

UNECE Monthly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS*

December 2014

Dates and venue	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
1-5 Prague, Ostrava, Czech Republic	Study tour in the Czech Republic ‘Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment at the national level in the field of urban planning, waste management, agriculture and energy sector’ (Espoo Convention and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment) <i>Focal point:</i> Elena Santer <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2090 <i>E-mail:</i> elena.santer [at] unece.org	—	<p>The tour is organized by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) with the financial support of the European Union through the “Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood” (EaP GREEN) Programme and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.</p> <p>The aims of the study tour are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) To support and empower national experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine in the implementation of SEA-related activities in their own countries, including the pilot projects;(b) To provide participants with best practice examples on the application of SEA in the strategic planning process in one of the Parties to the Protocol;(c) To offer a forum for the exchange of experience on SEA among experts in the region; and(d) To allow regional experts to establish working contacts as a basis for future cooperation. <p>The study tour participants will learn about the Czech SEA system, including legislation, institutional structure and procedures, as well as the results of and lessons learned in the application of SEA to selected plans and programmes. They will meet with representatives of various authorities, consultants and non-governmental organizations that deal with SEA on a daily basis. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss existing challenges and success factors to facilitate a transition to a modern planning system that includes SEA.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=35883</p>

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

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1-9	<p>ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2456 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella [at] unece.org</p>	XII	<p>The Sub-Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council serviced by the UNECE secretariat.</p> <p>At its 46th session which is the last one of its two-year working cycle, the Sub-Committee will review the consolidated list of draft amendments to the UN Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Model Regulations and Manual of Tests and Criteria), provisionally adopted at its 43rd, 44th and 45th sessions for final approval, as well as any related or new proposals. It will discuss in particular questions related to the transport of explosives, electric storage systems (e.g. lithium batteries), miscellaneous proposals concerning listing, classification and packing of dangerous goods, global harmonization of transport of dangerous goods regulations with the UN Model Regulations and issues related to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).</p> <p>The Sub-Committee will also consider a draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2015 substantive session, will define its programme of work for the biennium 2015-2016, and will elect the members of its bureau for that period.</p> <p>The provisional timetable for the session has been circulated as information document INF.5.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=33538</p> <p><i>Agenda:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc/c3age.html</p> <p><i>Working documents:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc3/c32014.html</p> <p><i>Information documents:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc3/c3inf46.html</p>
2-3(am)	<p>TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) <i>Focal point:</i> Miodrag Pesut <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4136 <i>E-mail:</i> tirexb@unece.org</p>	<p>VIII (2 Dec)</p> <p>V (3 am Dec)</p>	<p>The TIR Executive Board (TIRExB), a subsidiary body of the TIR Administrative Committee, is composed of 9 members, each from different Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention. The TIRExB supervises and provides support in the application of the TIR procedure at the national and international levels.</p> <p>At its 61st session, the Board will consider various topical issues related to the sustainability of the TIR procedure. In particular, TIRExB will discuss follow-up activities further to the measure by the Federal Customs Service (FCS) of the Russian Federation to require additional guarantees for goods carried under cover of a TIR Carnet, introduced as of 14 September 2013 and the announced termination of the guarantee agreement between FCS and the National Association of International Road Carriers (ASMAP) per 30 November 2014.</p> <p>Furthermore, TIRExB will discuss a recent decision by the State Fiscal Service (SFS) of Ukraine to no longer accept, as of 2 October 2014, the guarantee of</p>

