AARHUS CONVENTION CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATION
Ninth meeting

to be held in Salle S1, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland,
on 25 February 2015 starting at 10 am

Provisional agenda

10:00-10:15 Opening
Opening remarks
Introduction of the participants
Adoption of the agenda

10:15-12:00 Activities relating to the implementation of the Convention

Tour de table – The discussion will address ongoing and planned capacity-building activities focusing on developments since the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention. The UNECE Secretariat will inform participants about the potential priority areas for capacity building activities for 2015-2020 in light of the outcomes of the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (Maastricht, the Netherlands, 30 June- 2 July 2014). The participants will be invited to update on specific aspects of projects and activities, such as geographical scope, target groups, available and required funding, cooperation with partner organizations and challenges encountered in implementation of activities.

The focus areas include:

- Access to justice;
- Public participation in decision-making;
- Access to information, including electronic information tools;
- Genetically modified organisms;
- Public participation in international forums;
- Compliance with the Convention.

Background documents: Convention’s Work Programme for 2015-2017 (Decision V/6, ECE/MP.PP/2014/2/Add.1) and Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 (Decision V/5, ECE/MP.PP/2014/2/Add.1), Report on capacity-building (ECE/MP.PP/2014/7) and its accompanying document (AC/MOP-5/Inf.1)\(^1\).

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\(^1\) Documents are available from http://www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhus/mop5_docs.html#
Activities relating to the implementation of the Protocol on PRTRs

The UNECE Secretariat will inform participants about the potential priority areas for capacity building activities for 2015-2020 in light of the outcomes of the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs (Maastricht, the Netherlands, 2 - 4 July 2014). The participants will be also briefed about the outcomes of the ninth meeting of the PRTR International Coordinating Group (Santiago, Chile, 8 October 2014).

Tour de table – participants will be invited to present briefly ongoing and planned activities related to the implementation of the Protocol.


Activities relating to Convention’s outreach to other regions and the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration

The UNECE Secretariat and partner organisations are expected to provide information on activities relating to Convention’s outreach to other regions and the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration.

Further steps

The UNECE Secretariat and partner organisations are expected to deliberate on further steps, i.e. a survey of capacity-building needs and activities at the national level and preparation of the report to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention.

Conclusions and closure of the meeting

² Documents are available from http://www.unece.org/prtrmopp2_docs.html#/