

[Comments by UNDP to the draft outline of the Conference agenda \(5 March 2010\)](#)

I. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND WATER-RELATED ECOSYSTEMS

Possible sub-themes	Envisaged input into the Conference	Envisaged outcome / added value of addressing the sub-theme at the Conference	Envisaged format for addressing the sub-theme	Lead actor(s) / potential partner(s)
<p><u>Integrated water resources management (IWRM) as a tool for sustainable development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance and cross-sectoral cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on integrated water resources management, and water supply and sanitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations of specific features of NPD in selected countries; Presentations of knowledge sharing in IWRM Pilot projects on IWRM of selected transboundary basins Experiences from the implementation of the EU WFD Results and lessons learnt from EU-UNDP-EC IWRM project “Promoting IWRM and fostering transboundary dialogue in Central Asia” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned and good practices Creation of sub-regional networks Political guidance on the next steps to strengthen NPD and to promote the lessons in the implementation of the EU WFD also beyond the EU Addressing the WSSD statement on IWRM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNECE OECD/EAP Task Force European Commission UNDP UNEP World Bank WMO RECs European ECO-Forum Global Water Partnership ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply and sanitation, and health Economic tools Public Private Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inputs from the EAP Task Force Inputs from the Protocol on Water and Health Inputs from UNDP supported activities on Human Rights Based Approaches to Improve Water Governance Management and Goal WASH Research paper on the access to water in Central Asia/CARRA follow up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pan-European recommendations with a focus on EECCA and SEE countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roundtable discussion with ministers, private sector and NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OECD/EAP Task Force European Commission UNECE WHO/Europe IFIs (WB, EBRD) UNDP

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of transboundary water-related ecosystems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sub-regional input(s) on the protection of transboundary water-related ecosystems and on water quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Report “Assessment of water-related ecosystems in Central Asia”; – Pilot projects on River Basin Management Plan of selected transboundary basins – Sub-regional preparatory meeting in Kazakhstan – UNDP work in transboundary basins/international waters Hi-Balkhash, Isfara/Zeravshan and Ural river basins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decision (e.g. a sub-regional action plan) on the protection of transboundary water-related ecosystems and water quality based on the EU WFD and IWRM ▪ Identification of institutional mechanisms required to implement the decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel discussion / Plenary session ▪ Official event / side event ▪ Exhibitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Asian and other interested countries ▪ IFAS ▪ Interested river-basin management boards ▪ UNEP ▪ UNECE ▪ UN ESCAP ▪ UNDP ▪ OSCE ▪ European Commission ▪ CAREC ▪ PEBLDS ▪ Global Water Partnership ▪ World Bank ▪ Private sector ▪ ...

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<p><u>Climate change (CC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adaptation/mitigation ▪ Impact of CC, including social (health) and economic impacts ▪ Ecosystems, land degradation, floods, desertification, biodiversity ▪ Water efficiency / Energy efficiency ▪ Transboundary cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNECE Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change ▪ Pilot projects on adaptation to CC and findings of the mechanism to promote pan-European exchange of experience ▪ 2nd assessment of transboundary waters in the UNECE region ▪ Europe’s Environment Assessment of the Assessments (EEAoA) report ▪ EU White Paper “Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action” ▪ Input from PEBLDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decision (strategy or action plan) on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change 2011-2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary session ▪ Roundtable/Panel discussion on “Implementation of the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change: Successes and Challenges” ▪ Side-events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Convention ▪ European Commission ▪ EEA <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP ▪ OECD ▪ UNEP ▪ WMO ▪ RECs ▪ PEBLDS ▪ Global Water Partnership ▪ ...
<p><u>Cross-cutting issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policies and strategies ▪ Financing ▪ Capacity building ▪ Implementation of MEAs ▪ Monitoring and assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EEAoA report ▪ 2nd assessment of transboundary waters in the UNECE region ▪ Experiences and lessons learned to integrate capacity-building activities of five UNECE Convention ▪ Sourcebook on Funding for Sustainable Forest Management (as an example for the development of a sourcebook on IWRM and Water Supply and Sanitation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endorsement of water-quality monitoring guidelines for EECCA and SEE prepared by WGEMA ▪ Decision on the 3rd assessment of transboundary waters in the UNECE region ▪ Recommendations for strengthening the joint capacity-building activities of five UNECE Conventions ▪ Sourcebook on funding IWRM and Water Supply and Sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel discussion, including PowerPoint presentations on the two assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EEA ▪ Water Convention <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP ▪ OSCE ▪ Ramsar Convention ▪ UNESCO ▪ European Commission ▪ RECs ▪ ...

II. GREENING THE ECONOMY: MAINSTREAMING THE ENVIRONMENT INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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<p><u>The transition towards a green economy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental governance, including mainstreaming of environment into sector policies and development plans ▪ Eco-efficient economy and links to economic development, including resource efficiency and effective use of environmental public expenditure ▪ Economic instruments for environmental policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report on the 2nd cycle of environmental performance reviews (EPRs) of UNECE ▪ Input from UNECE MEAs ▪ OECD Green Growth Strategy ▪ Input from UNEP Green Economy Initiative ▪ Input from European Commission ▪ Input from EAP Task Force ▪ Input from THE PEP ▪ Report of UNDP project “Supporting the transition of countries of Eastern Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States to low-emission development” ▪ Input / report from ‘UNDP and UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative’ on mainstreaming environment and poverty links into sub-national development planning, and application of poverty-environment indicators. ▪ UNDP presenting successful case of applying Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for mainstreaming environment into district development strategies in Crimea, Ukraine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy recommendations for EECCA and SEE countries ▪ A pan-European roadmap towards a green economy ▪ Mandate for the 3rd cycle of EPRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNECE ▪ UNEP ▪ EC ▪ OECD/EAP Task Force <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EEA ▪ WHO ▪ EBRD ▪ EIB ▪ UNESCAP ▪ UNDP ▪ UNCTAD ▪ World Bank ▪ UNIDO ▪ RECs ▪ European ECO-Forum ▪ ...

