



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-eighth session

Geneva, 1–4 September 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Tuesday, 1 September 2020*

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 **18 August 2020**, through the following link: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=mVf1hC> (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 email (eia.conv@un.org or elizabeth.james@un.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates 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, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the United Nations Economic



2. Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties.
3. Submissions.
4. Committee initiative.
5. Information gathering:
 - A. Convention matters;
 - B. Protocol matters.
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 the present agenda.

2. Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties

2. In accordance with its structure and functions² and its operating rules, the Committee is expected to complete preparations for the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Vilnius, 8–11 December 2020). In particular, the Committee is expected to complete the Committee's report on its activities during the 2017–2020 intersessional period and to finalize the draft decisions on the review of compliance with the Convention and the Protocol, including:

- (a) Draft decision IV/4 on general issues of compliance with the Protocol;
- (b) Draft decision VIII/4 on general issues of compliance with the Convention;
- (c) Draft decision VIII/4a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;

Commission for Europe website at 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, annex IV (see ECE/MP.EIA/10) and later amended them through decisions V/4, annex (see ECE/MP.EIA/15) and VI/2, annex II (see ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1). A consolidated version (entitled "Structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and procedures for review of compliance and consolidated operating rules") is available at www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation_committee.html.

² The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's structure and functions and procedures for review of compliance through decision III/2, appendix (see ECE/MP.EIA/6), and later amended them through decision VI/2, annex I (see ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1). A consolidated version (entitled "Structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and procedures for review of compliance and consolidated operating rules") is available at www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation_committee.html.

(d) Draft decision VIII/4b on compliance by Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;

(e) Draft decision VIII/4c on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Belarusian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets;

(f) Draft decision VIII/4d on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta;

(g) Draft decision VIII/4e on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of extension of the lifetime of the Rivne nuclear power plant.

3. Discussions under agenda item 2 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

3. Submissions

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

5. The Committee will continue its examination of the following submissions:

(a) By Bulgaria, of 30 May 2019, regarding the application of the Convention by Serbia to several mining activities located close to the border with Bulgaria;

(b) By Montenegro, received on 25 September 2019, regarding the application of the Convention by Albania to the planned construction of a number of small hydropower plants on the Cijevna River.

6. It will also examine any other submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session.

4. Committee initiative

7. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 of the operating rules.

8. Further to its deliberation at its forty-seventh session (Geneva (online), 16–19 March 2020), in accordance with the Committee's structure and functions and its operating rules, the Committee will consider its initiative concerning compliance by Serbia with regard to the obligations under the Protocol with respect to the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the Period up to 2025 with Projections up to 2030 and the Strategy's Implementation Programme for the Period 2017–2023. The Committee will invite Serbia to present information and opinions on the matter under consideration and will ask questions. The Committee will then consider the matter, and, in the absence of Serbia, it will proceed to draft its findings and recommendations.

5. Information gathering

9. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 of the operating rules.

A. Convention matters

10. The Committee will continue its consideration of the information gathering concerning compliance with the provisions of the Convention by Bosnia and Herzegovina, in respect of the planned activities at the Banovici, Tuzla and Ugljevik thermal power plants, including by holding informal discussions on the matter with the delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia.

11. The Committee will continue consideration of information it has gathered concerning:

- (a) Belarus, regarding its law on State ecological expertise, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment;
- (b) Denmark, regarding the construction of the Nord Stream 2 project;
- (c) Switzerland, regarding the planned changes at Zurich Airport;
- (d) Ukraine, regarding: the planned construction of nuclear reactors 3 and 4 at the Khmelnytsky nuclear power plant; the activities at the Muzhiyevo goldmine; and the planned construction of a tourism complex in the Svydovets mountain range.

12. The Committee is also expected to consider information it has gathered on the extension of the lifetime of nuclear power plants. Among other things, it is expected to examine information concerning: the Kozloduy nuclear power plant in Bulgaria; the Blayais, Bugey, Chinon, Cruas, Dampierre, Gravelines, St. Laurent and Tricastin nuclear power plants in France; and the Rivne (units 3 and 4), South Ukrainian, Zaporizhzhya and Khmelnytsky nuclear power plants in Ukraine.

B. Protocol matters

13. The Committee will also consider the information it has gathered concerning compliance with the provisions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Poland regarding the Energy Strategy until 2040 of the Government of Poland.

6. Review of implementation

14. The Committee will continue consideration of the general and specific compliance issues identified during the fifth review of implementation of the Convention (see *Implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (2013–2015): Fifth review*)³ and the second review of implementation of the Protocol (see *Second review of implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (2013–2015)*).⁴

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.

³ See United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/25.

⁴ See United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/9.