

**PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
DECREE**

July 6, 2021, N719 -A

**ON ESTABLISHING AN INTER-AGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PARIS AGREEMENT,
APPROVING ITS COMPOSITION AND RULES OF PROCEDURE, AND ON INVALIDATING
DECREE N955- A OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA DATED
OCTOBER 2, 2012**

In accordance with Article 7, Part 16 of the Law “On the structure and activities of the Government”, Article 37 of the Law “On Normative Legal Acts”, Section 4.8 of the Annex to the Decree N 65-A of the Government of the Republic of Armenia dated February 8, 2019, Clause 90.3 of Annex N1 to the Decree N 650-L of the Government of the Republic of Armenia dated May 16, 2019, and the obligations undertaken by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and by the provisions of Paris Agreement:

1. To establish an Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on implementation of requirements and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the Council).
2. To approve:
 - 1) The composition of the Council, in accordance with Annex N 1;
 - 2) The rules of procedure of the Council, in accordance with Annex N 2.
3. To the Acting Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia:
 - 1) To approve the individual composition of the Council within a 3-month period;
 - 2) To establish standing inter-agency working groups within a 3-month period, with a view of ensuring the professional and expert operations of the Council, to approve their compositions and rules of procedure.
4. To the Acting Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia- within a 1-month period to appoint a relevant structural subdivision within the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia to function as the Secretariat of the Council.
5. To the heads of state authorities involved in the Council composition - within a 3-month period following the entry into force of this Decree, to inform the Acting Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia of the appointment of their representatives in the Council.
6. To invalidate the Decree N955-A of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia dated October 2, 2012 "On Approving the Composition and Rules of Procedure of the

Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Implementation of Requirements and Provisions of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change ".

Nikol Pashinyan

COMPOSITION
OF THE INTER-AGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON IMPLEMENTATION OF
REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PARIS AGREEMENT

Acting RA Deputy Prime Minister (Coordinating environmental issues) (Chairperson of the Council)
Acting RA Minister of Environment (Deputy Chairperson of the Council)
RA Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Affairs
RA Deputy Minister of Health
RA Deputy Minister of Justice
RA Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations
RA Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
RA Deputy Minister of High Technological Industry
RA Deputy Minister of Economy
RA Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
Two RA Deputy Ministers of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure (responsible for energy and territorial development matters)
RA Deputy Minister of Finance
Deputy Head of the Real Estate Cadastre Committee
Member of the State Council of Statistics
Deputy Chairperson of the Urban Development Committee
Chairperson of the Tourism Committee of the RA Ministry of Economy
Representative of the Public Services Regulatory Commission (by consent)
National Focal Point of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (by consent)
Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program in Armenia (by consent)

HEAD OF STAFF OF THE PRIME MINISTER
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

A. HARUTYUNYAN

RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE INTER-AGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON IMPLEMENTATION OF
REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE PARIS AGREEMENT

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The purpose of the establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on implementation of requirements and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention “On Climate Change” and the Paris Agreement is to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Armenia by the United Nations Framework Convention “On Climate Change” (hereinafter referred to as the Convention); coordination of the “Nationally Determined Contributions” of the republic of Armenia under the Paris Agreement for the years 2021–2030, as approved by the Decree N610–L of the Government of the Republic of Armenia dated April 22, 2021; implementation of the 13th Goal of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Climate Action), as well as implementation of the Clause 90.3 of Annex N1 to the Decree N 650–L of the Government of the Republic of Armenia dated May 16, 2019.

CHAPTER 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNCIL

2. The objectives of the Council are:

- 1) to coordinate the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Armenia deriving from the Convention and the Paris Agreement;
- 2) to regularly review the reports by the National Coordinator of the Convention and the Paris Agreement;
- 3) to make recommendations and provide consultation in relation to the measures for fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Armenia deriving from the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including – in relation to the development of innovative financial instruments on climate change;
- 4) to evaluate the progress and results towards fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Armenia and provisions deriving from the Convention and the Paris Agreement of the Convention.
- 5) to coordinate and control the adaptation and climate change mitigation measures at national level, as deriving from Nationally Determined Contributions of the Republic of Armenia under the Convention;
- 6) to submit recommendations to the relevant state and local self-government authorities, academic community, non-governmental organizations, legal entities representing in the relevant areas, related to the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by the Republic of Armenia deriving from the Convention and the Paris Agreement;
- 7) to approve annual report on the Council activities;

8) to accept the reports on the results of the activities of the standing and ad-hoc inter-agency working groups.

CHAPTER 3. STRUCTURE OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS POWERS

3. The Council is comprised of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, the members of the Council, Standing working groups and the Secretariat.

4. Ad-hoc working groups may be established by the decision of the Chairperson of the Council, to address specific issues deriving from the competence of the Council.

5. The Acting Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia is the Chairperson of the Council.

6. The Chairperson of the Council:

- 1) coordinates the activities of the Council;
- 2) exercises control over the implementation of the Council's decisions;
- 3) convenes Council's routine and extraordinary sessions;
- 4) chairs the Council sessions;
- 5) approves the draft agenda of the Council session, signs the minutes of the Council session;
- 6) gives instructions to the members of the Council;
- 7) adopts a decision on establishing an ad-hoc inter-agency working group, approving its composition and rules of procedure;
- 8) adopts a decision on the composition of representatives of state and local self-government authorities, as well as other legal entities and individuals who are invited to the Council sessions in the observer capacity;
- 9) exercises other powers established by this Decree.

7. In the absence of the Chairperson of the Council, the powers of the Chairperson of the Council shall be exercised by the Deputy Chairperson of the Council.

