



**Economic and Social
Council**

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Sixtieth session
(22-25 February 2005)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTIETH SESSION

To be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 February 2005 *

1. Adoption of the Agenda

HIGH LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT

2. Economic developments in the UNECE region: Presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005
3. Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE region
4. Sustainable development in the UNECE region

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. All delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Internet Web site (<http://www.unece.org/>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the session, either by fax (+41 22 917 0566) or by e-mail (ruby.quirighetti@unece.org). Prior to the session, delegates (with the exception of delegates from the Geneva-based Missions) are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (Annual Session of the Commission – Tel: +41 22 917 5976; Spring Seminar – Tel +41 22 917 5773).

GENERAL SEGMENT

5. UNECE's cooperation with the OSCE
6. The UNECE Reform:
 - Part A: Comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE
 - Part B: Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE
7. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and matters relating to the programme of work planning and evaluation processes
8. Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
9. Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work
10. The work of the UNECE – achievements and constraints
11. Technical cooperation activities of the UNECE
12. Reports of the Bureau and of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW)
13. Election of Officers
14. Other business
15. Adoption of the Report

ANNOTATIONS

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Opening, adoption of the agenda and remarks by the Chair and Executive Secretary.

HIGH LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT

Item 2: Economic developments in the UNECE Region: Presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005

The presentation of the Survey and discussion thereon will be focused on a limited number of conclusions of the first issue of the Survey, which is expected to be finalized by mid-December 2004. At that time the Survey will be made available to delegations.

Documentation: Conference room paper

Item 3: Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (ICFFD) in the UNECE Region

In its resolution 58/230 the General Assembly invited the regional commissions, with the support of regional development banks, as appropriate, and in cooperation with United Nations Funds and Programmes, to use the opportunity of their regular intergovernmental sessions “to address the regional and interregional aspects of the follow-up to the [ICFFD] and thus help to bridge any gaps between the national, regional and international dimensions of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and serve as inputs to the High-level Dialogue as well as to the spring meeting of the Economic and Social Council”.

Discussion under this item will be structured in two panels, each lasting two hours. The moderator of each panel will address questions to panellists concerning the topics. The discussion will also recall the conclusions of the UNECE Preparatory Meeting for the ICFFD, held in December 2000, with a view to assessing progress achieved in confronting challenges identified at that date and the conclusions of the Spring Seminar.

Following the panel discussions, the moderators of the two panels will present their conclusions and invite reactions from member States.

Documentation: Background document

Item 4: Sustainable development in the UNECE region

The forthcoming session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) (in April 2005) will be devoted to the policy options for water, sanitation and human settlements (the three thematic clusters discussed by CSD 12) and related cross-sectoral issues. As the regional commissions have been invited to address the Preparatory Meeting of the CSD, to be held from 28 February to 4 March 2005, the background document will include a section on policy options for the three clusters that are important for the UNECE region. It is proposed that the Chairman of the Commission sum up the discussion on this document, and present his summary as

UNECE's contribution at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting to be held from 28 February to 4 March 2005, in New York.

In addition to discussing policy options for the above-mentioned three clusters, the background document will contain a proposal relating to the UNECE's contribution to the next implementation cycle of the CSD.

Documentation: Background document

GENERAL SEGMENT

Item 5: UNECE cooperation with the OSCE

At its fifty-ninth session the Commission provided general agreement on continued cooperation between the UNECE and the OSCE. It agreed to the proposal of the Executive Secretary that an intersecretariat task force prepare a detailed Plan for Cooperation on the basis of which a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organizations would be prepared. The Commission will discuss progress achieved in the preparation of the MOU and the current state of cooperation between the two organizations.

Documentation: Conference room paper

Item 6: The UNECE Reform: Part A: Comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE

At its fifty-eighth session the Commission decided to commission a comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE with the aim of developing recommendations to determine what changes to the role, mandate and functions of the UNECE might be necessary in the light of the changes in the European institutional architecture since the creation of the UNECE. Under this item it is foreseen that the review team will provide a progress report to the Commission on the work accomplished and that remaining to be undertaken.

Documentation: None

Item 6: The UNECE Reform: Part B: Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE

As indicated in document E/ECE/1411 prepared for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, it is considered necessary for the UNECE to adopt a strategic approach to the way it uses Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) for achieving its goals in its different sub-programmes and in its governance and management. The objectives of the strategy will be to enhance the use of ICT in the UNECE region through the development and implementation of initiatives/projects in each of UNECE's sub-programmes; to enhance the secretariat's use of ICT as a business tool to better serve clients; to expand the secretariat's outreach capacity and improve efficiency and output; and to enhance the secretariat's use of ICT to better plan and manage human and financial resources.

Under this item, the secretariat will introduce its background document that will include information on the development and implementation of initiatives/projects in each of the sub-programmes. The Chairs of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies (PSBs) will be invited to share their thoughts on what has been achieved, what is foreseen and what the main problems/hallenges are in realizing this objective.

Documentation: Background document

Item 7: Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and matters relating to the programme of work planning and evaluation processes

Under this item the Commission will be briefed on the state of the UNECE's submission for the next programme budget. In this connection, and bearing in mind previous experience, the UNECE Executive Secretary traditionally presents her submission to the Under-Secretary-General for Management in mid-February, defending the proposals contained therein. Thereafter, the secretariat will have a better indication of what will be included in the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget which will subsequently be distributed as a formal document.

