UNITED NATIONS



Economic and Social Council

Distr. GENERAL

MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/12 CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/12

27 September 2002 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTIONON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Intergovernmental Working Group on Civil Liability

Fifth meeting, Geneva, 11 (p.m.) –13 November 2002

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTH MEETING

to be held at the Palais des Nations starting at 3 p.m. on Monday, 11 November 2002

- 1. Opening of the meeting.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda.
- 3. Adoption of the report of the fourth meeting (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/11 CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/11).
- 4. Drawing up of a legally binding instrument on civil liability for transboundary damage caused by hazardous activities, within the scope of both Conventions.
- 5. Date and venue of future meetings of the Working Group.
- 6. Other business.
- 7. Closing of the meeting.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Intergovernmental Working Group to draw up a legally binding instrument on civil liability for transboundary damage caused by hazardous activities, within the scope of the UNECE Conventions on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) was established by the Parties to both Conventions at their joint special session at Geneva on 2-3 July 2001 (ECE/MP.WAT/7 - ECE/CP.TEIA/5). Its first meeting took place at Geneva on 21-23 November 2001 (MP.WAT/AC.3/2001/2 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2001/2), its second meeting on 4-6 February 2002 (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/3 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/3), its third meeting on 6-8 May 2002 (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/6 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/6), and its fourth meeting on 2-4 September 2002 (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/11 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/11).

Documents of the joint special session and the Intergovernmental Working Group on Civil Liability can be downloaded from the Conventions web sites at:

www.unece.org/env/teia or www.unece.org/env/water by selecting "civil liability".

<u>Item 1</u>: <u>Opening of the meeting</u>

The fifth meeting will be opened by the Chairperson of the Working Group, Mrs. Phani DASKALOPOULOU-LIVADA (Greece).

<u>Item 2</u>: Adoption of the agenda

The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda for its fifth meeting as set out in the present document.

<u>Item 3</u>: Adoption of the report of the fourth meeting

The Working Group will adopt the report of its fourth meeting (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/11 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/11), prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chairperson and the Rapporteur.

<u>Item 4</u>: <u>Drawing up of a legally binding instrument on civil liability for transboundary damage</u> caused by hazardous activities, within the scope of both Conventions

The Working Group will continue its work on a legally binding instrument on civil liability for transboundary damage caused by hazardous activities.

At its fourth meeting, the Working Group invited its rapporteur and the secretariat to prepare a revised version of a draft instrument (MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/13 - CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/13) on the basis of the outcome of its fourth meeting.

The Working Group also invited delegations to submit working papers for consideration at the fifth meeting in addition to the working papers already submitted for the first, second, third, and fourth meetings.

Item 5: Date and venue of future meeting(s) of the Intergovernmental Working Group

The Working Group is expected to set the indicative dates for its future meeting(s) and decide on their venues. The secretariat has made preliminary arrangements for meetings, if need be, on 2-4 December 2002 and 12-14 February 2003.

<u>Item 6</u>: <u>Other business</u>

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

<u>Item 7</u>: <u>Closing of the meeting</u>

The Chairperson will close the meeting.