The Aarhus Convention Reporting Mechanism

2014 reporting cycle - Practical considerations

Geneva
19 June 2013

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Aim is to present the What/Who/When/How of the 2014 reporting cycle

Objective of the presentation

• To inform the Parties and other stakeholders on practical considerations related to preparation and submission on National implementation reports (NIRs) for 2014 reporting cycle
• To give the answers to What/Who/When/How? regarding 2014 reporting cycle
• Key to remember:
  – Submission deadline 30 December 2013
  – Recommended submission deadline: 1 December 2013
Presentation outline

• What
• Who
  – Parties and other stakeholders
  – Role of the secretariat
• When
  – NIRs preparation process and timeline
• How
  – Reporting format
  – NIRs submission process
Report needs to account for measures taken and their practical implementation

What

• Parties are requested to submit report on
  • The legislative, regulatory or other measures taken to implement the provisions of the Convention
  • Their practical implementation
Only Parties are required to submit the report, other stakeholders are welcomed to submit it.

Who – Parties & other stakeholders

| **Parties to the Convention** | • required  
|  | • no special status for recent Parties |
| **Signatories and other States** | • may report on measures taken, pending ratification and/or accession |
| **International/regional/non-governmental organizations** | • may report on activities and experience in programmes or activities providing support to Parties/States in the implementation |
Role of secretariat is two-fold – to collect reports and prepare a synthesis report

Who - Role of the secretariat

Collects the NIRs, ensures publication online and submission to the MOP

Prepares a synthesis report for the MOP

- summarizing the progress made
- identifying significant trends, challenges and solutions
We recommend to prepare NIRs in five steps and envisage enough time for each step

**When – NIRs preparation process**

1. Consultation on the content
   - 3 months
2. First draft of the NIR
   - 1 month
3. Consultation on first draft
   - 1-2 months
4. Final report preparation
   - 1 month
5. NIR submission deadline
   - 180 days before MOP

Comments received to be incorporated in the final report

Vital to receive on time for the preparation of synthesis report

Recommended submission deadline: 1 December 2013
By August most Parties should have their first draft of the NIR prepared

When – NIRs preparation timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultation on the content</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>First draft of the NIRs</td>
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<td>Consultation on first draft</td>
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<td>Final report preparation</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIR submission</td>
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Recommended deadline: 1 Dec, 180 days before MOP
19 June
16WGP

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19 June
16WGP
The 2014 reporting format has one additional question compared to 2011 reporting cycle

How – the reporting format (1/3)

• In accordance with the format set out in the annex to decision IV/4
• NOTE - new sections required for

<table>
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<th>New in 2014</th>
<th>Recommended in 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Compliance with last MOP recommendations on issues arising from compliance matters considered by the Compliance Committee</td>
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<td>• PPIF and GMO amendment</td>
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Word limit of 13,000 words enables to allocate a sufficient level of detail to each question

How – the reporting format (2/3)

• In form of a questionnaire
  • Each article dealt with through a separate set of questions

• Limit of 13,000 words
  • including the section headings drawn from the reporting format
  • enables to allocate a proportionate level of detail to each item
There are some differences on how recent Parties should go about preparing a report compared to older Parties

How – the reporting format (3/3)

• First time?
  • Follow the 2011 revised format (decision IV/4)

• Second or third time?
  • Use the submitted previous report and work with track changes to enable recording of changes + upload online the clean version
Reports need to be submitted electronically as well as in hard copy

How – submission process

On-line database
- Let us know if you require username & password

By e-mail
- **Track-changes** electronic version of the report in one of the official UNECE languages
- **Clean version** in language of the Party
- aarhus.survey@unece.org

By mail
- signed final clean copy of the report
Contact & additional information

aarhus.survey@unece.org
http://www.unece.org/env/pp/reports.html