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green innovation, green jobs and skills development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OECD input on Green Growth Strategy ▪ Input from European Commission ▪ Input from International Labour Organization (ILO) ▪ Input from Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roundtable discussion with ministers, private sector and NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OECD ▪ ILO ▪ European Commission ▪ ESD ▪ RECs ▪ Private sector ▪ European ECO-Forum ▪ ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring, indicators and green accounting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EE AoA report ▪ WGEMA monitoring guidelines 	<p>Decisions on modalities for future pan-European Assessment Reports, development of SEIS and future UNECE work on monitoring and assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EEA ▪ UNECE <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNEP ▪ UNDP ▪ OECD ▪ RECs ▪ European ECO-Forum ▪ ...
<p><u>Towards sustainable energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy efficiency (industry life-cycle, power sector, transport, buildings/housing; regulatory instruments / standards / policy reform / financial instruments; awareness-raising through education) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EE-21 project: financing EE investments for climate change mitigation ▪ Input from the Committee on Housing and Land Management ▪ Input from THE PEP ▪ Input from ESD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sharing of good practice ▪ Connecting networks ▪ Identification of policy priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNECE ▪ International Energy Agency (IEA) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OECD ▪ World Energy Council (WEC) ▪ UNDP ▪ UNEP ▪ EBRD

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Bank ▪ OSCE ▪ ENVSEC ▪ ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting renewable energy investments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Input from UNEP Financial Initiative ▪ Inputs from IFIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendations on supportive frameworks for promoting renewable energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel discussion with Financial Institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNEP ▪ World Bank ▪ EBRD <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OECD ▪ UNECE ▪ IEA ▪ WEC ▪ UNDP ▪ ...

III. DRAFT TIMEFRAME FOR THE SEVENTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE “ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE”

Astana, September/October 2011

1 st day	2 nd day	3 rd day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Registration (8:00–9:00)</i> ▪ <i>Opening of the Conference (9:00–11:00)</i> ▪ <i>Morning session (11:00–13:00)</i> <u>Sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plenary session on IWRM (2h) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Morning session (9:00 – 13:00)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plenary session on water and adaptation to CC (2h) – Roundtable/Panel on implementation of Guidance on Water and Adaptation to CC (1h) – Panel discussion / plenary session on protection of water-related ecosystems (1h) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Morning session (9:00 – 13:00)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plenary session on energy efficiency (2h) – Roundtable with ministers, private sector and NGOs on green innovation, green jobs and skills development (2h)
Lunch break /side-events (13:00–15:00)	Lunch break /side-events (13:00–15:00)	Lunch break /side-events (13:00–15:00)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Afternoon session (15:00–18:00)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Roundtable with ministers, private sector and NGOs on water supply and sanitation (2h) – Panel discussion on water-related cross-cutting issues (1h) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Afternoon session (15:00–18:00)</i> <u>Greening the economy: mainstreaming the environment into economic development</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plenary session on the transition towards a green economy (2h) – Panel discussion on monitoring and green accounting (1h) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Afternoon session (15:00 – 16:00)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Panel discussion on renewable energy investments (1h) ▪ <i>Closure of the Conference (16:00 – 17:00)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adoption of Conference outcomes; Chair’s Summary (1h)
Official events / side-events (18:00 – 21:00)	Official events / side-events (18:00 – 21:00)	

- Based on the previous experience, the Conference should start with a short opening event. The host country would be given an opportunity to organize events highlighting its special features in addition to the official Conference agenda;
- The discussions at the Conference should be arranged in an interactive manner and combine various types of sessions, e.g. plenary sessions, roundtables and moderated panel discussions, with a limited number of main speakers from different stakeholders (e.g. UNECE member States, EFe partners and major groups). When possible, interactive sessions, such as roundtables, could be run in parallel;
- The Conference could be structured around the following main clusters (all of them focusing on the agreed priorities):
 - Plenary sessions for the presentation and discussion of the priority topics;
 - Sessions on ongoing cooperation and partnerships in the UNECE region and its subregions with different stakeholders, including the private sector;
 - A session of environmental NGOs and ministers in the roundtable format as an integral part of the conference;
 - A session of private sector representatives and ministers in the roundtable format as an integral part of the conference;
 - Sessions dedicated to announcing new partnerships and initiatives by stakeholders;
 - A brief concluding session with the presentation (and adoption, if appropriate) of the main outcomes of the Conference;
- To address issues relevant to the agenda of the Conference in more detail, side-events should be organized by interested UNECE member States, EFe partners and relevant stakeholders;
- To attract the attention of the private sector, opportunities should be provided for the organization of promotional events such as poster exhibitions, trade fairs, roundtables and environmental award initiatives.

(excerpt from the EFe Reform Plan)