



# **Decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties – an informal summary**

## **ITEM 18. REVIEW OF DECISIONS**



# **1. Adoption of the agenda**

## **2. Representation and credentials**

**Adopted the agenda**

**Noted status of competent authorities and points of contact**

**Reminded all Parties to designate a point of contact**

**Noted representation. Regretted absence of 11 named Parties**

**Entrusted Bureau with trying to ensure future participation by  
all Parties**

**Accepted the report on credentials**



### **3. Report of the Bureau on the activities under the Convention since the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

**Endorsed the report of the Bureau**

**Requested the in-coming Bureau to report to the next meeting in a similar way**

**(Will record in minutes financial contribution by Norway to support participation of countries with economies in transition)**



## **4. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties**

**Re-elected Chris Dijkens (Netherlands) as Chair**

**Re-elected Jasmina Karba (Slovenia) and elected Gunnar Hem (Norway) as Vice-Chairs**

**Elected or re-elected as Bureau members: Anahit Aleksandryan (Armenia), Pavel Forint (Czech Republic), Gerhard Winkelmann-Oei (Germany), Cristiano Piacente (Italy), Svetlana Stirbu (Republic of Moldova), Bernard Gay (Switzerland) and Jill Michielssen (European Commission)**

**Thanked Bernard Gay (Switzerland) for his service as Vice-Chair and thanked outgoing Bureau members Olga Shashkina (Georgia), Sergey Kozlenko (Russian Federation) and Suzana Milutinovic (Serbia)**



## **5. Implementation of the Convention: Activities of Working Group on Implementation and 6<sup>th</sup> report on Convention's implementation – 1**

**Adopted the sixth report on implementation, taking into account the remarks made by delegations**

**Requested the preparation of a seventh report on implementation**

**Stressed issue of timely and qualitative reporting by Parties and beneficiary countries within Assistance Programme**

**Noted and expressed concern that one Party and 6 beneficiary countries within Assistance Programme failed to report**

- mandated Bureau to explore reasons and solutions for non-reporting
- invited Working Group on Development to consider possible remedies for non-compliance with the reporting requirement



## **5. Implementation of the Convention: Activities of Working Group on Implementation and 6<sup>th</sup> report on Convention's implementation – 2**

**Regretted the failure of Russian Federation to report in compliance with its legal obligations under the Convention**

- requested UNECE Executive Secretary to write to Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation to communicate concern and ask for reporting

**Urged [named] beneficiary countries within Assistance Programme to comply with commitment to report on implementation**

- requested UNECE Executive Secretary to write to respective Ministers for the countries' competent authorities to remind them of their earlier commitment to report

**Requested Bureau and Working Group on Implementation to investigate further simplification of reporting, but addition of more reporting on emergencies and response thereto, based on the remarks made by delegations**



## **5. Implementation of the Convention: Election of members of the Working Group on Implementation for 2013–2014**

**Elected members: Evgeny Baranovsky (Belarus); Hrvoje Buljan (Croatia); Leo Iberl (Germany); Francisc Senzaconi (Romania); Suzana Milutinovic (Serbia); Ann-Sofie Eriksson (Sweden); Martin Merkofer (Switzerland); Emilija Kjupeva Nedelkova (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia); and Sandra Ashcroft (United Kingdom)**

**Entrusted Bureau to identify a tenth member of Working Group on Implementation and to inform Parties once it has done so**

**Thanked outgoing members**



## **6. Use of financial resources in 2011–2012**

**Endorsed the report on use of financial resources under  
Convention for period 2011–2012**

**Requested secretariat, at 8th COP, to report on use of  
resources for 2013–2014**

- include all in-kind contributions in table 1, not just over \$20,000



## **7. Involvement of Parties and other stakeholders**

**Took note of the information provided by the secretariat**



## **8. Exchange of information**

**Took note of the information provided by the representative of the Netherlands in his report on the joint seminar on land-use planning around hazardous industrial sites**

**Took note of the information provided by the representatives of Poland (and the European Commission) in their report on the workshop on cost-effectiveness for major accident prevention**

**Thanked Sweden for organizing the seminar on how national authorities can support local authorities in preparedness and response**



## **9. Assistance Programme (1/3)**

**Took note of the information in reports on activities carried out under the Programme provided by the representatives of: the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine; Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and Kyrgyzstan**

**Took note also of the information provided by the Armenian NGO EcoPeace**

**Endorsed progress report on activities carried out 2011-2012**

**Requested Bureau and Working Group on Implementation to report on progress achieved under Programme to 8<sup>th</sup> COP**



## **9. Assistance Programme (2/3)**

**Requested secretariat to invite Montenegro and Turkmenistan to join Programme**

**Requested publication of the safety guidelines on tailings management facilities**

**Reminded all beneficiary countries of their obligation to carry out self-evaluations and to submit action plans, and asked Bureau or Working Group on Implementation to write to the countries accordingly**

**Entrust Bureau and Working Group on Implementation with an evaluation of the criteria and indicators, and to find ways to assist countries with their application**



