzhonov <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 24 42 <i>E-mail:</i> alisher.mamadzhonov [at] unece.org</p>	IV	<p>The Bureau will review the outcomes of the Strategic Workshop under the Protocol and continue its work on the elaboration of the draft programme of work under the Protocol for 2014-2016</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/env/water/10th_meeting_protocol_bureau_2013.html</p>
14 (15:00-17:15)	<p>Launch of the World Bank report “Rethinking the Form and Function of Cities in Post-Soviet Countries”</p> <p><i>Focal point:</i> Gulnara Roll <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 22 57 <i>E-mail:</i> gulnara.roll [at] unece.org</p>	VII	<p>The report will be launched at the event jointly organized by the World Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, Europe and Central Asia Region; and the UNECE Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/hlm/welcome.html</p>

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
18-19	Global Commodities Forum <i>“Recommitting to commodity sector development as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction”</i> <i>Focal point:</i> Valérie Ducrot <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2474 <i>E-mail:</i> valerie.ducrot [at] unece.org	XVIII	<p>The Global Commodities Forum is organized by UNCTAD and the UNECE Gas Centre.</p> <p>During a two-hour session, Total, GDF Suez and GasNatural Fenosa will explain how the energy sector can contribute to economic growth and development, based on their own experience in developing countries around the world.</p> <p>Each participating company will present two country case studies: Indonesia and Bangladesh (GDF Suez), Argentina and Colombia (GasNatural Fenosa), and Congo and Nigeria (Total).</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.gascentre.unece.org/2013/03/global-commodities-forum/</p>
18-20 Bishkek	Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) meetings		
18	WPLA Eighth session <i>Focal point:</i> Michael Milligan <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 13 57 <i>E-mail:</i> michael.milligan [at] unece.org	—	<p>The Working Party on Land Administration operates under the auspices of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management. Its members are the national land administration authorities and related authorities from UNECE member States.</p> <p>The overall goals of the Working Party are the promotion and improvement of land administration and land management in the UNECE region.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32014</p>
19-20	WPLA workshop “Land Administration in Central Asia: Building Systems for 21st Century Challenges” <i>Focal point:</i> Michael Milligan <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 13 57 <i>E-mail:</i> michael.milligan [at] unece.org	—	<p>This workshop, which is organized jointly by the UNECE and the World Bank in cooperation with the State Registry of Kyrgyz Republic, will explore the challenges of developing robust land registration and land administration systems in Central Asia.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32021</p>
18-21	Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) <i>Focal point:</i> Robert Nowak <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 12 67 <i>E-mail:</i> robert.nowak [at] unece.org	VII	<p>The sixty-fifth session of the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) will be informed about the secretariat’s planned activities for the second UN Global Road Safety Week, and will continue its discussions on amendment proposals to the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals on lighting and light-signalling and variable message signs respectively.</p> <p>The Working Party will also consider a proposal for a multidisciplinary crash investigation framework, share challenges and practices on distracted driving, and continue its discussions on the development of a best practices guide on hiring buses for school trips.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=28425</p>