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			<p>TIR Carnets issued by ASMAP.</p> <p>For more details, please refer to the TIR website: www.unece.org/tir/welcome.html</p>
<p>2-4 Almaty</p>	<p>Workshop for the assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in the Syr Darya Basin <i>Focal point:</i> Annukka Lipponen <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2666 <i>E-mail:</i> annukka.lipponen [at] unece.org</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>The workshop will kick-off an assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in the Syr Darya Basin, intended to support transboundary and intersectoral cooperation to reconcile different water uses. The workshop will bring together national sector administrations from the Syr Darya countries, as well as other key stakeholders.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/environmental-policy/treaties/water/areas-of-work-of-the-convention/envwater-nexus.html</p>
<p>3-5</p>	<p>Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Industrial Accidents Convention <i>Focal point:</i> Franziska Ilg <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2480 <i>E-mail:</i> franziska.ilg [at] unece.org</p>	<p>VII</p>	<p>The eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will provide an opportunity to review the work under the Convention and to determine future directions and priorities. Key decisions to be taken by the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of a revised Annex I to the Convention on hazardous substances for the purposes of defining hazardous activities; - Decisions with regard to the provisions and issues on which work shall proceed to draft an amendment to the Convention, comprising public participation; - Decisions on which issues to prepare elements for guidance by the Conference of the Parties, comprising compliance and land-use planning; - Consideration with regard to the possible opening of the Convention to UN member States beyond the ECE region. <p>In the morning of 3 December, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Assistance Programme, a high-level segment will review the work under the Assistance Programme. The Minister of Environment of the Republic of Moldova, the Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus, the Permanent representative of the Netherlands to the UN and WTO, and the ECE Executive Secretary will be the panellists of the segment.</p> <p>In the framework of the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a seminar on enhancing industrial safety in the ECE region will be held on 5 December at 10 a.m.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=34103</p>

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3-5	Third Meeting of the Task Force on Access to Information <i>Focal point:</i> Maryna Yanush <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2440 <i>E-mail:</i> maryna.yanush [at] unece.org	VIII	<p>The Task Force on Access to Information under the Aarhus Convention seeks to improve public accessibility of environmental information, including through electronic information tools. In particular, the participants will address the scope, quality and comparability of information to be provided in accordance with the Convention, deliberate on the application of certain restrictions in access to environmental information in accordance with the Convention's provisions and share recent relevant developments in information and communication technology in relation to environmental information.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhus/tfai3.html</p>
4 London	Implementation Committee (Water Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Nicholas Bonvoisin <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1193 <i>E-mail:</i> nicholas.bonvoisin [at] unece.org	—	<p>At its fourth meeting, the Implementation Committee is expected to discuss the decision by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management to establish a core group to develop a proposal on reporting mechanisms under the Water Convention.</p> <p>The Committee will consider information gathered regarding transboundary water cooperation in the Irtys and Ili River Basins.</p> <p>Finally, Committee members and the secretariat will report on their efforts to raise awareness of the Committee's work.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/water/4th_implementation_committee_2014.html</p>
5 London	Workshop on the role of legal and scientific expertise in the avoidance and settlement of water law disputes <i>Focal point:</i> Nicholas Bonvoisin <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1193 <i>E-mail:</i> nicholas.bonvoisin [at] unece.org	—	<p>The workshop will bring together eminent lawyers, water specialists and scientists involved in international water law and water resources management. They will address the different contributions made by legal and scientific expertise to the avoidance and settlement of water law disputes.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/water/workshop_water_law_disputes_dec.2014.html</p>
4-5 Ashgabat	“SPECA Week”	—	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=37171</p>
4	2014 SPECA Economic Forum “Improving connectivity: a key contribution of SPECA to the success of the transformation decade of Afghanistan” <i>Focal point:</i> Marton Krasznai <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2760 <i>E-mail:</i> marton.krasznai [at] unece.org	—	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/speca/meetings-and-events/economic-forums/2014/2014-speca-economic-forum/doc.html</p>
5	Ninth session of the SPECA Governing Council <i>Focal point:</i> Marton Krasznai <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2760 <i>E-mail:</i> marton.krasznai [at] unece.org	—	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/speca/meetings-and-events/the-speca-governing-council-sessions/2014/ninth-session-of-the-speca-governing-council/doc.html</p>

