

**Third ECE Regional Implementation Meeting on Sustainable Development
(28-29 January 2008)**

ORGANISATION OF WORK

Outline of the meeting

The meeting will start at 15h00 on 28 January 2008 in Conference Room XIX, Palais des Nations, and continue until 17h30 on 29 January 2008.

28 January

15h00 – 15h30: Opening statement, adoption of agenda and election of officers

The meeting will be opened by Mr. Marek Belka, UNECE Executive Secretary.

Mr. Belka will deliver an opening statement. He will further invite the meeting to adopt its provisional agenda (documents ECE/AC.25/2008/1 and ECE/AC.25/2008/1.Corr.)

Following adoption of the agenda, Mr. Belka will invite to elect a Chair by acclamation.

Proposed Chairperson: Mr. Constantin Mihailescu, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Moldova

The Chair will invite Mr. Ilan Fluss, Counsellor of the Mission of Israel to the United Nations in New York to deliver a key-note address on behalf of Mr. Daniel Carmon, Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in New York, the Vice-Chair of the 16th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the Western European and Others Group.

***15h30 – 18h00: Interactive discussion: Agriculture and Rural Development
(2 ½ hours)***

The session will include four keynote addresses. An interactive discussion will be arranged thereafter. The Chair of the session will summarize the discussion.

Chair of the session: Mr. Manfred Bötsch (Switzerland, Director General, Federal Office for Agriculture)

Keynote addresses:

1. Ms. Colien Hefferan (United States, Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, Department of Agriculture)
2. Mr. Leonard Mizzi (European Commission, Head of Unit, DG Agriculture)
3. Mr. Volker Sasse (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Forestry Officer, FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe,)

4. Ms. Elisabeth Gauffin (Sweden, Vice President, IFAP Development Cooperation Committee, Chair, Swedish Farmers' Federation)

Interactive discussion

29 January

09h30 – 10h30: Interactive discussion: Land Management (1 hour)

The session will include three keynote addresses. An interactive discussion will be arranged thereafter. The Chair of the session will summarize the discussion.

Chair of the session: Mr. Peter Creuzer (Germany, Head, Agency for Geoinformation, Land Development and Real Estate, Hannover)

Keynote addresses:

1. Mr. Marek Bryx (Poland, Head, Warsaw UN-HABITAT Office, on behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure)
2. Mr. Makhmudzhon Khabirov (Tajikistan, Deputy Director, Agency for Land Management, Geodesy and Cartography)
3. Mr. Rune Fjellheim (Denmark, Executive Secretary, Arctic Council - the Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat)

Interactive discussion

10h30 – 12h30: Interactive discussion: Desertification and Drought (2 hours)

The session will include four keynote addresses. An interactive discussion will be arranged thereafter. The Chair of the session will summarize the discussion.

Chair of the session: Mr. Jiri Hlavacek (Czech Republic, Director of Department, Ministry of Environment)

Keynote addresses:

1. Mr. Paolo Soprano (Italy, Head of Division, Directorate General for Development and Environmental Research, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea)
2. Mr. Bakhtioyr Kadyrov (Uzbekistan, Director, Center of Hydrometeorological Service)
3. Mr. Leopoldo Rojo Serrano (Spain, Chief of Service, Ministry of Environment)
4. Mr. Arvid Solheim (Norway, Director, the Development Fund)

Interactive discussion

14h00 – 15h30: Interactive discussion: Africa (1 ½ hours)

The session will include three keynote addresses. An interactive discussion will be arranged thereafter. The Chair of the session will summarize the discussion.

Chair of the session: Mr. Ton Boon von Ochssée (The Netherlands, Ambassador for Sustainable Development)

Keynote addresses:

1. Mr. Josué Dioné (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Director, Food Security & Sustainable Development Division)
2. Mr. Jiri Hlavacek (Czech Republic, Director of Department, Ministry of Environment)
3. Ms. Marta Hirpa (Heifer International, Director of Gender Equity Programme).

Interactive discussion

15h30 – 17h00: Interactive discussion: Cross-cutting Issues (1 ½ hours)

The session will include three keynote addresses. An interactive discussion will be arranged thereafter. The Chair of the session will summarize the discussion.

Chair of the session: Ms. Colien Hefferan (United States, Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, Department of Agriculture)

Keynote addresses:

1. Ms. Nadine GOUZEE (Belgium, Task Force Sustainable Development, Federal Planning Bureau)
2. Ms. Brigita Schmögnerová (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Vice President)
3. Mr. Lucien Royer (France, International Trade Unions Confederation & Trade Union Advisory Council to the OECD, Senior Policy Advisor)

Interactive discussion

17h00 – 17h30: General discussion: Chair’s summary and closure of the Meeting

The Chair will present his summary of the meeting. The final document will be edited after the meeting and submitted as the UNECE regional contribution to CSD-16.

Documentation

The following documents are available at the UNECE website

(http://www.unece.org/env/SustainableDevelopment/3Session/sd_forum.jan2008.htm)

- *Provisional Agenda (ECE/AC.25/2008/1) and corrigendum (ECE/AC.25/2008/1/Corr.1)*
- *Agriculture, rural development, drought, desertification, and land issues affecting sustainable development in the UNECE region: achievements, trends and challenges (ECE/AC.25/2008/3)*
- *Sustainable growth of African agriculture in the context of climate change and desertification (ECE/AC.25/2008/4)*
- *Organization of work.*

Format of the sessions

In order to avoid a sequence of prepared statements, the Chair of each session will attempt to engage delegates in an interactive discussion from the floor.

Reading out of a prepared statement is strongly discouraged; however, written statements can be submitted to the secretariat for posting on the UNECE web-site.

Keynote addresses will be delivered in the beginning of each session. Each keynote address should be between 5 to 7 minutes.

There will not be a formal speakers list. Governments may nevertheless inform the secretariat on their wish to take the floor and intervene in a specific session. This information will be given to the Chair of the session who will then decide on a sequence of speakers. The length of the intervention will be decided upon by the Chair of the session taking into account the actual time available for the discussion and number of delegates requesting the floor.

Expected outcome

The expected outcome will take the form of a Chair's Summary that will focus on particular obstacles encountered and major breakthroughs made regarding the implementation of actions, measures and partnerships related to the priority clusters and cross-cutting issues; on this basis, the summary could also highlight ways to improve the effectiveness of such implementation in the UNECE region and globally.