



**Sixth Meeting of the Preparatory Committee  
for the sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP6) to the Tehran Convention  
Baku, 24-28 September 2018**

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

<b>Monday, 24 September 2018</b>
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- 10:00 – 10:15 - Registration and opening of the meeting
- Adoption of the agenda
- 10:15 – 11:30 - Management and Administration of the Tehran Convention Secretariat (TC/PrepCom6/1; TC/COP6/7)
- The Meeting is invited to consider the Note by TCIS on the Management and Administration of the Tehran Convention Secretariat, and:
- review and finalize the text of the Memorandum concerning the management and administration of the Convention Secretariat, contained in Annex I of the Note, for submission, approval and signature at COP6;
  - confirm and submit the Terms of Reference of the Convention Trust Fund as contained in Annex I of document TC/COP6/7 to COP6 for approval;
  - review the budget of the Trust Fund as contained in Annex II of document TC/COP6/7 and request TCIS to update it for approval by COP6;
  - request UN Environment to finalize the selection of the Executive Secretary of the Convention for appointment by COP6;
  - urge Azerbaijan and UN Environment to finalize the Host Country Agreement for signing at COP6
- 11:30 – 12:00 - *Coffee break*
- 12:00 – 13:00 - *Continued: Management and Administration of the Tehran Convention Secretariat*
- 13:00 – 14:30 - *Lunch break*
- 14:30 – 16:00 - *Continued: Management and Administration of the Tehran Convention Secretariat*
- 16:00 – 16:30 - *Coffee break*
- 16:30 – 18:00 - *Continued: Management and Administration of the Tehran Convention Secretariat*



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**Tuesday, 25 September 2018**

10:00 – 11:30 - *Parallel meeting: Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*  
For the annotated agenda of the WGMA see Annex I

11:30 – 12:00 - *Coffee break*

12:00 – 13:00 - *Continued: Parallel meeting WGMA*

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10:00 – 11:30 - Aktau Protocol (TC/COP6/17)

The Meeting is invited to review, discuss and agree on the Caspian Sea Plan Concerning Regional Cooperation in Combating Oil Pollution in Cases of Emergency, as well as on the other issues and proposals in document TC/COP6/10, for submission and approval by COP6

11:30 -- 12:00 - *Coffee break*

12:00 -- 13:00 - *Continued. Aktau Protocol*

13:00 – 14:30 - *Lunch break*

14:30 – 15:00 - Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (TC/COP6/11)

The Meeting will be informed of the outcome of the Meeting of the WGMA and consider the recommendations of the Working Group for the Convention process and decisions, as well as the suggested action in document TC/COP6/11, for submission and approval by COP6

15:00 – 16:00 - State of Environment Report (TC/COP6/5)

The Meeting is invited to consider the draft of the second State of the Caspian Sea Environment report, prepared with the financial support of British Petroleum Exploration (Caspian Sea) Limited, and address the questions and proposals in document TC/COP6/5 concerning the status, publication and dissemination of the report, for consideration and approval by COP6

16:00 – 16:30 - *Coffee break*

16:30 – 17:30 - Caspian Environment Information Center (TC/COP6/16)

The Meeting will be updated on the state of the Caspian Environment Information



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Centre in the context of the project supported by British Petroleum Exploration (Caspian Sea) Limited and is invited to consider the proposals and recommendations in document TC/COP6/16, including related proposals for the establishment of a monitoring data center by the WGMA, for submission and approval by COP6.

17:30 – 18:00 - Unified Reporting Format (TC/COP6/13)

The Meeting is invited to consider the Unified Reporting Format contained in Annex I of document TC/COP6/13, for submission and approval by COP6. The Meeting is furthermore invited to consider the need and possibilities for updating the Strategic Convention Action Plan (SCAP) adopted by COP2, 12 November 2008, as a comprehensive, long term agenda and framework for the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols over a period of 10 years.

