

1 December 2011
English only

Economic Commission for Europe

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Geneva, 1 and 2 December 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Organization of work for the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM) for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference) will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 1 December 2011, and end at 6 p.m. on Friday, 2 December, lasting two days in total. The RPM will take place in Salle XVIII in the Palais des Nations.

2. The RPM will address the following issues: (a) assessing progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development as well as addressing new and emerging challenges; (b) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (c) the institutional framework for sustainable development (i.e., there will be three thematic segments in total).

3. The RPM will be co-chaired by two high-level officials from different parts of the ECE region. The sessions of the RPM will be structured in an interactive way, combining plenary sessions with round-table and panel discussions. The co-Chairs will take turns in chairing the RPM sessions.

4. The two thematic segments (agenda items 5 and 7) will be organized in the form of multi-stakeholder panel discussions. Each of the panel discussions under agenda items 5 and 7 will comprise up to seven panellists, including governmental high-level officials, IGOs, and Major Groups, who will address the meeting on a number of questions identified on the basis of the background documentation. Subsequently, the floor will be opened for questions for the panellists and interactive discussion.

5. The thematic segment on greening the economy (agenda item 6) will start with a one-hour plenary followed by a two-hour multi-stakeholder round table organized in two parallel sessions (one parallel session will be conducted in the three official languages of the ECE—English, French and Russian—and the second parallel session will be conducted in English only). The plenary session will feature a few presentations from different stakeholders in order to kick off the discussion in the two round tables. Each of the two round-table discussions will be conducted by a facilitator. Each round table will comprise up to 35 participants, including governmental high-level officials, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and business representatives, as well as representatives of other major groups.

6. Each round table will open with introductory remarks by the facilitator. Participants in the round table will be invited to engage actively in the discussion, and to address a number of questions identified on the basis of the background documentation. Speeches, prepared in advance, are strongly discouraged during the round table; instead, participants should exchange views on the theme under discussion. To allow each participant at the round table to intervene at least once during the discussion, the time limit for interventions will be three minutes. Following the discussion in the round table, the facilitator will highlight key points to be included in the co-Chair's Summary of the meeting.

7. The consolidated results of discussions from the two panels and the two round tables will serve as input into the Co-Chairs' Summary of the meeting.

8. Information and documents for this meeting are being made available on the ECE website (<http://www.unece.org/env/SustainableDevelopment/RPM2011/RPM2011.htm>). The RPM aims to be a paperless event to the extent possible. Participants are encouraged to download the documents in electronic format and, if necessary, print them.

9. Final copies of statements and interventions made during the RPM should be sent to the ECE secretariat after the meeting for posting on the website.

II. Timeframe

<i>Date</i>	<i>Item of the Agenda</i>
Thursday, 1 December 2011	
10–10.30 a.m.	1. Opening of the meeting
10.30–10.35 a.m.	2. Adoption of the agenda
10.35–10.40 a.m.	3. Election of officers
10.40–11 a.m.	4. Introductory statements
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	5. Assessment of progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges
<i>Lunch break</i>	
3–6 p.m.	6. A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
Friday, 2 December 2011	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	7. The institutional framework for sustainable development
<i>Lunch break</i>	
3–6 p.m.	8. Co-Chairs' summary and closure of the meeting

III. Organization of work

Thursday, 1 December 2011

Registration

10. There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form available

on the ECE website and to transmit it to the ECE secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting by e-mail (sd@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map available at: <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307.

11. Taking into account that there are many delegates entering Palais des Nations every morning, please be aware that the waiting time to obtain an identification badge can be more than one hour. Therefore, RPM delegates are encouraged to allocate enough time for registration so as to be in time for the RPM opening at 10 a.m..

Items 1, 2, 3 and 4

Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda, election of officers and introductory statements

Plenary session (Thursday, 1 December, 10–11 a.m.)

Co-Chairs:

- Mr. Janusz Zaleski, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of the Environment, Poland
- Mr. Ruslan Bultrikov, Vice-Minister, Ministry for Environment Protection, Kazakhstan.

Opening: Mr. Jan Kubiš, Executive Secretary of ECE, will open the meeting and deliver an opening statement.

Keynote address (up to five minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Sha Zukang, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Secretary General of Rio+20
- Mr. Michele Candotti, Chief of the Executive Office, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Mr. Jens Wandel, Deputy Regional Director and Director of the Bratislava Regional Centre of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Adoption of agenda: Mr. Kubiš will invite the meeting to adopt its provisional agenda (E/ECE/RPM/2011/1).

Election of officers: Mr. Kubiš will invite the meeting to elect the co-Chairs by acclamation.

Introductory remarks: by the two co-Chairs.

