



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
8 April 2016

Original: English

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## Economic Commission for Europe

## World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on  
Water and Health to the Convention on  
the Protection and Use of Transboundary  
Watercourses and International Lakes

### Compliance Committee

#### Thirteenth meeting

Geneva, 27 and 28 June 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the thirteenth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on  
Monday, 27 June 2016, at 10 a.m.\*

## I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Consideration of submissions, referrals and communications.
3. Relevant developments since the twelfth meeting.
4. Implementation of and compliance with the reporting requirements.
5. Compliance with the obligation to set targets and target dates.

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\* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to complete the online registration procedure available on the meeting web page ([www.unece.org/index.php?id=41701](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41701)) as soon as possible, but **not later than 16 May 2016**. 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.htm](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm)). Please allow sufficient time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 2596.



6. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session.
7. Consultation with Parties to facilitate implementation of the Protocol.
8. Composition of the Compliance Committee.
9. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings.
10. Other business.
11. Adoption of the report.

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 10–10.05 a.m.*

1. The Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

### **2. Consideration of submissions, referrals and communications**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 10.05–11 a.m.*

2. In accordance with the relevant procedures set out in decision I/2 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (ECE/MP.WH/2/Add.3–EUR/06/5069385/1/Add.3), the Committee is expected to consider:

- (a) Any submission by Parties relating to specific issues of compliance (ibid., annex, paras. 13–14);
- (b) Any referral by the joint secretariat relating to specific issues of compliance (ibid., para. 15);
- (c) Any communication from the public relating to specific issues of compliance (ibid., paras. 16–22).

### **3. Relevant developments since the twelfth meeting**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.*

3. The secretariat will inform the Committee of relevant developments since its twelfth meeting (Geneva, 19–20 October 2016), in particular the outcomes of the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 21–22 October 2015) and the fifteenth meeting of the Bureau (Geneva, 23 October 2015). The Committee will also be informed about progress in preparing the collection of good practices and lessons learned on target setting and reporting following the dedicated workshop that took place in Geneva on 8 and 9 March 2016. The document will be submitted for the consideration of the Working Group on Water and Health at its ninth meeting (Geneva, 29–30 June 2016) with a view to its subsequent finalization and submission to the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth session (Bern, 14–16 November 2016) for adoption. The Committee will discuss its possible contribution to the collection of good practices, also taking into account that the Committee, in its report to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session (ECE/MP.WH/2013/4–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/MOP-3/11), decided to note some

elements of the national summary reports that might serve as examples of good practices suitable for all Parties as a learning and reference tool.

4. At its twelfth meeting, the Chair reported on the outcomes of the third meeting of the informal network of the chairs of compliance and implementation bodies under the ECE multilateral environmental agreements (Geneva, 29 June 2015), focusing on the discussion regarding the transboundary aspects of the agreements. The Committee considered that analysing the transboundary dimension of the Protocol was particularly important for facilitating the accession of a number of countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia and agreed that its legal experts would analyse the relevant provisions of the Protocol and present the outcomes at the following Committee meeting. The Committee members with legal expertise will present the outcomes of their analysis of the provisions of the Protocol related to transboundary waters. The Committee will discuss the analysis and agree on the ways and means for preparing an informal note on the transboundary dimension of the Protocol. It will also discuss the possibility of sharing the informal note with the Implementation Committee of the Water Convention.

5. The secretariat and the Committee members will report on the opportunities they had to present the compliance mechanism at various forums and events.

#### **4. Implementation of and compliance with the reporting requirements**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 12–1 p.m.*

6. At its tenth meeting (Geneva, 25 November 2014), the Committee discussed different possibilities to address the failure of some Parties to comply with their reporting requirements under the Protocol. It had concluded that, based on paragraph 11 (c) read in conjunction with paragraph 12 of the Compliance Procedure, it had the competence to not only examine general issues of compliance, but also to take appropriate action in case of possible non-compliance by a specific Party with its obligation to report (see ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2014/2–EUDCE/1408105/1.10/2014/CC/06, paras. 17–20).

7. At its twelfth meeting, the Committee entrusted the secretariat with reviewing the informal note prepared by a Committee member on the interpretation of legal obligations under articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol regarding, inter alia, the scope of reporting and the possibility for the Committee to address the failure of Parties to comply with the reporting requirements under the Protocol. The Committee will discuss the background note submitted by the secretariat and agree on the ways and means for preparing a draft decision on general legal obligations.

#### **5. Compliance with the obligation to set targets and target dates**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 3–4 p.m.*

8. At its eleventh meeting (Geneva, 24–25 March 2015), the Committee agreed that a decision on general issues of compliance would be prepared for the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session. Issues to be particularly addressed included compliance by Parties to the Protocol that were members of the European Union, the timeline for submitting summary reports and the modalities for the communication of targets set under the Protocol to the joint secretariat. The Committee will agree on the ways and means for preparing a draft decision on general issues of compliance.

## **6. Report of the Committee to the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 27 June, 4–6 p.m. and Tuesday, 28 June, 9.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.*

9. The Committee will discuss the first draft of its report to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth session, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of contributions received from the Committee members.

10. In the discussion, the Committee will take into account information from the secretariat on the progress made in the preparation of the regional report on the implementation of the Protocol.

11. Following the draft table of contents of the report to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties endorsed at the Committee's twelfth meeting, the Committee will also discuss Parties' compliance with reporting requirements under the Protocol. In particular, the Committee members who reviewed the different sections of the national summary reports submitted by Parties, signatories and interested countries in the framework of the third reporting exercise will present their findings, with a particular focus on:

(a) The completeness of the summary reports in accordance with requirements set out in the article 7 and in the template for summary reports;

(b) The quality and accuracy of the data in the reports;

(c) The procedural aspects of the reporting process, including transparency, public involvement and timeliness in reporting;

(d) Recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session and to specific Parties, also taking into account concerns and recommendations spelled out by the Committee in its report to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session;

(e) A possible decision on further work on the national summary reports.

12. Based on this discussion, the Committee will agree on the procedure and timeline for the finalization of its report to the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session.

## **7. Consultation with Parties to facilitate implementation of the Protocol**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 June, 2.30–3.30 p.m.*

13. At its eleventh meeting, the Committee held consultations with Albania, Azerbaijan and Croatia. Bosnia and Herzegovina took part in the process as an observer. Consultations were carried out as an open process, with country presentations, follow-up questions and discussion by the Committee. The advice provided by the Committee on a provisional basis at the end of the consultations to each of the two Parties and to the observer was positively received. Subsequently, the secretariat finalized the advice and sent it to the countries in a letter on behalf of the Committee and also made the advice publicly available.

14. The Committee will discuss the possible follow-up to the Consultation Process that took place in 2015 and possible new Parties to be invited to join the consultations after the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

## **8. Composition of the Compliance Committee**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 June, 3.30–4.30 p.m.*

15. The Committee members will discuss the composition of the Compliance Committee after the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

16. At its third session, the Meeting of the Parties elected five Committee members to replace members that were serving for a full term. According to decision I/2 on review of compliance, at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties, Parties should proceed with the election of four Committee members.

## **9. Programme of work and calendar of future meetings**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 June, 4.30–4.45 p.m.*

17. The Committee will agree on issues for consideration at its next meetings. The Committee will also agree on the dates of its fourteenth and fifteenth meetings.

## **10. Other business**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 June, 4.45–5 p.m.*

18. Committee members wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

## **11. Adoption of the report**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 June, 5–5.15 p.m.*

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

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