8. Member of the Council:

- 1) acts in the capacity of the one who prepares and reports on an issue, as assigned (recommended) by the Chairperson of the Council;
- 2) submits an opinion, recommendation, report or other necessary sector-related information on the activities of the agency he/she represents, as assigned (recommended) by the Chairperson of the Council, or on his/her own initiative;
- 3) speaks on the issues under discussion and addresses questions to the speakers;
- 4) submits a proposal on the agenda of the session;
- 5) submits a recommendation to the Chairperson of the Council to convene an extraordinary session;

- 6) submits a recommendation on the establishment of an ad-hoc inter-agency working group;
- 7) submits a recommendation to invite representatives of state and local self-government authorities, as well as representatives of other legal entities and individuals to the Council sessions in the observer capacity;
- 8) Informs the head of the agency (organization) he/she represents about the issues discussed in the Council.
9. Member of the Council is accountable to the Chairperson of the Council.

CHAPTER 4. INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUPS

10. To ensure the efficiency of the Council's activities, to provide professional, expert support (consultations, recommendations, conclusions, opinions, reports) on sector-specific and cross-sectoral issues, standing inter-agency working groups are established adjunct to the Council, the composition, scope of competence of which is approved by the Chairperson of the Council.
11. The following constitute standing inter-agency working groups:
 - 1) the inter-agency working group on national reporting commitments under the Convention;
 - 2) the inter-agency working group on climate change mitigation and adaptation;
 - 3) the inter-agency working group on financing issues.
12. An ad-hoc interagency working group is established to provide professional, expert support (consultations, recommendations, conclusions, opinions, reports) to the Council in relation to specific issues which are not within the competence of the standing interagency working groups. The ad-hoc interagency working group is liquidated after having fulfilled its objective.
13. Standing and ad-hoc inter-agency working groups shall be accountable to the Chairperson of the Council and the Council.

CHAPTER 5. THE SECRETARIAT

14. The Secretariat:
 - 1) carries out the administrative coordination of the Council and day-to-day routine support of the Council's activities;
 - 2) fulfils organizational activities related to convening Council sessions;
 - 3) prepares the draft agenda of the Council session;
 - 4) keeps the minutes of the Council session;

- 5) publicizes the Council's activities in accordance with the procedure established by this Decree, by publishing the minutes, the reports on the official website of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia and providing them to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia coordinating the environmental issues for publication on the official website of the Government of the Republic of Armenia.
 - 6) arranges and conducts correspondence and exchange of other documents between the Chairperson of the Council, members of the Council, inter-agency working groups, state and local self-government authorities, as well as other legal entities and individuals;
 - 7) prepares the annual report on the Council's activities.
15. The functions of the Secretariat shall be performed by the relevant structural subdivision of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia assigned by the Acting Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 6. ORGANIZING THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

16. The Council organizes its work through sessions, which shall be convened at least once every six months. Council sessions can also be held remotely using contemporary means of communication. If necessary, an extraordinary session may be convened on the initiative of the Chairperson of the Council.
17. The Council session is valid if more than half of the members of the Council participate. In the absence of a quorum, a new session is convened within a week.
18. Decisions of the Council are adopted by a simple majority of votes of the members of the Council present at the session.
19. Each member of the Council has one vote during the voting. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson of the Council shall have the decisive vote.
20. By the recommendation of the members of the Council and by the decision of the Chairperson of the Council, representatives of other state authorities, professionals on the issues included in the agenda of the Council, experts of inter-agency working groups, representatives of scientific, educational, international, non-commercial and commercial organizations, as well as mass media, may be invited.

CHAPTER 7. THE PROCEDURE OF HOLDING THE SESSIONS

21. Council sessions shall be held according to the agenda approved by the Council. The Chairperson of the Council determines the venue, date and time of holding the Council session.
22. The agenda of the Council session shall indicate:
- 1) the venue, date and time of holding the Council session;

2) the modality of holding the Council session – in-person or remote;

3) the issues to be discussed;

4) Each issue under discussion, the name and surname of the reporter.

23. Recommendations on including issues on the agenda of the Council session may be made by members of the Council, heads of inter-agency working groups, as well as state and local self-government authorities.

24. At least 5 working days prior to the session, the Secretariat shall send (provide) the draft agenda of the session, the required documents related to the issues to be discussed and other information to the members of the Council and other invited persons.

CHAPTER 8. PROCEDURE FOR RECORDING SESSION MINUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

25. The minutes of the session shall indicate:

1) the month, the date, the year and the venue of the session, starting time and ending time of the session, and modality of holding the session – in-person or remote;

2) the agenda of the session;

3) the name and surname of the persons participating in the session, invited persons, representatives of inter-agency working groups and organizations;

4) the main provisions of the reports and speeches related to the issues under discussion;

5) voting results and special opinion of the member of the Council (if any), which is attached to the minutes;

6) the decisions adopted, methods of their distribution and publication.

26. Materials related to the issues discussed shall be attached to the minutes of the session, including draft legal acts and other documents (concepts, strategies, communications, reports, etc.), written texts of reports, speeches, recommendations, opinions.

27. The minutes of the Council session shall be signed by the Chairperson of the Council within 3 working days following the session.

28. The minutes of the Council sessions shall be kept in the Secretariat.

CHAPTER 9. DISTRIBUTION AND PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

29. The Secretariat shall send (provide) the minutes of the Council sessions or the extracts from the minutes to all the members of the Council within 5 working days after the session.

30. Decisions adopted by the Council and the summary outcomes of the discussion of the issues included in the agenda of the Council session shall be posted on the official websites of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia within 5 working days after the session.

31. The annual report on the activities of the Council shall be posted on the official websites of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia by January 31 of each following year.

HEAD OF STAFF OF THE PRIME MINISTER
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

A. HARUTYUNYAN