Item 5

Assessment of progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges

Questions for discussion

(a) What have been the major achievements in the region since the Rio Conference in 1992 and what efforts are needed to make further progress?

(b) What are the emerging challenges in the region and which policies and measures are required to effectively address them?

Вопросы для обсуждения

(a) Каковы главные достижения в регионе за период со времени проведения Конференции в Рио-ди-Жанейро в 1992 г. и какие усилия необходимо приложить для дальнейшего прогресса?

(b) В чем состоят нарождающиеся проблемы в регионе и какие меры и политики необходимы для их эффективного решения?

Panel discussion (Thursday, 1 December, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.)

Chair: this session will be chaired by one of the two co-Chairs of the RPM.

Introductory remarks by the Chair.

Keynote addresses by the panellists (up to five minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Bedrich Moldan, Professor of Environmental Science and Director of the Environment Centre of the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, Vice-Chair of the Preparatory Bureau for the Rio+20 Conference, representing the Eastern European States Group
- Mr. Taulant Bino, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration, Albania
- Mr. Fitz Holzwarth, Deputy Director General, Water Management, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
- Mr. Jan Dusik, Deputy Director and Officer-in-Charge, Regional Office for Europe, UNEP
- Mr. Srđan Matić, Coordinator, Environment and Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe
- Ms. Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director of the NGO Women in Europe for a Common Future
- Ms. Amy Edmondson, Professor, Harvard Business School.

Questions/comments/interventions from the floor (up to three minutes per intervention; a total of up to one hour).

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

Item 6

A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Questions for discussion

(a) What policy mixes have the potential to achieve a green, inclusive and competitive economy over the short, medium and long term, and what role does regional cooperation play in this respect?

(b) Which support measures should countries take to address the socio-economic impacts of structural change arising from the transition to the green economy?

(c) What are the most promising models for engaging the business in building the green economy?

(d) In which areas can the region share good practices and lessons learned to contribute to a global green economy?

Вопросы для обсуждения

(a) Какой комплекс политических мер поможет достичь зеленой, всеобъемлющей и конкурентоспособной экономики в кратко-, средне- и

долгосрочной перспективе и какую роль в этом должно играть региональное сотрудничество?

(b) Какие меры должны быть предприняты странами для оценки социально-экономического эффекта структурных перемен в связи с переходом к «зеленой» экономике?

(c) Какие модели привлечения бизнес - сектора в «зеленую» экономику являются наиболее перспективными?

(d) В каких областях регион ЕЭК ООН может поделиться примерами передовой практики и накопленного опыта, которые могли бы способствовать общемировой «зеленой» экономике?

Plenary session and round-table discussion (Thursday, 1 December, 3–6 p.m.)

Chair: this session will be chaired by one of the two co-Chairs of the RPM.

Introductory remarks by the Chair.

Keynote addresses (up to five minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Paolo Soprano, Director of the Sustainable Development Division, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, Italy, Vice-chair of the Bureau for the Preparatory Process of the Rio+20 Conference, representing the West European and Others Group
- Mr. Niyazi Safarov, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Azerbaijan
- Mr. Daniel Ziegerer, Head of Global Section, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland
- Mr. Björn Stigson, President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) 2012
- Mr. Peter Poschen, Director, Job Creation and Sustainable Enterprise Department, International Labour Organization
- Mr. Talaybek Makeyev, Executive Director, the Regional Environmental Centre for Asia (CAREC)
- Mr. Joachim Spangenberg, Director of Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI) Germany.

Remarks by the Chair.

Two parallel sessions of a multi-stakeholder round table on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.¹

Round-table parallel session 1 (En/Fr/Ru, salle XVIII), facilitated by Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, Director of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, UNEP.

Round-table parallel session 2 (En, salle VIII), facilitated by Mr. Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, ECE.

Official reception for all RPM participants: at the invitation by the Government of Poland and ECE (Thursday, 1 December, 6.30–8.30 p.m., Restaurant Vieux Bois, walk out of the Pregny Gate, then to the left)

¹ For details please refer to the annex of the present document, as well as to the list of round-table participants presented in an addendum to the present document E/ECE/RPM/2011/INF/1/Add.1.

Item 7

The institutional framework for sustainable development

Questions for discussion

- (a) How can sustainable development be effectively reflected in financial and economic decision-making at the national level and how can intersectoral cooperation and decision-making be enhanced?
- (b) How can the Major Groups effectively engage in decision-making processes at the national level?
- (c) How can progress towards sustainable development be measured effectively?
- (d) How can countries' efforts be best supported through regional cooperation?

