



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

### Fifth session

Geneva, 21 November 2025

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**Opening of the general segment and adoption of the agenda**

## Annotated provisional agenda for the fifth session

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Friday, 21 November 2025\***

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the general segment and adoption of the agenda.
2. Status of ratification of the Protocol.
3. Promotion and capacity-building:
  - (a) Coordination mechanisms and synergies;
  - (b) Subregional and national activities.

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\* The fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers will be held back-to-back with the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (17–19 November 2025). The Joint High-level Segment of the two Meetings of the Parties will take place on 20 November 2025. A provisional agenda for the Joint High-level Segment will be provided as a separate document. More information is available on a web page dedicated to the two sessions: <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/MoP8-MoPP5-JHLS>.



4. Reporting and compliance mechanisms:
  - (a) Reporting mechanism;
  - (b) Compliance mechanism.
5. Development of the Protocol and modernization of pollutant release and transfer registers.
6. Programme of work and operation of the Protocol:
  - (a) Implementation of the work programme for 2022–2025;
  - (b) Future work programme for 2026–2029;
  - (c) Financial arrangements.
7. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau.
8. Date and venue of the sixth ordinary session.
9. Any other business.
10. Review and adoption of decisions.
11. Closure of the meeting.

## II. Annotations

The fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers will take place on 21 November 2025, in Geneva. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) will hold its eighth session from 17 to 19 November 2025, in Geneva. The Joint High-level Segment of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers will take place on 20 November 2025. The approval of a report on credentials with regard to the Protocol's Parties, to be presented orally by the officers in accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure (see ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2/Add.1, decision I/1, annex), will take place at the Joint High-level Segment under agenda item 2.

In addition to documents addressing particular issues or themes under specific items, two documents produced by the secretariat will provide relevant background information for many of the items to be considered in the general segment and will therefore not be repeated after each item as background documentation unless specifically under consideration. These are:

- (a) Synthesis report on the status of implementation of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/6);
- (b) Report on the implementation of the work programme of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2022–2025 (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/3).

In addition, individual national implementation reports, which are available from the Protocol website,<sup>1</sup> may also provide useful background information for a number of the agenda items.

### 1. Opening of the general segment and adoption of the agenda

*Timing: 10–10.10 a.m.*

The Chair of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) will open the

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://prtr.unece.org/national-reports/reports>.

session. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to adopt the agenda for its fifth session as set out in the present document.

### **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifth session (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/1)

## **2. Status of ratification of the Protocol**

*Timing: 10.10–10.20 a.m.*

The secretariat will inform participants about the status of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession with respect to the Protocol. Delegations will be invited to report on recent or anticipated developments in that regard. The current status of ratification of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers is available online.<sup>2</sup>

## **3. Promotion and capacity-building**

### **(a) Coordination mechanisms and synergies**

*Timing: 10.20–10.50 a.m.*

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider potential areas for cooperation with partner organizations, including with other United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) multilateral environmental agreements. In that connection, it will be informed of the relevant activities carried out, in particular, by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Working Party on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, as well as by other organizations.

### **Documentation**

Report on the fourth Global Round Table on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/5)

Report on the implementation of the work programme of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2022–2025 (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/3)

### **(b) Subregional and national activities**

*Timing: 10.50–11.05 a.m.*

Representatives of Parties, signatories and other interested States, in particular those from countries with economies in transition, and other relevant stakeholders will be invited to share their views on outstanding needs and priorities for capacity-building related to pollutant release and transfer registers.

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to take note of the ongoing and planned capacity-building activities and to provide guidance on the future direction of such activities.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Working Group of the Parties on its ninth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2022/2)

Report of the Working Group of the Parties on its tenth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2023/2)

Report of the Working Group of the Parties on its eleventh meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2024/2)

<sup>2</sup> See [unece.org/environment-policy/public-participation/aarhus-convention/status-ratification](https://unece.org/environment-policy/public-participation/aarhus-convention/status-ratification).

Report on the implementation of the work programme of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2022–2025 (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/3)

#### **4. Reporting and compliance mechanisms**

##### **(a) Reporting mechanism**

*Timing: 11.05–11.45 a.m.*

The Chair of the Compliance Committee will present a synthesis report on the status of implementation of the Protocol. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider and review the implementation of the Protocol on the basis of the national implementation reports submitted by Parties and the synthesis report.

