www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhus/wgp16.html

Highlights of the meeting

The sixteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention was held on **19-21 June 2013** in **Geneva** (Palais des Nations, Salle V). The Working Group reviewed the progress in implementing the current work programme and discussed a number of items in preparation for the fifth ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties, including:

Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention;
Assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions;
Future strategic plan 2015-2020 and future work programme 2015-2017;
Elements of possible financial arrangements; and
Agenda for the fifth ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Furthermore, the meeting featured a thematic session on promoting the application of the principles of the Convention in international forums which was organised in the format of panel presentations followed by an interactive discussion.

Prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties a meeting of the Task Force on Access to Justice was organized from 17-18 June 2013 in Geneva.

Documents
Statements and comments
PPIF thematic session

Documents

Documents	ENG	FRE	RUS
Provisional Agenda (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/1)	PDF	PDF	PDF
List of decisions and major outcomes of the meeting	PDF		
Report of the sixteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/2)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Report on the implementation of the work programme for 2012-2014 (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/3)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Item 3 (a)			
Report of the first meeting of the Task Force on Access to Information (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/5)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Note by the Chair of the Task Force on Access to Information (AC/WGP-16/Inf.1)	PDF		
Item 3 (b)			
Report of the third meeting of the Task Force on Public Participation in Decision-making (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/4)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Report of the fourth meeting of the Task Force on Public Participation in Decision-making (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/6)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Note by the Chair of the Task Force on Public Participation in Decision-making (AC/WGP-16/Inf.2)	PDF		
Item 3 (c)			
Note by the Chair of the Task Force on Access to Justice (AC/WGP-16/Inf.3)	PDF		
Item 4 (a)			
Membership of the Compliance Committee (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/11)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Note by the Chair of the Compliance Committee on promoting effective compliance with the Convention (AC/WGP-16/Inf.7)	PDF		
Item 4 (b)			
Outcomes of the survey on the Communication Strategy (AC/WGP-16/Inf.4)	PDF		
Item 4 (c)			

Documents	ENG	FRE	RUS
2014 reporting cycle training: Experiences	PDF		
2014 reporting cycle training: Practical considerations	PDF		
Item 7 : Thematic session on promoting the principles of the Convention in international forums (PPIF)			
Provisional detailed agenda	PDF		
"3 minute survey" on measures at the national level to systematically promote PPIF	DOC		
Draft checklist of measures to be borne in mind when developing national action plans on PPIF	DOC		
Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings, Note by the Executive Secretary to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC/SBC/2013/4) (refer paras. 29-35)	PDF		
Decision 27/2 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (refer pages 25-27 of the Proceedings of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its first universal session (UNEP/GC.27/17))	PDF		
Note by the Chair of the thematic session on public participation in international forums (AC/WGP-16/Inf.5)	PDF		
Item 8 (a)			
Draft Strategic Plan for 2015–2020 (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/7)	PDF DOC	PDF DOC	PDF DOC
Item 8 (b) (i)			
Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/8)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Accompanying document 1 to the Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention (AC/WGP-16/Inf.8)	PDF		
Accompanying document 2 to the Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention (AC/WGP-16/Inf.9)	PDF		
Item 8 (b) (ii)			
Draft elements of the work programme for 2015–2017 (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/12)	PDF DOC	PDF DOC	PDF DOC
Item 8 (c) (i)			
Assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/9)	PDF	PDF	PDF
Accompanying document to the Assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions (AC/WGP-16/Inf.10)	PDF		
Item 8 (c) (ii)			
Draft elements of possible financial arrangements under the Convention (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/10)	PDF DOC	PDF DOC	PDF DOC
Item 8 (d)			
Outline of the agenda of the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties of the Aarhus Convention (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/13)	PDF DOC	PDF DOC	PDF DOC
Note on the preparatory timeline for the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties (AC/WGP-16/Inf.6)	PDF		

Statements and comments

	Format
Statements in and post-meeting	
Agenda item 3(a): Substantive issues: Access to information	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 3(a): Substantive issues: Access to information	PDF
Statement by Serbia on the agenda item 3(a): Substantive issues: Access to information	PDF
Statement by the Republic of Moldova on the agenda item 3(a): Substantive issues: Access to information	PDF