Вопросы для обсуждения

- (a) Как устойчивое развитие может быть эффективно учтено при принятии финансовых и экономических решений на национальном уровне? Как может быть улучшено межсекторальное сотрудничество и процесс принятия решений?
- (b) Как можно эффективно вовлечь основные группы в процесс принятия решений на национальном уровне?
- (c) Как возможно эффективно оценить прогресс в области устойчивого развития?
- (d) Как с помощью регионального сотрудничества можно наилучшим образом поддержать усилия стран?

Panel discussion (Friday, 2 December, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.)

Chair: this session will be chaired by one of the two co-Chairs of the RPM.

Introductory remarks by the Chair.

Keynote addresses by panellists (up to five minutes per keynote address):

- Ms. Tania Valerie Raguz, First Secretary to the Permanent Mission of Croatia to the United Nations in New York, Vice-Chairperson of the Bureau for the Preparatory Process of the Rio+20 Conference, representing the Eastern European States Group
- Mr. Rodion Bajureanu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Republic of Moldova
- Mr. Jean Pierre Thebault, Ambassador for Environment, France
- Mr. Bradnee Chambers, Head of Environmental Law and Governance Branch, Team Leader, International Environmental Governance/Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IEG/IFSD), UNEP
- Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Coordinator of Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE
- Mr. Jeremy Wates, Director of the European Environment Bureau
- Ms. Angelika Poth-Mögele, Director of Policy, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions.

Questions/comments/interventions from the floor (up to three minutes per intervention; a total of up to two hours).

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

Item 8

Co-Chairs' summary and closure of the meeting

Plenary session (Friday, 2 December, 3–6 p.m.)

Chair: this session will be chaired by the two co-Chairs of the RPM.

Introductory remarks by the co-Chairs.

Keynote address by Ms. Maria Luisa Escorel, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations and other international organizations.

Chair's Summary of the RPM: the two co-Chairs will present their summary of the meeting.

Comments/interventions from the floor (up to three minutes per intervention).

Remarks by Mr. Brice Lalonde, Executive Coordinator of Rio+20.

Remarks by Mr. Sha Zukang, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Secretary General of Rio+20.

Closing remarks by the co-Chairs.

Closure of the meeting.

Annex

Guidance notes for speakers and arrangements for the two round tables

A. Keynote speakers

1. Each panellist and keynote speaker will have up to five minutes for delivering a keynote address. The panellists for agenda items 5 and 7 will be seated at the podium; keynote speeches under agenda item 6 will be made from the lectern situated near the podium. The Chair will invite speakers to deliver their keynote address in accordance with section III of the present document. The necessary technical equipment will be provided for PowerPoint presentations. Nonetheless, the five-minute time limit must be respected and it is therefore suggested that any PowerPoint presentation should be limited to five slides.
2. Panellists and keynote speakers are invited to submit to the ECE secretariat (sd@unece.org) a copy of their keynote address as soon as possible and not later than Monday, **28 November 2011**. The secretariat will provide these copies to the interpreters and also use them to extract the key messages for the Chair's Summary of the Conference. The entire Chair's Summary will be made available at the end of the RPM.
3. Final copies of the keynote addresses should be sent to the ECE secretariat (sd@unece.org) after the meeting to be posted on the website.

B. Arrangement for the two parallel round tables

4. Each round table will comprise up to 35 participants, including ministers and heads of delegation of ECE member States, IGOs, regional environmental centres (RECs), and Major Groups' representatives. To allow for a representative participation of different stakeholders, the composition of the round table will be as follows:
 - (a) ECE member States will have the number of seats necessary for one half of countries having registered for the meeting ;
 - (b) IGOs will have up to 4 seats;
 - (c) RECs will have up to 2 seats; and,
 - (d) Major Groups will have up to 6 seats.
5. The list of round-table participants is presented in a separate addendum to the present document, which will be regularly revised up until the RPM.
6. Other delegates to the RPM will participate as observers to the round-table discussions. If time permits, these participants will be given the opportunity to pose questions to the round-table participants.
7. Each of the two round tables will open with introductory remarks by the facilitator. Participants in the round table will be invited to engage actively in the discussion, and to address the questions for discussion (as per section III, item 6). Each round table will address the same questions but, given the different participants involved, different perspectives may emerge in the discussions. In their interventions, participants can address one or more questions for discussions and/or react to the interventions of others.

8. Speeches that have been prepared in advance are strongly discouraged during the round tables; instead, participants should exchange views on the theme under discussion. To allow each participant at the round table to intervene at least once during the discussion, the time limit for interventions will be three minutes.
9. Following the discussion, the facilitator will highlight key points to be included in the co-Chair's Summary of the meeting.

C. Interventions from the floor

10. Delegations wishing to intervene from the floor, in particular under agenda items 5 and 7, should raise their nameplate. The time limit for such interventions is up to 3 minutes. There will not be a speakers list prepared, as the aim is to have an interactive discussion at the RPM.
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