

## ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

### WORK PROGRAMME

Version of December 2021

#### ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE TASK FORCE MANDATE:

NO.	ACTIVITY	DEADLINE	ACTIVITIES (DETAILS)	DELIVERABLE	TASK LEADER	REMARKS
<b>I. Meetings</b>						
1.	23 <sup>rd</sup> Task Force meeting	April 2022 (online, half-day)	Exchange on LCPD Workshop on ELD	Minutes of the meeting	ECS	
2.	24 <sup>th</sup> Task Force meeting	September 2022 (online, half-day)	EIAs and SEAs Transposition, implementation and enforcement Exchange of experience of the EIA WG	Minutes of the meeting	ECS	
3.	25 <sup>th</sup> Task Force meeting	April 2023 (online, half-day)	Exchange on LCPD reporting experience and results	Minutes of the meeting	ECS	
4.	26 <sup>th</sup> Task Force meeting	September 2023 (online, half-day)	Workshop on Climate Change and Biodiversity in EIA and SEA reports	Minutes of the meeting	ECS	
<b>II. Implementation report</b>						

1.	Submission of questionnaires for 2022 Implementation Report	May 2022	Task Force members are required to report on developments and current status on the transposition and implementation of all pieces of the environmental <i>acquis</i> .	Filled-in questionnaire	Contracting Parties	
2.	Meeting with the CSOs input to the 2022 Implementation Report	June 2022	CSO representatives are invited to share and elaborate on concerns on transposition and implementation of all pieces of the environmental <i>acquis</i>		CSOs	
3.	Submission of questionnaires for 2023 Implementation Report	May 2023	Task Force members are required to report on developments and current status on the transposition and implementation of all pieces of the environmental <i>acquis</i> .	Filled-in questionnaire	Contracting Parties	
4.	Meeting with the CSOs input to the 2023 Implementation Report	June 2023	CSO representatives are invited to share and elaborate on concerns on transposition and implementation of all pieces of the environmental <i>acquis</i>		CSOs	
<b>III. Topic: Large Combustion Plants / Air Quality</b>						
1.	Reporting of 2021 emissions	March 2022	Contracting Parties to report their emissions data for the reporting year 2021 to the online database of the European Environment Agency.	Datasets	Contracting Parties/EEA	ECS assistance where necessary

2.	Preparation of summary report of emissions from LCPs in the 2021 reporting year	May 2022	The Secretariat will compile and assess the information reported by Contracting Parties in the 2022 reporting round (the period covered: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021), also in light of the NERP and opt-out implementation alternatives.	Report (to be presented as part of the 2022 IR)	ECS	
3.	Evaluation of Clean Air Regions Initiative	May 2022	Based on the contributions provided by the Contracting Parties and regions, measures are to be identified to ameliorate the situation of air quality, based on the examples and best practices from the clean air regions.	Report	ECS/Contracting Parties	
4.	Reporting of 2022 emissions	March 2023	Contracting Parties to report their emissions data for the reporting year 2021 to the online database of the European Environment Agency.	Datasets	Contracting Parties/EEA	
5.	Preparation of summary report of emissions from LCPs in the 2022 reporting year	May 2023	The Secretariat will compile and assess the information reported by Contracting Parties in the 2023 reporting round (the period covered: 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022), also in light of the NERP and opt-out implementation alternatives.	Report (to be presented as part of the 2023 IR)	ECS	

6.	Stocktaking on MCPs	December 2022	Information necessary for assessing the magnitude and current status of plants that would be concerned by the MCP Directive in the Contracting Parties	Information on the number of MCPs in the Contracting Party	Contracting Parties	
<b>IV. Theme: Environmental Assessment (EIA &amp;SEA)</b>						
1.	Environmental impact assessment	Continuous	The Task Force has to continuously take stock of the status of Network Energy-related EIAs in the Contracting Parties and also has to follow the work under the Aarhus Convention.	Information to be provided by Task Force members.	Contracting Parties	
2.	Strategic environmental assessment	Continuous	The Task Force has to continuously take stock of the status of Network Energy-related SEAs in the Contracting Parties.	Information to be provided by Task Force members.	Contracting Parties	
3.	Assist in drafting EIA legislation	Continuous	Breach has been established under Article 91 of the Energy Community Treaty for not transposing the Directive 2014/52/EU for the following CP: North Macedonia, Serbia and Moldova.  The Secretariat will closely cooperate and assist the CPs in the preparation of new legislation.		ECS	

			<p>The Secretariat will further assist Kosovo in revising and finalizing the draft EIA law.</p> <p>The Secretariat will continue its communication with Albania, Ukraine and BiH concerning the identified shortcomings in the EIA legislation.</p>			
4.	SEA and NECP training	December 2022	New Governance Regulation was adopted (2021/14/MC Decision) obliging the CP to prepare National Energy and Climate Plans. Due to the interlinkage of the NECP process and the obligations for SEA for energy plans the Secretariat together with the European Commission (Dg environment) will conduct a thematic training on the obligations under the SEA Directive and the NECP.		ECS/EC	
5.	Assist in review of the SEA report for the NECPs	Continuous	Secretariat will assist the CP in aligning the Sea reports for the NECPs with the SEA Directive		ECS	
6	Transboundary EIA/SEA Training and cooperation	May 2022	In order to strengthen the cooperation and secure proper implementation of the transboundary impact assessment (as foreseen both by the EIA Directive and SEA Directive), specific training for capacity building will be	Training materials, EIA/SEA Transboundary Platform	ECS, Montenegro	

			organized (initiated by Montenegro). The training will also aim to establish a transboundary EIA/SEA platform for easy information and data sharing among CPs.			
<b>V. Other</b>						
1.	Updates to existing pieces of EU environmental law covered by the Energy Community Treaty	January 2022 – November 2022	<p>Proposal for a Decision of the Ministerial Council to implement Chapters II and IV and Annex VI of the IED (follow-up to Recommendation 2018/3/MC-EnC)</p> <p>EU legislation on wild birds has significantly advanced since the adoption of the Energy Community Treaty. The Treaty, however, still covers this directive in its 2006 form and to a very limited extent.</p> <p>The Air Quality Directive has prominent links to air pollution arising from the energy sector.</p> <p>Certain provisions of the Water Framework Directive bear direct relevance for hydropower.</p>	<p>Proposal for Ministerial Council decisions</p> <p>Development of Policy Guidelines for the implementation of the Wild Birds Directive</p>	<p>COM</p> <p>ECS</p>	With ECS assistance

			The Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive has direct relevance for Network Energy.			
2.	Wild Birds Directive (list of protected species in CP)	September 2022	Information submitted to be used in the discussions related to nature protection.		Contracting Parties	
3.	Update - Wild Birds Directive (list of protected species in CP)	September 2023	Information submitted to be used in the discussions related to nature protection.		Contracting Parties	
4.	Workshop on Environmental Liability Directive case law with national judges and the inspectorate	October 2023	The transposition and implementation of the ELD is complex and involve different stakeholders. Both, the administrative authorities and the judicial authorities have responsibilities for full and proper enforcement. The goal of the workshop is to familiarize the judges with the ELD.		ECS / Contracting Parties	Together with the Judicial Academies or the Association of Judges
5.	Sulphur in Fuels	October 2022	Following the entry into force of the global 0.50% sulphur cap in maritime transport on 1 January 2020 and the related provisions of the Directive, Contracting Parties are also obliged to implement it in their jurisdictions. The topic shall feature on the agenda of the Task Force meeting and – if necessary – a separate,	Contracting Parties to submit information on compliance.	Contracting Parties	

			topical online workshop has to take place.			
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