	Format
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 3(a): Substantive issues: Access to information	PDF
Agenda item 3(b): Substantive issues: Public participation in decision-making	
Statement by the Chair of the Task Force on Public Participation in decision-making on the agenda item 3(b): Substantive issues: Public participation in decision-making	PDF
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 3(b): Substantive issues: Public participation in decision-making	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 3(b): Substantive issues: Public participation in decision-making	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 3(b): Substantive issues: Public participation in decision-making, additional statement	PDF
Agenda item 3(c): Substantive issues: Access to justice	
Statement by the Chair of the Task Force on Access to Justice on the agenda item 3(c): Substantive issues: Access to justice	PDF
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 3(c): Substantive issues: Access to justice	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 3(c): Substantive issues: Access to justice	PDF
Agenda item 4(a): Procedures and mechanism: Compliance mechanism	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 4(a): Procedures and mechanism: Compliance mechanism	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 4(a): Procedures and mechanism: Compliance mechanism	PDF
Agenda item 5: Accession by non-UNECE States and promotion of the Convention's principles in other regions	
Statement by the Government of Chile on the agenda item 5: Accession by non-UNECE States and promotion of the Convention's principles in other regions	PDF
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 5: Accession by non-UNECE States and promotion of the Convention's principles in other regions	PDF
Agenda item 6:Implementation of the work-programme for 2012-2014, including financial arrangements	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 6:Implementation of the work-programme for 2012-2014, including financial arrangements	PDF
Agenda item 7: Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 7: Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums	PDF
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 7: Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums, as prepared and delivered to the secretariat after the meeting	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 7: Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums, in relation to forestry agreement	PDF
Agenda item 8(a): Future strategic plan	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(a): Future strategic plan	PDF
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(a): Future strategic plan - updated on 25 July 2013	PDF
Statement by the European ECO-Forum on the agenda item 8(a): Future strategic plan	PDF
Agenda item 8(b)(i): Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(b)(i): Evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention	PDF
Agenda item 8(b)(ii): Future work programme	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(b)(ii): Future work programme	PDF

	Format
Agenda item 8(c)(i): Assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(c)(i): Assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions	PDF
Agenda item 8(c)(ii): Future financial arrangements uner the Convention	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(c)(ii): Future financial arrangements uner the Convention	PDF
Agenda item 8(d) and (e): Agenda and hosting of the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties	
Statement by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the agenda item 8(d) and (e): Agenda and hosting of the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties	PDF
Comments to the draft evaluation and draft assessment	
Item 8 (b) (i)	
Comments by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the in-depth evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/8)	PDF
Item 8 (c) (i)	
Comments by the EU and its Member States and Croatia on the draft assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2013/9)	PDF

Documents:

Provisional detailed agenda	PDF
"3 minute survey" on measures at the national level to systematically promote PPIF	DOC
Draft checklist of measures to be borne in mind when developing national action plans on PPIF	DOC
Note by the Chair of the thematic session on public participation in international forums (AC/WGP-16/Inf.5)	PDF
Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings, Note by the Executive Secretary to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC/SBC/2013/4) (refer paras. 29-35)	PDF
Decision 27/2 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (refer pages 25-27 of the Proceedings of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its first universal session (UNEP/GC.27/17))	PDF

Presentations:

Session 1: Follow up from the previous thematic session	
Update on the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development:	
Ms. Joanna Cornelius, on behalf of European ECO Forum	PDF
Update on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):	
UNFCCC secretariat	PDF
Mr. Sébastien Duyck, on behalf of Climate Action Network and European ECO Forum	PDF
Session 2: The new United Nations Environment Assembly	
Mr. Philippe Ramet, Ministère de l'Ecologie, de l'Energie, du Dévelopmment Durable et de l'Aménagement de Territoire, France	
Mr. Alexander Juras, United Nations Environment Programme	PDF
Ms. Gita Parihar, on behalf of European ECO Forum	PDF
Session 3: Policy reviews by international financial institutions	
Ms. Elizabeth Smith, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	PDF
Ms. Adina Relicovschi, European Investment Bank	PDF
Ms. Selina Jackson, World Bank	PDF
Mr. Petr Hlobil, CEE Bankwatch	PDF

Closing session: The way forward