



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

Fifty-ninth session

Geneva, 18–21 June 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session*

To be held online, starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 18 June 2024**

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Membership of the Implementation Committee.
3. Follow-up to decisions IX/4c–V/4c and V/4d.
4. Submissions.
5. Committee initiative.
6. Information gathering:
Convention matters.
7. Review of implementation.
8. Other business.

* The present report was submitted to the conference services for processing after the deadline so as to include the most recent information.

** Members of the Committee are requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e. by **4 June 2024**, through the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1007165/> (use of the Internet Explorer browser is recommended). Should any difficulties be encountered when attempting to register, please email the secretariat (cia.conv@un.org; maricar.delacruz@un.org).

9. 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,¹ in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.² The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt the present agenda.

2. Membership of the Implementation Committee

2. With reference to the Committee's discussions on its membership at the Committee's fifty-eighth session (Geneva (online), 27 February–1 March 2024),³ the Committee members nominated by the Republic of Moldova and Slovakia will be invited to update the Committee on the appointment of their alternate members.

3. Follow-up to decisions IX/4c–V/4c and V/4d

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

4. The Committee is expected to follow up on the two country-specific decisions of the Meetings of the Parties listed below:

(a) Decision IX/4c–V/4c on compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina with its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol in respect of the construction of Buk Bijela hydropower plant on the Drina River (ECE/MP.EIA/2023/4–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/4);

(b) Decision V/4d on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Protocol in respect of the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the Period up to 2025 with Projections up to 2030 and the Programme for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Period 2017–2023 (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/7).

4. Submissions

5. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

6. The Committee will examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session. It will also continue its examination of the submission by Belarus expressing concerns about compliance by Poland with its obligations under the Convention with respect to the construction of a barrier on the territory of the transboundary United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "Bialowieza Forest" World Heritage Site, dated 12 April 2023.

¹ Acting in that role until the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

² The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's operating rules through decision IV/2, annex IV (ECE/MP.EIA/10), and later amended them through decisions V/4, annex (ECE/MP.EIA/15), VI/2, annex II (ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1), IX/4 (ECE/MP.EIA/2023/6) and V/4 (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/7).

³ ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2024/8, paras. 5–7.

5. Committee initiative

7. Discussions under agenda item 5 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

8. The Committee will continue to consider its initiative concerning the planned lifetime extension by France of unit 1 of Tricastin nuclear power plant, opened at the Committee's fifty-seventh session (Geneva, 29 August–1 September 2023).⁴ Further to the Committee's deliberations at its fifty-eighth session,⁵ France and Italy were invited to participate in the session on Wednesday, 19 June 2024, with a view to presenting information and opinions on the matter under consideration, in accordance with paragraph 9 of the Committee's structure and functions. The Committee will then consider the matter in a closed session before proceeding to draft its findings and recommendations.

6. Information gathering

9. Discussions under agenda item 6 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of the operating rules.

Convention matters

10. The Committee will continue its consideration of the information gathering concerning:

- (a) Ukraine, regarding the planned construction of units 3 and 4 of Khmelniysky nuclear power plant;
- (b) Ukraine, regarding the planned activity related to mining at the Muzhiyevo goldmine;
- (c) Ukraine, regarding the lifetime extension of 12 power units located at Rivne, South-Ukrainian, Zaporizhzhya and Khmelniysky nuclear power plants;
- (d) Germany, regarding the planned construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal;
- (e) North Macedonia, regarding the development of a new gold-copper mine;
- (f) Bulgaria, regarding several planned mining activities;
- (g) France, regarding the planned lifetime extension of 31 units of eight nuclear power plants.

7. Review of implementation

11. Discussions under agenda item 7 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 (1) of its operating rules.

12. Time permitting, the secretariat will bring to the attention of the Committee general and specific compliance issues identified in the seventh review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2023/9) and the fourth review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2023/9). The Committee is expected to take these into account in its work, in accordance with decisions IX/5 and V/5 of the Meetings of the Parties.

13. The secretariat will also continue consultations with the Committee on minor technical adjustments to be made to the questionnaires for reporting on implementation of the Convention and Protocol during the period 2022–2024, taking into account the suggested

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2023/8, paras. 49–69.

⁵ ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2024/2, paras. 41–44.

improvements to the questionnaires during the previous reporting round (see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2022/INF.9).⁶

14. Time permitting, the Committee will continue its consideration of the specific compliance issues concerning:

(a) Kyrgyzstan, identified through the sixth review of the implementation of the Convention;⁷

(b) Serbia, identified through the second review of the implementation of the Protocol;⁸

(c) North Macedonia, identified through the third review of the implementation of the Protocol.⁹

8. Other business

15. Members of the Committee wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

9. 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 current session.

⁶ This informal document was submitted to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment at its eleventh meeting (Geneva, 19–21 December 2022) and is available on the web page for that meeting (<https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Environmental-Impact-Assessment/events/364357>).

⁷ ECE/MP.EIA/2020/8, paras. 15–16.

⁸ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/9, paras. 37–39.

⁹ ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/8, para. 56.