**Economic Commission for Europe**

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on

Access to Information, Public Participation

in Decision-making and Access to Justice

in Environmental Matters

**Working Group of the Parties**

**Twentieth meeting**

Geneva, 15-17 June 2016

Item 5 of the provisional agenda:

**Promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums**

**Survey for Parties   
in preparation for the thematic session on the promotion of the principles of the Convention in international forums**

**Background**

This short questionnaire is intended to assist Parties to report to the upcoming twentieth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties on their progress in promoting the principles of the Aarhus Convention in processes, policies and projects of international financial institutions as well as to present innovative tools that enhance access to information and/or public participation in international forums with a focus on international financial institutions and on climate change-related decision-making. The results of the survey will be presented by the Chair at the meeting and made available on the Convention’s website in due course. Each Party is invited to complete the questionnaire online at <https://www.research.net/r/WGP-20_PPIF_Parties> by **2 June 2016**.

Please use as a background material the following document:

Promoting the application of the principles of the Aarhus Convention in international forums (Almaty Guidelines), ECE/MP.PP/2005/2/Add.5, (decision II/4), annex available in English, French and Russian from: <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2005/pp/ece/ece.mp.pp.2005.2.add.5.e.pdf> (English)

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2005/pp/ece/ece.mp.pp.2005.2.add.5.f.pdf> (French)

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2005/pp/ece/ece.mp.pp.2005.2.add.5.r.pdf> (Russian)

**NAME OF PARTY**

*Click here to enter text.*

**International financial institutions**

1. **Which international financial institutions (IFIs) is your government a member of?**

*Please check all boxes that apply. You can check any box(es) by double clicking on the square and selecting ‘checked’. Please add additional comments into the comment boxes provided (by clicking on the italic text in each box).*

African Development Bank (AfDB)

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

European Investment Bank (EIB)

Inter-American Development Bank Group (IDB, IADB)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

World Bank

Other *Please specify:*

1. **What specific steps has your government taken in the last two years, either individually or collectively with other governments, to promote the principles of the Convention in these IFIs with respect to the following:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **(i)** | **The IFIs’ meetings and bodies;**  *Please specify:* |
| **(ii)** | **The IFIs’ official policies;**  *Please specify:* |
| **(iii)** | **The IFIs’ projects, including where relevant, any projects to be carried out in your country;**  *Please specify:* |
| **(iv)** | **The IFIs’ compliance review mechanism.**  *Please specify:* |

1. **What concrete possibilities could you foresee for your government to promote the principles of the Convention, either individually or collectively with other governments, in the above respects in IFIs in the coming two years?**

*Please specify:*

**Climate change related decision-making**

1. **Has your Government promoted the Convention’s principles in the preparatory processes for the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (Paris, 30 November–11 December 2015) as well as during the conference?**

*Please check all boxes that apply.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes, in the preparatory processes** | **Yes, during the conference** | **No** |

**If No, please specify the reasons:**

The promotion mechanisms were not officially planned and no alternative measures were in place that would serve the same purpose.

*If so, please briefly describe what has prevented your government from using existing mechanisms or introducing alternative*

financial constraints

lack of relevant or sufficient institutional framework

Other

*Please provide additional information, if available*

**If Yes:**

1. In relation to which documents (please list the key documents)?

2. Through which mechanisms?

*Please check the answer boxes below you find the most appropriate. You can check any box(es) by double clicking on the square and selecting ‘checked’. Please add additional comments into the comment boxes provided (by clicking on the italic text in each box).*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (i) | National coordination mechanisms were already in use for the preparatory phase.  Coordination mechanisms existed:  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |
| (ii) | National coordination mechanisms were already in use during the conference itself.  Coordination mechanisms existed:  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |
| (iii) | Alternative measures were in place that your government considers serve the same purpose for the preparatory phase:  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |
| (iv) | Alternative measures were in place that your government considers serve the same purpose during the conference:  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |

1. **Is your Government promoting the Convention’s principles in the preparatory processes for the 22nd Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (Marrakesh 7-18 November 2016)**

*Please check the box that applies.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Yes** | **No** |

**If No, please specify the reasons:**

The promotion mechanisms are not yet officially planned and no alternative measures are in place that would serve the same purpose.

*If so, please briefly describe what has prevented your government from using existing mechanisms or introducing alternative*

financial constraints

lack of relevant or sufficient institutional framework

Other

*Please provide additional information, if available*

**If Yes:**

1. In relation to which documents (please list the key documents)?

2. Through which mechanisms?

*Please check the answer boxes below you find the most appropriate. You can check any box(es) by double clicking on the square and selecting ‘checked’. Please add additional comments into the comment boxes provided (by clicking on the italic text in each box).*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | National coordination mechanisms are already in use.  Coordination mechanisms exist:  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |
| b. | National coordination mechanisms are currently being planned and will be used later in the year*.*  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |
| c. | Alternative measures are in place that your government considers serve the same purpose.  at intra-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at inter-ministerial level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available*  at subnational level  *Briefly provide additional information and links, if available* |

**Innovative tools to enhance access to information and public participation in international forums**

1. **Has your government used or is your government aware of any innovative tools that have been used in international forums (in IFIs, UNFCCC processes or others) to enhance access to information and/or public participation?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes,  our government has used innovative tools** | **Yes,  our government is aware of innovative tools** | **No** |

**If Yes, please specify:**

Innovative tool used by our government

Innovative tool our government is aware of

*Please provide more information on the innovative tool regarding:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **(i)** | **Setting / Target group(s) / Number of persons involved:** |
| **(ii)** | **Starting year and duration:** |
| **(iii)** | **Partner organizations involved** *(if any):* |
| **(iv)** | **Stakeholders involved.** *Describe their involvement in this tool or mechanism and the kind of relationship you have with them.* |
| **(v)** | **Main objective of the initiative/ tool/ mechanism.** *Please provide brief description:* |
| **(vi)** | **Methodology/ approach used.** *Please provide brief description:* |
| **(vii)** | **Please clarify if these initiatives are:**  *Please check the answer boxes you find the most appropriate*  Electronic tools.  *Please provide additional information or an online links, if available*  Web-based applications (online forums, social networks)  *Please provide additional information or an online links, if available*  Mobile-phone apps (including twitter or other apps)  *Please provide additional information or an online links, if available*  Other  *Please provide additional information or an online links, if available* |
| **(viii)** | **Results and evaluation.** *Please provide brief assessment:* |
| **(ix)** | **Strengths, good practices and lessons learned.** *Please provide brief assessment:* |
| **(x)** | **Problems/ challenges encountered.** *Please provide brief assessment:* |
| **(xi)** | **Overall, do you consider the tool/mechanism to be a case study of good practice, and why/ why not?** |

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