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8(am)	Executive Body Bureau (Air Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Albena Karadjova <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2345 <i>E-mail:</i> albena.karadjova [at] unece.org	S4	<p>The Bureau will discuss matters in preparation of the 33rd session of the Executive Body and in relation to the implementation of the 2014-2015 workplan.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=33289</p>
8(pm)-12	Thirty-third session of the Executive Body for the Air Convention <i>Focal point:</i> Albena Karadjova <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2345 <i>E-mail:</i> albena.karadjova [at] unece.org	VII	<p>At its 33rd session, the Executive Body will review and assess the progress in the implementation of the 2014-2015 workplan with regards to science, policy, compliance, capacity-building and communication and outreach. Amongst other matters it will decide on the mandate for a newly proposed Task Force on Techno-economic Issues and on the revised ECE Framework Code for Good Agricultural Practice for Reducing Ammonia Emissions.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=33291</p>
9-11	Implementation Committee (Espoo Convention and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment) <i>Focal point:</i> Aphrodite Smagadi <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3294 <i>E-mail:</i> aphrodite.smagadi [at] unece.org	VIII	<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, with a view to assisting them fully to meet their commitments.</p> <p>At its 32nd session, the Committee is expected to elect its two Vice-Chairs; follow up, in closed session with decision VI/2 with regard to actions to be taken by individual Parties; consider general and specific compliance issues identified in the fourth review of implementation under the Convention and the second review of implementation under the Protocol and consider proposals for the modification of the questionnaires, as requested by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.</p> <p>In addition, in closed session, the Committee will continue its consideration of the Committee initiative with regard to compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and will consider information gathered regarding Ukraine, Serbia and the Netherlands, as well as new information regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=34096</p>

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9-12(am)	Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP) <i>Focal point:</i> Miquel Gangonells <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4662 <i>E-mail:</i> miquel.gangonells [at] unece.org	XI	<p>As a subsidiary body of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP) will resume, during its 56th session, the consideration of the worldwide harmonization concerning pedestrian safety, strength of seats and head restraint systems, side impact dummy and safety of electric vehicles.</p> <p>GRSP will also consider a range of amendments to current UNECE Regulations related to vehicle passive safety requirements, in particular: door latches and hinges, safety-belts and its anchorages, child restraint systems, frontal and lateral collision of passenger cars, strength of cabs of commercial vehicles, protective helmets, as well as proposal for a new regulation on construction and functional safety of battery electric mopeds and motorcycles.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.html</p>
10-12(am)	ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals <i>Focal point:</i> Rosa Garcia Couto <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2435 <i>E-mail:</i> rosa.garcia.couto [at] unece.org	XII	<p>At its 28th session which is the last one of its two-year working cycle, the Sub-Committee will review for final approval the consolidated list of draft amendments to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) provisionally adopted at its 27th, 26th and 25th sessions, as well as any related or new proposals.</p> <p>It will also discuss among other matters, questions related to desensitized explosives, dust explosion hazards, corrosivity criteria, nanomaterials, development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS, and hazard communication (labelling of small packagings, improvement of hazard and precautionary statements, revision of section 9 of the Safety Data Sheets).</p> <p>The Sub-Committee will also define its programme of work for the biennium 2015-2016 and will elect the members of its bureau for that period.</p> <p>Since the Sub-Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council, it will also prepare a draft resolution on its work in the biennium 2013-2014 for adoption by the Council at its 2015 session.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc4/c4age.html</p>

