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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
(Eleventh session, 13-15 October 2004)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ELEVENTH SESSION
to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting on Wednesday, 13 October 2004, at 10 a.m. ***

1. Adoption of the agenda and last year's report.
2. Matters arising from the fifty-ninth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee.
3. Regional Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the contribution of the Committee on Environmental Policy.
4. Programme of work (2005-2006):
 - (a) Environmental performance reviews;
 - (b) Education for sustainable development;
 - (c) Environmental monitoring;
 - (d) Communication strategy;

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* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form, also available from the web site of the UNECE / ENHS Division (<http://www.unece.org/env/cep/welcome.html>), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the meeting, by fax (+41-22-917-0107). Before the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves 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) to pick up their identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact the UNECE secretariat by telephone (extension 71204).

- (e) UNECE multilateral environmental agreements;
 - (f) Environment Strategy for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA);
 - (g) Environment, water and security partnership in Central Asia;
 - (h) Activities of the Regional Adviser and his contribution to the Committee's programme of work;
 - (i) Other cross sectoral activities:
 - (i) The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme;
 - (ii) Energy and the environment;
 - (iii) Environment and Health: outcome of the 2004 Budapest Ministerial Conference.
5. The Committee's input to the UNECE programme budget for the next biennium (2006-2007).
 6. Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the UNECE trust funds.
 7. Establishment of the Preparatory Group (Working Group of Senior Officials) for the next Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" in 2007.
 8. Any other business.
 9. Election of officers for the twelfth session.
 10. Closing of the eleventh session.

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Wednesday, 13 October 2004

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda and last year's report (10-10.30 a.m.)

The Committee is expected to adopt the agenda for its eleventh session and the report on the tenth session including its programme of work.

*Provisional agenda (ECE/CEP/123)
(ECE/CEP/116 and Add.1).*

Item 2: Matters arising from the fifty-ninth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee (10.30-11.30 a.m.)

The Committee will be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission that are relevant to the Committee, especially on the UNECE comprehensive review and on the collaboration with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The Committee may wish to discuss the implications of the collaboration with OSCE for its programme of work and resources.

Document on matters arising (CEP/2004/1)

Item 3: Regional implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the contribution of the Committee on Environmental Policy (11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.)

The Committee will be informed about the outcome of the Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development (Geneva, 15-16 January 2004) and of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, April 2004).

The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided, discuss and further **decide** how it could play a role in strengthening the environmental dimension of the regional implementation process and, in particular, ways in which it could promote and facilitate the interlinking of the environment with the other dimensions of sustainable development, on the basis of the discussion held by its Bureau on 14 January and on 8 June 2004.

At the request of the Bureau, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) may wish to inform the Committee on its activities related to changing consumption and production patterns.

*Background discussion documents on Water and Sanitation for and report of the Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development (ECE/AC.25/2004/2)
Reports on the Bureau meetings held on 14 January 2004 (CEP/2004/8) and on 8 June 2004 (CEP/2004/9)*

Item 4: Programme of work (2005-2006)

The Committee will review its programme of work and **take decisions** on each programme element and related activities, specifying any new activities on the basis of the goals set in the document on the “future UNECE strategic directions for the environment” and the table on the follow-up to the Kiev Conference.

Draft programme of work (ECE/CEP/123/Add.1)

Future UNECE strategic directions for the Environment (CEP/2004/2)

Table on the follow-up to the Kiev Conference (CEP/2004/12)

(a) Environmental performance reviews (3-6 p.m.)

- (i) Presentation of the environmental performance reviews of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Tajikistan and adoption of the recommendations

The Committee will review the environmental performance of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Tajikistan by **conducting a peer review**. To that end the outcome of the discussion held during the Expert Group’s meeting of 13-15 September 2004 will be presented. The Committee may wish to discuss major policy issues emerging from the environmental performance reviews related to institutional arrangements and to post-war reconstruction based on a background document prepared by the secretariat. The Committee is expected to conclude the peer review by adopting the recommendations.

