

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Twentieth session

Geneva, 28–31 October 2014

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Cross-sectoral activities: European Environment and Health process

Information paper No. 10/Rev.2

24 October 2014

European Environment and Health Ministerial Board third term (2015–2016)

Note by the secretariat

Summary

At its nineteenth session (Geneva, 22–25 October 2013), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) requested the ECE secretariat to take the necessary actions with a view to appointing the four ministers from the environment sector to the third term of the European Environment and Health Ministerial Board, 2015–2016 (ECE/CEP/2013/2, para. 116 (q) (ii)).

Pursuant to that request, on 1 July 2014 the secretariat sent out official letters to the 53 ECE member States that are also members of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), inviting ministers of environment to inform the secretariat of their interest in serving on the Board during 2015–2016. The current paper is a revised version of the 14 October 2014 version. It presents the overview of the nominees for the Board as at 24 October 2014.

The CEP Bureau will consider all applications received at its meeting on 27 October 2014 and will make a recommendation on the appointment matter with a view to facilitate the work of CEP.

CEP will be invited to consider and appoint four members from the environment sector for the Board for 2015–2016.

I. Background

1. The Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Parma, March 2010) established the European Environment and Health Ministerial Board (EHMB) to serve as a political driving force of the Environment and Health process.
2. EHMB is composed of eight ministers, or their high-level representatives, nominated by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (RCE) from the health sector and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) from the environmental sector, so as to ensure balanced sectoral and geographical representation. The Board is accountable to RCE and CEP. The secretariat for EHMB is provided by the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

3. CEP appointed in 2010 the Ministers of Environment from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Romania and Turkey for the first term (2011–2012) of EHMB. In 2012 CEP appointed the Ministers of Environment from Belgium, Israel, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine for the second term (2013–2014).
4. From the health sector, RCE appointed the Ministers of Health from France, Malta, Serbia and Slovenia for the first term, Ministers of Health from Croatia, Georgia, Lithuania and Spain for the second term.
5. Other members of EHMB include the WHO Regional Director for Europe, the ECE Executive Secretary, the Director of the UNEP Regional Office for Europe, and the European Commission.
6. The EHMB has been co-Chaired by the Minister of Environment of Israel and the Minister of Health from Lithuania. The rules of procedure and the results of EHMB work are available on the WHO website¹.
7. At its nineteenth session (Geneva, 22–25 October 2013), CEP requested the ECE secretariat to take the necessary actions with a view to appointing the four ministers from the environment sector to the third term of EHMB (2015–2016). Accordingly, the secretariat sent out official letters to the 53 ECE member States that are also members of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), inviting ministers of environment to inform the secretariat of their interest in serving on the Board during 2015–2016.
8. The current paper presents the overview of the nominees for the Board as at 24 October 2014. The CEP Bureau will consider all applications received at its meeting on Monday, 27 October 2014, with a view to make a recommendation on the appointment matter.
9. CEP will be invited to consider all applications received and appoint four members from the environment sector at its twentieth session to be held in Geneva from 28 to 31 October 2014.

¹ <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/pages/european-environment-and-health-process-ehp/governance/european-environment-and-health-ministerial-board-ehmb>

II. Nominations received from the environment sector

(listed in country alphabetical order)

Name	Title	Country	Sub-region / political community	Received on	Previous terms served on EHMB by country representatives (environment/health/none)	
					2011–2012	2013–2014
Mr. Aramayis Grigoryan	Minister of Nature Protection	Armenia	Caucasus	12 August 2014	None	None
Mr. Branimir Gvozdenović	Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism	Montenegro	South-Eastern Europe	13 October 2014	None	None
Ms. Valentina Tapiş	Minister of Environment	Moldova, Republic of	Eastern Europe	16 September 2014	None	Environment
Mr. Jorge Moreira da Silva	Minister for Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy	Portugal	European Union	21 October 2014	None	None
Mr. Sergey Donskoy	Minister of Natural Resources and Environment	Russian Federation	Eastern Europe	12 August 2014	None	None
Ms. Snežana Bogosavljević Bošković	Minister of Agriculture and Environmental Protection	Serbia	South-Eastern Europe	24 October 2014	Health	None
Mr. Nurhan Izairi	Minister of Environment and Physical Planning	the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	South-Eastern Europe	18 September 2014	None	None

10. The secretariat has also received several communications from Ministers of Environment (from Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) which, while highlighting the EHMB role in promoting the Environment and Health process and in reducing the environmental impacts on health, informed the secretariat that they do not intend to nominate their candidatures for the next term of EHMB.

III. Reference materials on the Environment and Health process and the European Environment and Health Ministerial Board

11. *Parma Ministerial Conference*: www.euro.who.int/en/home/conferences/fifth-ministerial-conference-on-environment-and-health

12. *European Environment and Health Ministerial Board*: www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/environment-and-health/european-process-on-environment-and-health/governance/european-environment-and-health-ministerial-board-ehmb

13. *Rules of procedure of the Board*:

English: www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/189718/European-Environment-and-Health-Ministerial-Board,-Rules-of-Procedure-Eng.pdf?ua=1

French: www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/189719/European-Environment-and-Health-Ministerial-Board,-Rules-of-Procedure-final-Fre.pdf?ua=1

Russian: www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/189721/European-Environment-and-Health-Ministerial-Board,-Rules-of-Procedure-final-Rus.pdf?ua=1

14. *Report of the European Environment and Health Ministerial Board (EHMB) to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and to the UN ECE Committee on Environmental Policy (EUR/RC63/10):*

English: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-19/WHO.RC63wd10.EHMB-2.e.pdf

French: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-19/WHO.RC63wd10.EHMB-2.f.pdf

Russian: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-19/WHO.RC63wd10.EHMB-2.r.pdf

15. *Report on the European Environment and Health Process (background document):*

English: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-19/WHO.RC63.ReportEHP.e.pdf

Russian: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-19/WHO.RC63.ReportEHP.r.pdf

16. *Report of the UN ECE Committee on Environmental Policy on its seventeenth session (ECE/CEP/161, paragraphs 100–107):*

English: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2010/ece/cep/ece.cep.161.e.pdf

French: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2010/ece/cep/ece.cep.161.f.pdf

Russian: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2010/ece/cep/ece.cep.161.r.pdf

17. *Report of the UN ECE Committee on Environmental Policy on its eighteenth session (ECE/CEP/2012/2, paragraphs 70–74):*

English:
www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2012/ece/cep/ece.cep.2012.2.e.pdf

French: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2012/ece/cep/ece.cep.2012.2.f.pdf

Russian:
www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2012/ece/cep/ece.cep.2012.2.r.pdf

18. *Report of the UN ECE Committee on Environmental Policy on its nineteenth session (ECE/CEP/2013/2, paragraphs 81–85):*

English:
www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/ece/cep/ece.cep.2013.2.e.pdf

French: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/ece/cep/ece.cep.2013.2.f.pdf

Russian:
www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/ece/cep/ece.cep.2013.2.r.pdf

19. *Progress report on European Environment and Health process (EUR/RC64/24 Rev.1):*

English: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-20/eur.rc.64.24.rev.1.e.pdf

French: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-20/eur.rc64.24.rev.1.f.pdf

Russian: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-20/eur.rc64.24.rev.1.r.pdf