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider and provisionally adopt a draft decision on reporting requirements.

##### **Documentation**

Synthesis report on the status of implementation of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/6)

Draft decision V/1 on reporting requirements (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/7)

##### **(b) Compliance mechanism**

*Timing: 11.45 a.m.–12.30 p.m.*

The Chair of the Compliance Committee will report on the Committee's activities since the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 21–22 October 2021).

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to take note of the Chair's report.

The Meeting of the Parties is also expected to elect the Compliance Committee members, taking note of the status of membership as set out in the note by the secretariat on the subject.

##### **Documentation**

Report of the Compliance Committee on its eleventh meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2021/6)

Report of the Compliance Committee on its twelfth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2022/2)

Report of the Compliance Committee on its thirteenth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2023/2)

Report of the Compliance Committee on its fourteenth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2024/2)

Report of the Compliance Committee on its fifteenth meeting (ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2025/2, forthcoming)

Membership of the Compliance Committee (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2024/5)

#### **5. Development of the Protocol and modernization of pollutant release and transfer registers**

*Timing: 12.30–1 p.m. and 3–3.30 p.m.*

Parties and stakeholders will be invited to share and discuss relevant activities regarding developments concerning pollutant release and transfer register systems.

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider and provisionally adopt a draft decision on furthering modernization of pollutant release and transfer registers, their global promotion and synergy.

**Documentation**

Draft decision V/2 on furthering modernization of pollutant release and transfer registers, their global promotion and synergy (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/8)

**6. Programme of work and operation of the Protocol****(a) Implementation of the work programme for 2022–2025**

*Timing: 3.30–3.45 p.m.*

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to review the implementation of the Protocol's current work programme (ECE/MP.PRTR/2021/6/Add.1, decision IV/3, annex) on the basis of reports prepared by the secretariat.

**Documentation**

Report on the implementation of the work programme of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2022–2025 (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/3)

Report on contributions and expenditures in relation to the implementation of the Protocol's work programme for 2022–2025 (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/4)

**(b) Future work programme for 2026–2029**

*Timing: 3.45–4.05 p.m.*

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider and provisionally adopt the draft decision on the work programme for 2026–2029.

**Documentation**

Draft decision V/3 on the work programme for 2026–2029 for the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/9)

**(c) Financial arrangements**

*Timing: 4.05–4.25 p.m.*

Delegations will be invited to make pledges to support implementation of the work programme. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to consider and provisionally adopt a draft decision on financial arrangements.

**Documentation**

Draft decision V/4 on financial arrangements under the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/2025/10)

**7. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau**

*Timing: 4.25–4.40 p.m.*

The Meeting of the Parties is expected to elect a chair and two vice-chairs from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure (see ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2/Add.1, decision I/1, annex). It is also expected that the Meeting of the Parties will elect the remaining members of the Bureau from among the representatives of the Parties, in accordance with rule 22, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure. In addition, pursuant to paragraph 2 of decision I/1, non-governmental organizations are expected to appoint representatives to attend the meetings of the Bureau, as observers.

## **8. Date and venue of the sixth ordinary session**

*Timing: 4.40–4.45 p.m.*

The Meeting of the Parties is expected to consider the options with respect to the date and venue of its sixth ordinary session, bearing in mind the requirement under article 17 of the Protocol that ordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties are to be held sequentially with or parallel to ordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention, unless otherwise decided by the Parties to the Protocol.

## **9. Any other business**

*Timing: 4.45–4.50 p.m.*

Delegations wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

## **10. Review and adoption of decisions**

*Timing: 5.15–5.50 p.m.<sup>3</sup>*

The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to review and formally adopt the draft decisions referred to under the preceding agenda items.

## **11. Closure of the meeting**

*Timing: 5.50–6 p.m.*

Following the adoption of decisions by the Meeting of the Parties, the Chair will officially close the meeting.

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<sup>3</sup> There will be a coffee break between 4.50 p.m. and 5.15 p.m. to finalize the list of decisions. To ensure equal opportunities for English-, French- and Russian-speaking delegations while saving paper, the draft text of the meeting decisions and outcomes will be projected on a screen around 45 minutes before the close of the meeting, and will be presented by the Chair verbally, thereby allowing for interpretation. The list of decisions will be distributed to participants by email after the meeting.