



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

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

### Implementation Committee

#### Eighteenth meeting

Geneva, 7 and 8 April 2025

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda and introduction**

### Annotated provisional agenda for the eighteenth meeting

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on Monday,  
7 April 2025, at 10 a.m.\***

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and introduction.
3. Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative.
4. Information gathering.
5. Relevant outcomes of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties and potential contribution of the Committee to different activities under the Convention.
6. Cooperation with other committees and organizations.
7. Promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance.
8. Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings.
9. Any other business.
10. Presentation of the main decisions taken, modalities for preparation of the meeting report and closing of the session.

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\* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to register online as soon as possible, but by no later than **24 March 2025**, through the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1011607/>. On the day of the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge from the Pass and Identification Unit at the Pregny gate. A map is available on the United Nations Office at Geneva website ([www.ungeneva.org/en/about/practical-information](http://www.ungeneva.org/en/about/practical-information)). Please allow sufficient time for this procedure. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1606.



## **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **1. Election of officers**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 7 April, 10–11 a.m.*

1. In accordance with paragraph 7 of annex I to decision VI/1 on support to implementation and compliance of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) (see ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2), at its tenth session (Ljubljana, 23–25 October 2024), the Meeting of the Parties considered the composition of the Implementation Committee. It re-elected the following members of the Implementation Committee for a full term: Mr. Pedro Cunha Serra and Mr. Martins Paparinskis. It also elected the following new members of the Committee for a full term: Mr. Mahdi Ahmad, Mr. Gabriel de los Cobos, Ms. Maria Gwynn and Mr. Cyrille Vallet (ECE/MP.WAT/75, forthcoming).

2. The members will each be invited to briefly introduce themselves and to spell out their vision of how they can contribute to the Committee's work in the period 2025–2027.

3. In accordance with paragraph 10 of annex I to decision VI/1, the Implementation Committee is expected to elect its chair and vice-chair.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda and introduction**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 7 April, 11 a.m.–noon.*

4. The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda for its eighteenth meeting (Geneva, 7–8 April 2025), as set out in the present document.<sup>1</sup>

5. New members of the Committee will be briefed on the working practices of the Committee by members with previous experience of serving on the Committee.

### **3. Requests for advice, submissions and Committee initiative**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 7 April, noon–1 p.m., 3–5 p.m., and Tuesday, 8 April 10–11 a.m.*

6. In accordance with the relevant procedures set out in paragraph 15 (a)–(c) of annex I to decision VI/1 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2), the Committee is expected to consider:

(a) Any request for advice by a Party or Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation or application of the Convention;

(b) Any submission by Parties relating to specific issues concerning difficulties in implementation of or compliance with the Convention;

(c) Undertaking a Committee initiative.

7. The Committee will be briefed by the representatives of Montenegro and Albania on progress made with the implementation of the Committee's legal and technical advice under advisory procedure WAT/IC/AP/1 (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2021/1, annex). It may hold further consultations with the two countries.

8. The secretariat will brief the Committee on future planned steps in implementation of the project "Cross-sectoral cooperation in transboundary basins in the Western Balkans", funded by Italy and aimed, among other things, at assisting Montenegro and Albania in implementing the advice provided by the Implementation Committee by enhancing groundwater monitoring in the Cijevna/Cem River basin.

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<sup>1</sup> Information and documents for the meeting will be made available on a dedicated web page of the Convention's website (<https://unece.org/info/events/event/397531>).

#### 4. Information gathering

*Tentative timing: Monday, 7 April, 5–5.30 p.m.*

9. In accordance with the relevant procedures set out in section VIII of annex I to decision VI/1 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, the Committee will be briefed on the status of information gathering procedure WAT/IC/INFO/2 (Albufeira Convention). It may discuss any other information gathering, as needed.

#### 5. Relevant outcomes of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties and potential contribution of the Committee to different activities under the Convention

*Tentative timing: Monday, 7 April, 5.30–6 p.m., and Tuesday, 8 April, 11 a.m.–noon.*

10. The secretariat will report on the outcomes of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and present the programme of work for 2025–2027. The secretariat will report on the outcomes of the third reporting exercise under the Convention and on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2.

11. The Committee will discuss its possible contribution to the implementation of the decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties at its tenth session and the activities foreseen under the programme of work. Among other things, the Committee will discuss its possible contribution to the update of the publication *Frequently Asked Questions on the 1992 Water Convention* (ECE/MP.WAT/59).

12. At its tenth session, the Meeting of the Parties entrusted the Committee to support the secretariat in answering questions from countries interested in acceding to the Convention. It also requested the Committee to contribute to activities related to promotion of accession to the Convention and interpretation of its provisions (ECE/MP.WAT/75/Add.1, forthcoming). In this regard, the Committee will be informed about recent developments linked to accession to and implementation of the Convention. It will discuss its potential involvement in future activities.

13. At its fifteenth meeting (Geneva, 16–17 February 2023), the Committee decided to pilot the provision of its legal and technical support in a transboundary basin or aquifer, as a way to clarify the procedural and legal implications of its potential involvement in such assistance in the future.<sup>2</sup> At its tenth session, the Meeting of the Parties entrusted the Committee to support the secretariat by providing legal and technical support to cooperation in specific transboundary basins (ECE/MP.WAT/75/Add.1). In this regard, Mr. Makane Moïse Mbengue, Committee member, will brief the Committee on the development of a draft transboundary agreement on the Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer basin, to which he provides support on behalf of the Committee, and related lessons learned and next steps.

#### 6. Cooperation with other committees and organizations

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 8 April, noon–1 p.m.*

14. The Committee will discuss opportunities for cooperation with other implementation and compliance bodies, in particular the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health.

<sup>2</sup> ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2022/4, para. 19.

## **7. Promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 8 April, 3–3.30 p.m.*

15. The Committee will be briefed on the side event “Learn more about the Implementation Committee”, organized in the framework of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties in Ljubljana, on 23 October 2024, by Committee members who contributed to the event.

16. On the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat, the Committee will discuss and finalize the awareness-raising brochure about the Committee.

17. The Committee members will share information on, and discuss future possibilities for, the promotion of the mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance.

## **8. Programme of work and calendar for the next meetings**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 8 April, 3.30–4 p.m.*

18. At its tenth session, the Meeting of the Parties, through its decision X/1 on general issues of implementation (ECE/MP.WAT/75/Add.2, forthcoming), invited the Committee to: undertake a stocktaking exercise, in the upcoming or the following intersessional period, to reflect on lessons learned in the Committee’s work since the establishment of the mechanism to support implementation and compliance; discuss the functions and mandate of the Committee in the light of the Convention’s globalization; and, engage with the Parties in the stocktaking exercise process. In this regard, the Committee will exchange initial views on the possible modalities for such an exercise.

19. The Committee will agree on issues for consideration at its next meetings and on the dates and location of its nineteenth meeting.

## **9. Any other business**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 8 April, 4–4.05 p.m.*

20. The Committee will discuss other matters, as proposed by its members.

## **10. Presentation of the main decisions taken, modalities for preparation of the meeting report and closing of the session**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 8 April, 4.05–4.15 p.m.*

21. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting.

22. The Committee will agree on the modalities for the preparation and adoption of the report on its eighteenth meeting before the Chair formally closes the session.

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