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
18-22 Bern	Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15/AC.1) <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 24 56 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella [at] unece.org	—	<p>Meeting organized jointly by UNECE and the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) for the purpose of maintaining full harmonization between regulations applicable to the carriage of dangerous goods by rail (RID), by road (ADR) and by inland waterway (ADN) in the UNECE region.</p> <p>The Joint Meeting will discuss matters related to the carriage in tanks and questions related to ISO and EN standards which may be referred to in the regulations (with lunchtime working group sessions), as well as several documents concerning miscellaneous proposals of amendments to RID/ADR/ADN.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/ac1/ac1age.html </p>
21	The Future of Forests: Challenges, Plans and Success Stories of Sustainable Forest Management <i>Focal point:</i> Eve Charles <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 39 22 <i>E-mail:</i> eve.charles [at] unece.org	XXV	<p>The UN General Assembly Second Committee has passed a draft resolution to designate 21 March each year as World Forest Day, encouraging all Member States to organize forest-related activities.</p> <p>To highlight the contribution of forestry to our society and to celebrate the first ever official World Forest Day, the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section together with the UN Office in Geneva, is organizing a high level policy talk on “The contribution of forests to sustainability and development”.</p> <p>A group of speakers will debate on these issues and present success stories as well as their vision, illustrating how maintaining the health and productivity of forests in different regions of the world have contributed and will continue to contribute to sustainable development.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/forests/idf2013.html</p>
21-22	Steering Committee meeting on Education for Sustainable Development <i>Focal point:</i> Simone Hofner <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 32 68 <i>E-mail:</i> simone.hofner [at] unece.org	XI	<p>The meeting will comprise two segments: the general meeting of the Steering Committee of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) assessing progress made in implementing ESD; and a regional consultation on the assessment and follow up of the UN Decade on ESD (2005-2014), organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNECE. The latter segment is part of the preparation of the post-2014 ESD framework, which UNESCO is coordinating as the lead agency for the UN Decade.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=31914</p>

Dates	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
25-26 Vienna	UNFPA and UNECE Thematic Meeting "Population Dynamics and Sustainable Development" <i>Focal point:</i> Evita Sisene <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 33 68 <i>E-mail:</i> evita.sisene [at] unece.org	—	<p>Experts from academia, civil society organizations, and governments will reflect on issues that prevail in the region regarding population and sustainable development and discuss future priorities, challenges and emerging issues. Key recommendations for action, including for research and measurement, will be identified.</p> <p>This is the first meeting in a series of three thematic meetings that are organized in preparation for the European Population Forum 2013.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/pau/welcome.html</p>
25-28	Compliance Committee Meeting (Aarhus Convention), 40th meeting <i>Focal point:</i> Aphrodite Smagadi <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 32 94 <i>E-mail:</i> aphrodite.smagadi [at] unece.org	VIII	<p>Among other things, the Committee will discuss in open session the subject matter of communications ACCC/C/2012/69 (Romania), ACCC/C/2012/70 (Czech Republic) and ACCC/C/2012/71 (Czech Republic).</p> <p>The Committee will continue in closed session its deliberations on communications ACCC/C/2008/31 (Germany), ACCC/C/2010/45 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2011/60 (United Kingdom) and ACCC/C/2011/61 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2011/62 (Armenia), ACCC/C/2011/63 (Austria), ACCC/C/2012/66 (Croatia) and ACCC/C/2012/68 (EU and UK).</p> <p>Also in closed session, the Committee is expected to adopt its findings on communications ACCC/C/2010/51 (Romania) and ACCC/C/2011/59 (Kazakhstan).</p> <p>The Committee will also consider how to follow up with the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties concerning compliance by individual Parties with provisions of the Convention; and will consider any new communication received.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=31689</p>
26	Group of Experts on Climate change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks (WP.5/GE.3), Sixth session <i>Focal point:</i> Konstantinos Alexopoulos <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 37 58 <i>E-mail:</i> konstantinos.alexopoulos [at] unece.org	V	<p>The Group of Experts is expected to complete its work within 2013 and to submit a full report of its accomplishments. This will include policy-oriented recommendations that aim to improve the long-term sustainability of transport with an emphasis on international connections and set best examples of national policies, address the issues of transport networks vulnerability amongst member Governments; including developing and landlocked countries, as well as small island States.</p> <p>The last forecasted meeting of the Group will take place in March 2013 where the experts will provide final comments – amendments – observations and will endorse the final report of the Group.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge3_06.html</p>

JUST ISSUED

The European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues – Achievements and lessons learned

Water Series No. 6

ECE/MP.WAT/38 – E & R

Available at: http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/euwi_npd.html

**If you need more information do not hesitate to contact us: Information Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Palais des Nations, Room 356, CH-1211 Geneva 10,
Phone: +41(0)22 917 4444, Fax: +41(0)22 917 0505, E-mail: info.ece@unece.org,
or have a look at our website: <http://www.unece.org>**