



# 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-third session

Geneva, 10–13 May 2022

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

## Annotated provisional agenda for the fifty-third session

To be held in a hybrid mode, starting at 10 a.m.  
on Tuesday, 10 May 2022\*

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Submissions.
3. Committee initiatives.
4. Information gathering:
  - (a) Convention matters;
  - (b) Protocol matters.
5. Review of implementation.
6. Structure, functions and operating rules.
7. Other business.

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\* Members of the Committee and observers are requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e. by **26 April 2022**, through the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1000551/>. In case of difficulty registering, please email the secretariat ([eia.conv@un.org](mailto:eia.conv@un.org); [maricar.delacruz@un.org](mailto:maricar.delacruz@un.org)).



8. Presentation of the main decisions made 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, in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.<sup>1</sup> The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt the present agenda.

### **2. Submissions**

2. Discussions under agenda item 2 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

3. The Committee will continue its examination of the submission received on 11 December 2020 from Montenegro of its concerns about compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina with its obligations under the Convention regarding the construction of Buk Bijela hydropower plant on the Drina River. Further to the outcome of the discussions with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro held at its fifty-second session,<sup>2</sup> and in accordance with the Committee's structure and functions and rules 11–14 of its operating rules, the Committee is expected to agree on its draft findings and recommendations with a view to transmitting them to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro for comments and representations prior to finalizing them at its fifty-fourth session (Geneva, 4–7 October 2022).

4. The Committee will also examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session.

### **3. Committee initiatives**

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

6. The Committee will begin considering its initiative concerning compliance by Belgium regarding its obligations under the Convention in respect of the lifetime extension of unit 1 of Tihange nuclear power plant, close to the border with Germany; an initiative it opened following its deliberations at its fifty-second session (Geneva (hybrid), 29–31 March 2022).<sup>3</sup> Belgium and Germany were invited to participate in the session on Wednesday, 11 May 2022, 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.

7. Further to its deliberations at its fifty-second session,<sup>4</sup> the Committee will also begin considering its initiative concerning compliance by Bulgaria regarding its obligations under the Convention in respect of the lifetime extension of Kozloduy nuclear power plant, close to the borders with Romania and Serbia. Austria,<sup>5</sup> Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia were invited

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [https://unece.org/DAM/env/eia/documents/ImplementationCommittee/2014\\_Structure\\_and\\_functions/Implementation\\_Committee\\_structure\\_functions\\_procedures\\_rules.e\\_2014.pdf](https://unece.org/DAM/env/eia/documents/ImplementationCommittee/2014_Structure_and_functions/Implementation_Committee_structure_functions_procedures_rules.e_2014.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2022/4, forthcoming.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Austria considered itself potentially affected in respect of the activity and participated in the Committee's proceedings on the matter.

to participate in the session on Thursday, 12 May 2022, 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.

#### **4. Information gathering**

8. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, in accordance with rule 17 of the operating rules.

##### **(a) Convention matters**

9. The Committee is expected to continue its consideration of information it has gathered concerning Ukraine on the planned construction of nuclear reactors 3 and 4 at Khmelnytsky nuclear power plant.

10. The Committee is also expected to consider information it has gathered on the extension of the lifetime of nuclear power plants, including concerning: Dukovany nuclear power plant in Czechia; Blayais, Bugey, Chinon, Cruas, Dampierre, Gravelines, St. Laurent and Tricastin nuclear power plants in France; Borssele nuclear power plant in the Netherlands; and Almaraz nuclear power plant in Spain.

##### **(b) Protocol matters**

11. The Committee will also consider the information it has gathered concerning compliance with the provisions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Poland regarding the Energy Policy until 2040 of the Government of Poland.

#### **5. Review of implementation**

12. The Committee will continue its consideration of the specific issue regarding reporting of the European Union under the Protocol identified in the first review of implementation of the Protocol.<sup>6</sup> Following the request of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment at its tenth meeting (Geneva (hybrid), 1–3 December 2021),<sup>7</sup> and its deliberations at the Committee's fifty-second session,<sup>8</sup> the Committee is expected to continue its work related to preparing the templates for reporting of the European Union under the Convention and the Protocol.

#### **6. Structure, functions and operating rules**

13. Further to decision VIII/4<sup>9</sup> on general issues of compliance with the Convention of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and decision IV/4<sup>10</sup> on general issues of compliance with the Protocol of the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocol, the Committee, time permitting, is expected to continue to review and propose revisions to its structure and functions and its operating rules, with a view to enhancing coherence and reducing duplication between the two sets of rules and to increasing use of videoconferencing and other online and electronic communication tools as effective means of managing the Committee's workload. In doing so, the Committee is expected to take into account the experience gained by the Committee in the interim, including the discussions on its working methods and practice and suggestions provided at the Committee's forty-fifth (Geneva,

<sup>6</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex I, decision III/I, appendix, para. 18.

<sup>7</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2021/2, para. 14.

<sup>8</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2022/4, forthcoming.

<sup>9</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.2.

<sup>10</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.3.

10–13 September 2019),<sup>11</sup> fiftieth (Geneva, 4–7 May 2021)<sup>12</sup> and fifty-first<sup>13</sup> (Geneva, 4–7 October 2021) sessions.

## **7. Other business**

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

## **8. Presentation of the main decisions made and closing of the session**

15. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions made at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.

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<sup>11</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2019/4, paras. 120–130.

<sup>12</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2021/4, paras. 104–105.

<sup>13</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2021/6, paras. 56–58.