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12(pm)	ECOSOC Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2456 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella [at] unece.org	XII	<p>The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council serviced by the UNECE secretariat.</p> <p>At its 7th session, it will consider the work done by its two sub-committees in 2013-2014, as well as their proposed work programmes for 2015-2016. It will also elect its bureau and prepare a draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption in 2015, on the basis of the drafts submitted by its sub-committees.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=33534</p> <p><i>Agenda:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgcomm/ac10age.html</p>
11 Tbilisi	Working meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management <i>Focal point:</i> Peep Mardiste <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3448 <i>E-mail:</i> peep.mardiste [at] unece.org	—	<p>The meeting will discuss the draft Water Law and a set of bylaws prepared by a local group of experts.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/water/npd/countrydialogues/ge.html</p>
11 Kiev	Seminar on the Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide and the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement <i>Focal point:</i> Mario Apostolov <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1134 <i>E-mail:</i> mario.apostolov@unece.org	—	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/trade/meetings.html</p>
11-12	Sixty-third TEM Steering Committee <i>Focal point:</i> Nenad Nikolic <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4871 <i>E-mail:</i> nenad.nikolic [at] unece.org	IX	<p>The UNECE Trans-European Motorways (TEM) Project is a subregional cooperation project among Central, Eastern and South Eastern European countries. The main objectives of this programme are: to facilitate road traffic in Europe, to improve the quality and efficiency of transport operations, to balance existing gaps and disparities between motorway networks in Western, Eastern, Central and South-Eastern Europe, and to assist the integration process of European transport infrastructure systems.</p> <p>The aim of the 63rd Steering Committee is to summarize the activities and achievements of the year 2014 and to discuss and set plans and goals for 2015.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/trans/main/tem.html</p>

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15-16	Core Group on Reporting (Water Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Sonja Koeppel <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1218 <i>E-mail:</i> sonja.koeppel [at] unece.org	XI	<p>The Core Group on Reporting was established by the Meeting of the Parties through the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and mandated to prepare a proposal for a possible reporting mechanism under the UNECE Water Convention, taking into account the capacity of countries and other relevant reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>At its first meeting, the Core Group will review related reporting mechanisms and discuss the purpose, scope, content and format of a possible reporting mechanism under the Water Convention.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/index.php?id=37328#</p>
15-16	UNECE Task Group on the preparation of the policy study on urban planning <i>Focal point:</i> Gulnara Roll <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2257 <i>E-mail:</i> gulnara.roll [at] unece.org	V	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/hlm/welcome.html</p>
16 Yerevan	Working meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management <i>Focal point:</i> Peep Mardiste <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3448 <i>E-mail:</i> peep.mardiste [at] unece.org	—	<p>The meeting will discuss the possible approval of a draft action plan for complementing the draft targets already set under the Protocol on Water and Health and for outlining initial steps for their implementation, as well as of a roadmap for the ratification of the Protocol.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/water/npd/countrydialogues/am</p>
16-19	Forty-seventh Compliance Committee meeting under the Aarhus Convention <i>Focal point:</i> Fiona Marshall <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 4226 <i>E-mail:</i> aarhus.compliance@unece.org	VIII	<p>Among other things, the Committee will discuss in open session the subject matter of communications ACCC/C/2013/88 (Kazakhstan), ACCC/C/2013/93 (Norway).</p> <p>Also in open session, it will continue its discussion of its modus operandi and the updating of the Compliance Committee Guidance Document and review any developments regarding decisions of the Meeting of the Parties concerning compliance by individual Parties. It will also consider the admissibility of any new communications received.</p> <p>In closed session, the Committee will continue its deliberations on communications ACCC/C/2012/69 (Romania), ACCC/C/2012/71 (Czech Republic), ACCC/C/2012/12/76 (Bulgaria), ACCC/C/2013/85 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2013/86 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2013/89 (Slovakia), ACCC/C/2013/91 (United Kingdom) and ACCC/C/2013/92 (Germany).</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/env/pp/cc/meetings/cc47.html</p>
17 (pm)	Executive Committee (EXCOM) <i>Focal point:</i> Parisudhi Kalamasut <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1045 <i>E-mail:</i> unece.excom@unece.org	IX	<p><i>Website:</i> www.unece.org/unece-main/about-unece/executive-committee-excom/agenda.html</p>

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or have a look at our website: <http://www.unece.org>**