Draft environmental performance review of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CEP/2004/3)

Draft environmental performance review of Tajikistan (CEP/2004/4)

Major policy issues emerging from the environmental performance reviews (CEP/2004/5)

- (ii) Interim reporting on the implementation of environmental performance reviews

The Committee on Environmental Policy, at its tenth session, requested relevant member States to present voluntary, interim reports to it at its annual sessions. Countries will present their reports for discussion by the Committee.

- (iii) Ad hoc Expert Group on Environmental Performance

The third mandate of the Expert Group has expired. The Committee is invited to **consider approving** a fourth mandate for the Expert Group and **to select** its members based on a list of candidates put forward by the Bureau at its meeting in June 2004.

List of candidates for the Expert Group

Proposed terms of reference for the Expert Group on Environmental Performance (CEP/2004/6)

Thursday, 14 October 2004

(b) Education for sustainable development (10-11.30 a.m.)

Following the decision taken at Kiev to develop and finalize an UNECE strategy for education for sustainable development, the Committee established an open-ended task force to prepare a draft strategy. The task force, composed of member States with the participation of international governmental organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as well as non-governmental organizations, set up a drafting group to facilitate the work.

The Committee may wish to discuss and **endorse** the draft strategy proposed by the task force and submit it for adoption to Environment and Education Ministries or other equivalent State bodies at a high-level meeting. The Committee is expected to **provide guidance** on the programme for the high level meeting, tentatively scheduled for February 2005, based on a draft agenda prepared by the secretariat and discussed by the task force in July 2004.

Draft strategy (CEP/AC.13/2004/8/Rev.1 and documents for information CEP/AC.13/2004/8.Add.1 and Add.2)

Framework for implementation of the Strategy (CEP/AC.13/2004/10)

Draft agenda for the high-level meeting (CEP/AC.13/2004/11)

(c) Environmental monitoring (11.30-12 a.m.)

The Committee will be informed about the outcome of the fifth session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment held on 30 September-1 October 2004 in Geneva.

The Committee is expected to consider the results of the Working Group's activities in such areas as environmental indicators, electronic databases for environmental reporting, waste inventories and air pollution monitoring, and **decide** on their further application. In line with the Kiev Ministerial Declaration, it may also wish to discuss and provide guidance on ways to further improve monitoring and assessment capacities in the UNECE region, particularly in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Report on the fifth session of the Working Group (CEP/AC.10/2004/2).

(d) Communication strategy (12-1 p.m.)

Following the mandate received from Ministers in Kiev, the Committee is expected to discuss the outline for a communication strategy, prepared by the secretariat with the assistance of a consultant. The strategy aims at raising awareness of the "Environment for Europe" process

among stakeholders and the general public with particular focus on the achievements of the process and the added value of the broad and inclusive cooperation.

The Committee is invited to **provide further guidance** on the contents of the strategy and may wish to put forward suggestions on how to involve stakeholders in further elaborating and finalizing it.

Draft communication strategy (CEP/2004/7) and timetable

(e) UNECE multilateral environmental agreements (3-4 p.m.)

- (i) Ongoing activities related to the UNECE multilateral environmental agreements which need special attention

The Committee will **be informed** of the key development and activities under the UNECE conventions, highlighting the major achievements and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the conventions and their protocols.

- (ii) Support to the UNECE multilateral environmental agreements

The Committee is expected to discuss the outcome of the informal consultation between the representatives of the Bureaux of the Committee and of the governing bodies of the UNECE environmental conventions held on 7 June 2004.

The Committee may wish **to discuss** how it could best continue to support the work under the conventions and **agree** to arrange the next informal consultation in June 2005.

Report of the informal consultation between the Committee's Bureau and the conventions' Bureaux (CEP/2004/10)

(f) Environment Strategy for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) (4-5 p.m.)

Ministers at the Kiev Conference considered the EECCA Strategy as a basis for developing activities through partnerships and called on the UNECE member States, international organizations and institutions to support initiatives to achieve its objectives.

The Committee will be informed about the meetings of the Task Force on the Environmental Action Programme (EAP) on the implementation of the Strategy and the preparations for the ministerial meeting (Kiev + 1) to be held in Georgia in October 2004.