**Wednesday, 26 September 2018**

10:00 – 10:30 - *Status of the ratification of the Moscow, Ashgabat and EIA Protocols*

The Depository – IR Iran – is invited to report on the status of ratification of the Moscow, Ashgabat and EIA Protocols; the representatives of the Contracting Parties which have not yet ratified one or more of the Protocols may provide information as to the timing and possible – additional - requirements that need to be met in order to secure ratification.

10:30 – 11:30 - Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange (TC/COP6/4)

The Meeting is invited to continue and finalize the review of the text of the Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange as contained in document TC/COP6/4, for consideration and approval by the COP.

11:30 – 12:00 - *Coffee break*

12:00 – 13:00 - *Continued: Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange*

13:00 – 14:30 - *Lunch break*

14:30 – 16:00 - *Continued: Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange*

16:00 – 16:30 - *Coffee break*

16:30 – 18:00 - *Continued: Protocol on Monitoring, Assessment and Information Exchange*



Tehran Convention

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**Thursday, 27 September 2018**

- 10:00 – 10:30 - Outcomes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties, Moscow, Russian Federation, 19-20 July 2018 (TC/COP6/Info1)

The Meeting is invited to consider the outcomes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Moscow, Russian Federation, 19-20 July 2018, as contained in document TC/COP6/Info1, and provide guidance as to the implications for the Convention process and Programme of Work (POW).

- 10:30 – 11:30 - Status of the preparatory work for the implementation of the Moscow, Ashgabat and EIA Protocol (TC/COP6/Info3)

TCIS will inform and the Meeting may review and provide guidance on the implementation activities of the Moscow, Ashgabat and EIA Protocols, which are planned and programmed in the POW.

- 11:30 – 12:00 - *Coffee break*

- 12:00 – 12:30 - Terms of Reference NCLOs (TC/COP6/6)

The Meeting is invited to confirm agreement with the terms of reference and arrangements for National Convention Liaison Officers (NCLO), as contained in document TC/COP6/6, for submission and endorsement by COP6

- 12:30 – 13:00 - Programme of Work and budget (POW) (TC/COP6/8)

The Meeting is invited to consider and approve the POW and budget, as contained in Annex 1 and 2 of document TC/COP6/8, for submission and approval by COP6.

The Meeting may furthermore discuss and provide guidance as to how to increase the human and financial resources available for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, for consideration and decision by COP6.

- 13:00 – 14:30 - *Lunch break*

- 14:30 – 16:00 - Ongoing project preparations and other possibilities for cooperation (TC/COP6/Info2)

The meeting will be informed of the projects which are under consideration or in preparation and is invited to provide guidance as to their finalization and implementation.



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16:00 – 16:30 - *Coffee break*

16:30 – 18:00 - Private Sector and Stakeholder Engagement (TC/COP6/12; TC/COP6/15)

The Meeting will be informed of the outcomes of Caspian Day related meetings and activities (TC/COP6/12), and of the Round Table in Bandar Anzali on collaboration with the private sector (TC/COP6/15) and is invited to provide guidance as to their follow-up.

<b>Friday, 28 September 2018</b>
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10:00 – 11:30 - Ministerial Statement and Decisions (TC/COP6/10)

The Meeting is invited to review and agree on the Ministerial Statement and Decisions, for submission and approval by COP6

11:30 – 12:00 - *Coffee break*

12:00 – 13:00 - *Continued:* Ministerial Statement and Decisions

13:00 – 14:30 - *Lunch Break*

14:30 – 16:00 - *Continued:* Ministerial Statement and Decisions

16:00 – 16:30 - *Coffee break*

16:30 – 17:30 - Dates and provisional agenda COP6 (TC/COP6/1; TC/COP/6/1/Add3)

The Meeting is invited to agree on the dates and provisional agenda for COP6

17:30 – 18:00 - Wrap-up and closure of the meeting



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Annex I

**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment**  
*A tentative annotated agenda*

Acting Chair will introduce the draft agenda of the meeting and propose to focus on the issues which have not been resolved at the previous meetings or emerged in the intersessional period like an Iranian proposal related to the Regional Water Quality Standards. The WGMA will be invited to adopt the agenda.

