Economic Commission for Europe
Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Implementation Committee
Tenth meeting
Geneva, 2 and 3 December 2019
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Salle XI, Geneva, starting on Monday, 2 December 2019, at 3 p.m.*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Relevant outcomes of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties and potential contribution of the Committee to different activities under the Convention.
4. Role of the Committee in the global opening of the Convention.
5. Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative.
6. Promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance.
7. Cooperation with other committees and organizations.
8. Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings.
9. Any other business.
10. Adoption of the report.

* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to register online as soon as possible, but by no later than 18 November 2019, through the following link: https://unccd.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=pPx4kn. On their way to the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate, Avenue de la Paix 14 (see the map on the Economic Commission for Europe website, www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html). Please allow sufficient time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 2596.
II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Election of officers

*Tentative timing: Monday, 2 December, 3–4 p.m.*

1. In accordance with paragraph 7 of annex I to decision VI/1 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) (see ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2), at its eighth session (Nur-Sultan, 10–12 October 2018), the Meeting of the Parties proceeded with the election of five Committee members. The following members were re-elected: Mr. Kari Kinnunen; Mr. Stephen McCaffrey; and Mr. Ivan Zavadsky. The following new members were elected: Mr. Pedro Cunha Serra; and Mr. Martins Paparinskis (see ECE/MP.WAT/54, para. 57).

2. The members will each be invited to give a brief presentation lasting a few minutes and to spell out their vision of how they can contribute to the Committee’s work in the period 2019–2021.

3. In accordance with paragraph 10 of annex I to decision VI/1, the Implementation Committee is expected to elect its chair and vice-chair.

2. Adoption of the agenda

*Tentative timing: Monday, 2 December, 4–4.05 p.m.*

4. The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda for its tenth meeting, as set out in the present document.1

3. Relevant outcomes of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties and potential contribution of the Committee to different activities under the Convention

*Tentative timing: Monday, 2 December, 4.05–6 p.m.*

5. The secretariat will report on the outcomes of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and present the adopted programme of work for 2019–2021 (ECE/MP.WAT/54.Add.1).

6. The Committee will discuss its possible contribution to the implementation of the decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session and the activities foreseen under the Convention for the period 2019–2021, including: general issues of compliance; the development of a handbook on water allocation in transboundary basins; the elaboration of a checklist for the development of transboundary water agreements; and other relevant items within the current programme of work for 2019–2021.

7. In addition, the Committee will be informed about reporting under the Convention – in particular, the upcoming second cycle – and will discuss its potential role in that regard.

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1 Information and documents for the meeting will be made available on a dedicated web page of the Convention’s website (www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/water/meetings-and-events/water/implementation-committee-water-convention/2019/tenth-meeting-of-the-implementation-committee/doc.html).
4. **Role of the Committee in the global opening of the Convention**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 9.30–11 a.m.*

8. At its sixth meeting (Geneva, 3 and 4 May 2016), the Committee received a mandate from the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention to support the secretariat in answering questions from countries outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region interested in acceding to the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2016/2, paras. 9 and 10). The Committee will be informed about recent developments linked to accession to and implementation of the Convention in countries outside the ECE region and past and planned secretariat efforts to build capacity regarding the Convention in interested non-ECE countries. The Committee will discuss its potential involvement in future activities and how to answer legal questions submitted by Parties interested in accession.

9. The secretariat will present a UN-Water policy brief on the Water Convention and the Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses. The Committee will discuss the brief and identify opportunities for its promotion.

5. **Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 11–11.30 a.m.*

10. In accordance with the relevant procedures set out in decision VI/1 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, the Committee is expected to consider:

   (a) Any request for advice by a Party or Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation or application (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2, decision VI/1, annex I, paras. 18–23);

   (b) Any submission by Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation and compliance (ibid., paras. 24–27);

   (c) Undertaking a Committee initiative (ibid., paras. 28 and 29).

6. **Promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 11.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.*

11. The Committee members will report on their efforts to present the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance at various forums and events, and the outcomes of such activities undertaken so far. In particular, those members who were present will report on the organization, at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties, of a side event entitled “Innovative approaches to addressing implementation challenges – A practical insight into the work of the Implementation Committee”, the interest expressed and questions posed by participants in that regard, as well as any implications for the work of the Committee.

12. Committee members will be invited to share information on and discuss future possibilities for the promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance.

7. **Cooperation with other committees and organizations**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 2.30–3.45 p.m.*

13. The Committee will: discuss cooperation with other compliance committees, such as that of the Protocol on Water and Health; and exchange views on this issue with the Chair or a representative of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health.

14. The Implementation Committee will hear from a representative of a development bank about specific matters of implementation of international water law with regard to financing transboundary water projects and will discuss matters of interpretation and
implementation relevant to the Committee’s work. Possible future collaboration to facilitate and support implementation of and compliance with the Convention for transboundary water projects being financed by development banks will be discussed.

8. **Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings**

   *Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 3.45–4.30 p.m.*

15. Based on the discussions under the above items, the Committee will discuss its future programme of work for the intersessional period 2019–2021. It will then agree on the dates of, and the issues for consideration at, its next meetings.

9. **Any other business**

   *Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 4.30–4.45 p.m.*

16. The Committee will discuss other matters as proposed by its members.

10. **Adoption of the report**

   *Tentative timing: Tuesday, 3 December, 4.45–5 p.m.*

17. The Committee will agree on the modalities for the preparation and adoption of the report on its tenth meeting.