## **9. Assistance Programme (3/3)**

**Decided that the Working Group on Implementation be entrusted in the future with the monitoring of the Strategic Approach and the review of self-assessments and action plans**

**Endorsed the template for the submission of project proposals**

**Requested the Working Group on Implementation to develop outline terms of reference for implementation of projects within the Programme**

**Requested publication of the indicators and criteria in a user-friendly and flexible form [following their evaluation]**



## **10. Strategic partnerships**

**Took note of outcome of task force's work and of presentations by UNEP, WHO, EC, OECD WGCA Bureau member and the secretariat**

**Encouraged all Parties and other member States of UNECE to report on major accidents using eMARs, and requested EC and secretariat to facilitate reporting**



## **11. Financing**

**Adopted the sustainable financial mechanism, as amended  
(removal of reference to scale of assessments)**

**Requested Chair to include an agenda item, in the informal  
meeting among the officers of the UNECE multilateral  
environmental agreements, to seek a harmonized approach  
and general solutions for sustainable extrabudgetary  
financing of these agreements**



## **12. UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System**

**Took note of outcome of electronic consultation and communication exercise**

**Decided to maintain the System as it stands and to carry out further tests and exercises using the System**



## **13. Prevention of accidental water pollution**

**Thanked the JEG for its work to date and took note of presentation by the JEG Co-Chair**

**Requested presentation of the current draft [of the guidelines being developed by JEG] to the Bureau and Working Group on Implementation when they meet in January 2013**

**Took note of the consultant's study under step 1 for the Protocol on Civil Liability and agreed to continue with step 2, subject to availability of funding**

**Took note of the information provided by the representative of Germany in his report of Sandoz seminar**



## **14. Possible amendment of Convention – 1**

**Requested the Working Group on Development to draft a revised annex I to bring it into line with the GHS and decide that the proposed amendment be circulated to the Parties not less than 90 days in advance of the next meeting**

**Requested the Working Group on Development to evaluate the possible amendment of the Convention to address the provisions and issues identified in the official background**



## **14. Possible amendment of Convention – 2**

**Requested the Bureau to identify a Chair of the Working Group on Development and to make arrangements for its expected two meetings**

**Requested the secretariat to draft a detailed background paper for the first meeting of the Working Group**

**Requested the secretariat to follow strictly the Committee on Environmental Policy's criteria for financial support to meetings of the Working Group, with only eligible Parties to receive such support**

**Requested the secretariat to present to the second meeting of the Working Group a draft proposed amendment as an official document, translated in the official languages**

**Requested the secretariat to republish the Convention after the entry into force of any amendment**



## **15. Plan of action under the Convention (1/4)**

**Adopted workplan for 2013–2014 and corresponding budget, with the prioritization and adjustments as identified by delegates [formal meetings, Assistance Programme, the development of a guide on methodology for hazard rating, sharing of good practices on land-use planning and industrial safety, and other activities with a lead country or earmarked cash or in-kind support]**

**Requested all Parties, and invited other UNECE member countries, to participate actively in implementation of workplan for 2013–2014, and invited them to take lead in specific projects**

**Welcomed the financial contributions to the budget pledged at the meeting, as well as the pledged in-kind contributions**

**Urged other Parties and other UNECE member countries to provide voluntary financial and in-kind contributions to budget, including for ensuring adequate human resources in secretariat**



## **15. Plan of action under the Convention (2/4)**

**Mandated the Bureau to oversee implementation of workplan, to seek lead countries for activities without a lead, and to raise additional funds for requested activities within the Assistance Programme**

**Requested the secretariat to manage activities contained in workplan, in particular under the Assistance Programme, and to manage voluntary financial contributions in agreement with the donor countries or institutions**

**Invited the UNECE Executive Secretary to continue supporting the work under Convention by organizing the activities planned in the workplan and providing formal documentation for these activities, as appropriate**



## **15. Plan of action under the Convention (3/4)**

**Requested the Bureau to draw up, with support of secretariat, a budget for 2015–2016 for adoption at 8<sup>th</sup> COP**

**Decided to maintain the guiding principles for financial assistance to ensure effective participation of experts and representatives from countries with economies in transition in meetings organized within its framework and in the activities under the Assistance Programme, depending on the availability of funds**



## **15. Plan of action under the Convention (4/4)**

- **Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina , Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan eligible for full financial assistance (travel and DSA) to support participation of experts and representatives in activities organized within the framework of the Conference of the Parties. Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkmenistan are eligible for partial financial assistance (DSA only)**
- **Countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe, as accepted by the Conference of the Parties as recipient countries in the Assistance Programme under the Convention, are eligible for full financial assistance (travel and DSA) to support the participation of their experts and representatives in the capacity-building activities organized within the Programme**



**16. Date and venue of 8<sup>th</sup> COP**

**17. Other business**

**18. Review of decisions**

**Decided to hold 8<sup>th</sup> ordinary meeting in autumn 2014**

***Entrusted secretariat, in consultation with Bureau, with finalizing the meeting report***

***Thanked Sweden for its generous hosting of COP***