The Commission will have before it the recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) on the revised programme of work planning process. The Commission will also consider the Group's recommendation concerning the format of the biennial evaluation of the programme of work by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

Documentation: Background document

Item 8: Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits

Under this item the Commission will consider progress made by the UNECE region in achieving the above-mentioned goals. The conclusions will feed into the high-level segment of ECOSOC for 2005, which will also be devoted to this subject. The UNECE will be invited to participate in the high-level segment and to provide inputs.

The discussion will be supported by a background document that will inter alia demonstrate the linkages of the UNECE programme of work with the development goals, as well as the importance of the regional dimension for achieving the MDGs and other goals.

Documentation: Background document

Item 9: Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work

This item will present the major policy issues confronting the UNECE, and their impact on the programme of work.

Documentation: Background document

Item 10: The work of the UNECE – achievements and constraints

The discussion will be supported by a background document that will provide information on the challenges and tasks confronting the Commission, including any administrative and financial difficulties.

Documentation: Background document

Item 11: Technical cooperation activities of the UNECE

Discussion under this item will be supported by two background documents. The first will provide information on the technical cooperation activities undertaken by the UNECE during the inter-sessional period, as well as progress achieved on implementation of the technical cooperation strategy, including the fund-raising strategy.

The second document will outline the UNECE/UNESCAP Strategy for Central Asia and the future orientations of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECAs).

Documentation: Two Background documents

Item 12: Reports of the Bureau and of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work

Under this item the Commission will be provided with two reports, on the work of the Bureau and on the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work, respectively, during the intersessional period.

Documentation: Two Background documents

Item 13: Election of Officers

Item 14: Other business

Item 15: Adoption of the Report

TIMETABLE: Sixtieth Annual Session and Side Events

Time	Agenda Item
Tuesday, 22 February 2005	
<u>HIGH LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT</u>	
10 a.m.-10.45 a.m.	<u>Item 1</u> : Adoption of the Agenda, Opening Remarks by the Chair and Executive Secretary
10.45 a.m.-1 p.m.	<u>Item 2</u> : Economic developments in the UNECE region: Presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005, and debate thereon
2 p.m.-6 p.m.	<u>Item 3</u> : Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE Region
6 p.m.-6.30 p.m.	<i>Presentation by Mr. Gerald Hinteregger, former Executive Secretary, of his book "Russia – Continuity and Change"</i>
6.30 p.m.	<i>Reception</i>
Wednesday, 23 February 2005	
10 a.m.-10.45 a.m.	<u>Item 3</u> : Financing for Development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE Region (cont'd)
10.45 a.m.-1 p.m.	<u>Item 4</u> : Sustainable development in the UNECE region
1 p.m.-3 p.m.	<i>Steering Group meeting: open to all UNECE member States</i>
<u>GENERAL SEGMENT</u>	
3 p.m.-3.45 p.m.	<u>Item 5</u> : UNECE's cooperation with the OSCE
3.45 p.m.-5.30 p.m.	<u>Item 6</u> : The UNECE Reform: Part A: Comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE Part B: Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE
5.30 p.m.-6 p.m.	<u>Item 7</u> : Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and matters relating to the programme of work planning and evaluation processes
6 p.m.	<i>Myrdal Lecture</i>
Thursday, 24 February 2005	
10 a.m.-11 a.m.	<u>Item 8</u> : Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	<u>Item 9</u> : Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work
3 p.m.-4 p.m.	<u>Item 10</u> : The work of the UNECE – achievements and constraints
4 p.m.-5 p.m.	<u>Item 11</u> : Technical cooperation activities of the UNECE
5 p.m.-5.30 p.m.	<u>Item 12</u> : Reports of the Bureau and of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW)

Time	Agenda Item
5.30 p.m.-5.45 p.m.	<u>Item 13</u> : Election of Officers
5.45 p.m.-6 p.m.	<u>Item 14</u> : Other business
Friday, 25 February 2005	
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	<u>Item 15</u> : Adoption of the Report and Closing Statements

General Notes

1. The sixtieth session of the Commission (22-25 February 2005) will be preceded by a Seminar on “*Finance for development in the UNECE region: Promoting growth in low-income transition economies*”, to be held on 21 February 2005. Debate under agenda item 3 will draw upon the seminar’s discussions.
2. In keeping with the previous sessions of the Commission, the Bureau recommends that delegations, PSB Chairpersons and representatives from other organizations/initiatives should refrain from general statements and limit themselves to specific observations and proposals for action. Any delegation wishing to provide a text for distribution is requested to provide the secretariat, preferably in advance of the session, with sufficient copies (approximately 75).
3. Mr. Gerald Hinteregger, former Executive Secretary of the UNECE (1987-1993), will be presenting his book “*Russia – Continuity and Change*”
4. A meeting of the Steering Group, open to all member States, will be held at lunchtime on Wednesday, 23 February 2005.
5. The Myrdal Lecture will be held on Wednesday, 23 February 2005 at 6 p.m.



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Title of the Conference

Economic Commission for Europe, Sixtieth Session and Spring Seminar, 21-25 February 2005

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Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of Birth	<input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/> (DD/MM/YYYY)
Participation Category		

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