



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in
a Transboundary Context serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Implementation Committee

Forty-fourth session

Geneva, 12–15 March 2019

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Tuesday, 12 March 2019*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Members of the Committee and observers are therefore requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e., by **26 February 2019**, through the following link: https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=_OJmBm (the use of the Internet Explorer browser is recommended). In case of difficulty, please refer to the online user manual (<https://www2.unece.org/wiki/display/OMR/Online+Meeting+Registration+Guidelines>) or contact the secretariat by e-mail (eia.conv@un.org and elizabeth.james@un.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the



2. Review of decisions of the Meetings of the Parties.
3. Follow-up to decisions IS/1 and IS/1a–h.
4. Submissions.
5. Information gathering.
6. Review of implementation.
7. Other business.
8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The present provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in agreement with the Implementation Committee Chair, in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.¹ The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt its agenda.

2. Review of decisions by the Meetings of the Parties

2. The Committee will review decisions to be taken by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its intermediary session (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019). It will particularly consider the decisions on the review of compliance with the Convention, including decision IS/1 on general compliance matters and decisions IS/1a–h on country-specific compliance matters. It may also review decision IS/2 on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants. The decisions will be included in the report of the session (ECE/MP.EIA/27–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/11 (forthcoming)). The Committee is expected to plan its work accordingly and to assign roles to its members.

3. Follow-up to decisions IS/1 and IS/1a–h

3. Discussion under agenda item 3 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

4. The Committee is expected to follow up on decisions IS/1 and IS/1a–h with regard to actions to be taken by individual Parties, including by possibly requesting Parties to submit reports to the Implementation Committee.

United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the Economic Commission for Europe website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307.

¹ The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's operating rules through decision IV/2 (see ECE/MP.EIA/10) and later amended them through decisions V/4 (see ECE/MP.EIA/15) and VI/2 (see ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1, annex II). A consolidated version is available on the Committee's web page (under Structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and procedures for review of compliance and consolidated operating rules: http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation_committee.html).

5. Further to the deliberations at its forty-first session (Geneva, 13–16 March 2018) on the follow-up by Azerbaijan to decision VI/2 (paras. 38–44) and as a follow-up on decision IS/1c, the Committee may wish to consider the need to invite Azerbaijan to a hearing concerning its national legislation at one of the Committee’s subsequent sessions.²

4. Submissions

6. Discussion under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

7. The Committee will examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee’s previous session.

5. Information gathering

8. Discussion under agenda item 5 will not be open to observers, except if invited by the Committee.

(a) Convention matters

9. The Committee will continue its consideration of the information-gathering cases regarding compliance with the provisions of the Convention by:

(a) Belarus, regarding its law on State ecological expertise, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment;

(b) Bosnia and Herzegovina, in respect of the planned activities at Banovici, Stanari, Tuzla and Ugljevik thermal power plants;

(c) Serbia, in relation to the extension of the Drmno lignite pit mine;

(d) Spain, concerning the planned construction of the temporary storage for radioactive waste at the Almaraz nuclear power plant;

(e) Switzerland concerning the planned changes at the Zurich airport, and;

(f) Ukraine, regarding the planned construction of nuclear reactors 3 and 4 at the Khmelnytsky nuclear power plant and the planned construction of a tourism complex in Svydovets.

10. Taking into account the expected decision of the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention to mandate an ad hoc working group to continue developing guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants by 2020, the Committee may wish to consider ways to support that work.

11. Further to its deliberations at its forty-third session (Geneva, 4–7 December 2018), the Committee is expected to continue its consideration of the information-gathering cases regarding the extension of the lifetime of power units at the Borssele nuclear power plant in the Netherlands, the Doel and Tihange nuclear power plants in Belgium, the Dukovany nuclear power plant in Czechia, the Kozloduy nuclear power plant in Bulgaria, and the Rivne, South Ukrainian, Zaporizhia and Khelmnitskiy nuclear power plants in Ukraine.

(b) Protocol matters

12. The Committee will continue its deliberations on compliance with the provisions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by:

² See ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2018/2, para. 16.

(a) Serbia, regarding its Government's Energy Strategy, the programme for its implementation and the related Spatial Plan;

(b) Ukraine, concerning the Programme of Ukraine for Hydro Energy Development for the Period until 2026.

6. Review of implementation

13. If time permits, the Committee is expected to resume consideration of the general and specific compliance issues identified during the fifth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/25) and the second review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/9) based on proposals to be prepared by the curators in advance of the forty-fourth session.

14. The Committee is also expected to continue its consideration of the specific compliance issue regarding compliance by the European Union with the Protocol identified in the first review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/3).

7. Other business

15. Members of the Committee wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session

16. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.