**Review of draft 2-d SOE report**

Acting Chair will remind that guiding production of SOE report is a part of the WGMA responsibilities and remind that the draft SOE-2 report was forwarded to the group members in advance. Valentin Yemelin (Grid Arendal) may address the WGMA and indicate if/where/when further inputs in the SOE report preparations are needed. After that the WGMA members will be invited to comment on the draft SOE-2 and decide what steps may be taken to meet the Grid Arendal requirements in respect to SOE-2.

**Caspian Environment Monitoring Program (EMP)**

Acting Chair will remind the group of its previous recommendation to the Secretariat to initiate a survey aiming at identifying the country's efforts to start the EMP implementation in the near future. He will also suggest developing a map displaying national monitoring networks of all the Caspian littoral states with a special indication of stations intended to serve as EMP stations. Such a map could be developed by the Russian Federation provided that the necessary data comes from other Parties. The WGMA will be invited to

- reiterate its earlier request to the Secretariat to initiate a survey aiming at identifying the country's efforts to start the EMP implementation in the near future;
- decide on production of a map of the Caspian Regional Monitoring System as a collection of the national monitoring networks.
- assist in indicating where reporting on these country's efforts fits in the unified reporting format which COP6 is going to adopt.

**Caspian Regional Water Quality Standards**

Acting Chair will remind the group that IR of Iran proposed to include additional parameters to the earlier agreed list of the Caspian Regional Water Quality Standards and that the group members have been earlier informed of this Iran's initiative accordingly. Kazakhstan and Russian Federation only to respond positively to this information so far. The Acting Chair will then invite

- Iran to introduce the item in more detail and
- Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan to express their opinion on the issue.

**Caspian Regional Sediment Quality Criteria (Guidelines)**

The Acting Chair will remind that the previous WGMA meetings took note of the basis for establishing bottom sediment criteria with a special reference to Dutch and Canadian bottom sediment quality criteria (guidelines) and reviewed a set of values merging the two types of criteria as proposed by Dr. Ostrovskaya (CASPCOM). However, it was agreed that it was too early to make a final decision on the Caspian Regional bottom Sediment Quality Criteria (guidelines) and recommended that the existing bottom sediment data from various Caspian Sea regions were to be examined against the proposed set of draft criterion values. Dr. Ostrovskaya prepared a document on such a comparison. The WGMA will be invited to draw



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conclusions from this material and decide on further steps to be taken to arrive at the common list of bottom sediment quality criteria (guidelines).

**Procedures for monitoring data exchange**

Under this item, the WGMA will be invited to address three issues on which no agreement has been reached at the previous meetings.

*Minimum data quality control procedures to be applied at the national level prior to data submission.* The WGMA will be invited to provide further comments on the Black Sea Commission document describing these procedures which was earlier proposed to serve as a model for a similar Tehran Convention document.

*Data submission formats.* The relevant formats applied by the Black Sea Commission had been distributed among the group members but due to time shortage, the group could not conclude on their applicability to the Caspian Sea conditions. Thus, WGMA will be invited to provide comments on the proposed data submission formats.

**Caspian Regional Monitoring Data Centre**

Acting Chair will remind the previous discussions on the organization which will serve as the Caspian Regional Monitoring Data Centre with a responsibility for initial data accumulation, checking, compiling and managing. The WGMA assisted by Grid Arendal and CASPCOM will be invited to express views on institutional setting and terms of reference of a Regional Monitoring Data Centre, as well as its role and place within the implementation of the EMP. The WGMA is expected to agree on general requirements to Regional Monitoring Data Centre, propose candidate organizations to fulfil its duties, and a generic budget estimation of the annual costs of its operation.