

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Transboundary
Effects of Industrial Accidents

Bureau: Small group on financing

Second meeting

Geneva, 7 July 2015, 9h30 – 16h30

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda

The small group on financing will meet for the second time following its initial meeting in August 2014. As determined by the Bureau in January 2015, it is composed of six representatives of the Bureau with due regard to geographical representation, donor and beneficiary countries: Ms. Sandra Ashcroft (United Kingdom), Mr. Chris Dijkens (Netherlands), Ms. Jasmina Karba (Slovenia), Mr. Eero Kytomää (Finland), Ms. Torill Tandberg (Norway) and Ms. Svetlana Stirbu (Republic of Moldova).

The small group on financing will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda.

The small group will be invited to agree on arrangements for the chairing of the meeting. It is proposed that the meeting be co-chaired by Ms. Karba (Chair of the Bureau) and Mr. Dijkens (Chair of the Working Group on Development).

2. Implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism

The secretariat will recall the elements of the sustainable financial mechanism adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, highlighting the role of the different actors and the particular role of the Bureau. In this context, the secretariat will provide information on the results of applying the United Nations scale of assessments to the Convention's workplan for 2015–2016 workplan, highlighting Parties with the potential, reflecting their economic strength, to make more substantial financial contributions.

The small group on financing will be invited to reflect on its past and future actions to implement the sustainable financial mechanism, determine next steps to attract additional financing and ensure their predictability and sustainability. It will be invited to discuss how it can actively encourage Parties to provide support at least at a level reflecting their economic strength and, when relevant, in case of non-contributing Parties, arrange meetings to foster their support and build awareness on the need for sustainable financing.

Documentation:

- Sustainable financial mechanism (ECE/CP.TEIA/24, annex I):
http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/TEIA/ECE.CP.TEIA.24_E.pdf
- United Nations scale of assessments applied to the ECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents workplan for 2015–2016

3. Project financing opportunities: New potential donors and partners

The members of the small group on financing will be invited to provide an update on fundraising efforts they have embarked upon or are planning to engage in, considering national, regional and international project opportunities. *As requested by the Bureau, the small group on financing is invited to consider project financing including through international, national and private development cooperation agencies and organizations. In this context, the small group on financing will be invited to consider new potential donors and partners who could be approached for providing financial and in-kind support to the implementation of the Convention's workplan.*

The small group may wish to consider the following potential financing sources:

- National development agencies or ministries, including of foreign affairs (in particular with regard to possible support to ODA-eligible countries in the ECE region)
- Regional development banks (e.g., Eurasian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and European Investment Bank)
- Foundations
- Others.

The Bureau also recommended that the small group consider the organization of a training or workshop on fundraising at an appropriate time.

Documentation:

- Overview of development cooperation agencies in potential donor countries
- Overview of possible financing sources, with particular relevance for the Assistance Programme (prepared by the secretariat, based on the overview of sources prepared earlier by Andersson Elfers Felix)

4. EU project financing: Building on ongoing efforts

The secretariat will provide information on the efforts it has made to support the examination by the European Union (EU) of the possibility to provide additional project financing to the trust fund, in particular through the development of several project proposals, and related contacts with the European Commission. *The small group on financing will be invited to consider how it could best support efforts to receive EU project financing, building on these efforts, and possibly suggesting others.*

Documentation:

- Project proposals prepared by the secretariat for financing by the EU, including on accidental water pollution for Central Asia (DG DEVCO), National Policy Dialogues in the neighbourhood region (DG NEAR), preparedness and response exercises (Belarus, Lithuania, Poland) and pan-European Conference on preparedness and response (DG ECHO)
- EU project financing opportunities, as indicated on Convention webpage on additional financing sources for the Assistance Programme:
<http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/industrial-accidents/areas-of-work/assistance-programme/financing.html>

5. Enhancing country ownership and leadership

The small group on financing will be invited to discuss how to enhance country ownership and leadership in the implementation of the current and future workplans. In this context, it is invited to consider the approaches taken by other organizations (e.g., OECD).

6. Next steps

The small group on financing will be invited to review its decisions and determine next steps with regard to fundraising and its efforts to engage Parties in ensuring the sustainable financing for the implementation of the workplan, as per the sustainable financial mechanism. It will also be invited to discuss modalities for reporting on its actions to the Bureau (8–9 July 2015).

7. Date and place of next meeting

The small group on financing will be invited to determine the date and place of its next meeting, possibly in the margins of a future Bureau meeting, or via video- or teleconference.