The Committee may wish to **discuss** how in particular the environmental performance reviews, the environmental monitoring activities together with the work under the UNECE environmental conventions can best contribute to the implementation of the Strategy.

Reports of the EAP task force meetings

(g) Environment, water and security partnership in Central Asia (5-6 p.m.)

The Central Asian Initiative on Water, Environment and Security and the follow-up to the recommendations of the Ministers in Kiev aim at strengthening cooperation to protect water-basin ecosystems, using water rationally and improving governance to ensure this subregion's sustainable development and security.

The Committee will be informed about the steps taken by the Central Asian countries to develop a partnership agreement and practical activities to reach the objectives set in the Initiative and linked to the EECCA Environment Strategy, the UNECE Water Convention and the World Summit's Plan of Implementation.

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the information and discuss it.

Friday 15 October 2004

(h) Activities of the Regional Adviser and his contribution to the Committee's programme of work (10-10.30 a.m.)

The regional adviser will provide a short overview of his work as related to the Committee's programme of work. The Committee may wish to discuss the presentation and **make proposals** related to the work of the regional adviser.

Activities of the Regional Adviser and his contribution to the Committee's programme of work (CEP/2004/11)

(i) Other cross-sectoral activities (10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.)

(i) The Transport, Environment and Health Pan-European Programme

The second session of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) Steering Committee took place on 29 and 30 March 2004. In particular the implementation of activities within the PEP programme of work were discussed and new activities were decided upon.

The Committee may wish to **consider ways** to further encourage intersectoral cooperation for the implementation of the PEP activities.

Report of the THE PEP Steering Committee (ECE/AC.21/2004/14)

(ii) Energy and the environment

The Committee will be informed about the decision of the Committee on Sustainable Energy concerning work on renewable energies, initially to provide technical assistance to UNECE countries in transition, with the aim of increasing investments in projects related to this area. The Committee on Sustainable Energy recommended that these activities should be carried out within the UNECE Energy Efficiency 21 Project with a view to pursuing the ultimate objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in UNECE countries in transition.

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the information.

Renewable energies (ENERGY/WP.4/2004/5)

Report on the fifteenth session of the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project (ENERGY/WP.4/2004/4)

(iii) Environment and Health: outcome of the 2004 Budapest Ministerial Conference

The Committee will be informed of the outcome of the Ministerial Conference on Health and Environment held in Budapest (June 2004), including the Budapest Declaration and the Children's Environment and Health Action Plan.

The Committee will also be informed of the future of the process as decided by the Ministers in Budapest and, in relation to this, the Committee **is expected to elect** five members to represent the environment sector in the European Environment and Health Committee.

The Budapest Declaration and The Children's Environment and Health Action Plan
(<http://www.euro.who.int/Budapest2004>)

Item 5: The Committee's input to the UNECE programme budget for the next biennium (2006-2007) (3-3.15 p.m.)

The United Nations programme budget proposal for the 2006-2007 biennium will be drafted in 2004. The Committee is therefore invited to discuss the following issues in relation to the next biennium: any possible changes in work directions; new priority areas to be taken up; activities to be cancelled or discontinued; new activities to be introduced; and any streamlining of documentation, publications, number and length of meetings, etc. This should be summarized in a short note and annexed to the report and subsequently transmitted to the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work to facilitate its review of the draft UNECE programme budget for 2006-2007.

As a basis for this discussion, the following conference room papers will be made available: Programme performance report 2002-2003; Strategic framework 2006-2007 (as adopted by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in June 2004).

Item 6: Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the UNECE trust funds (3.15-3.30 p.m.)

The Committee will be informed about the current status of the trust funds and donor countries are invited to pledge further contributions to the trust funds, and **agree on** the updated criteria for financial assistance.

Updated criteria for financial assistance

Item 7: Establishment of the Preparatory Group (Working Group of Senior Officials) for the next Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" in 2007 (3.30-4.30 p.m.)

The Committee is **expected to establish** the Working Group of Senior Officials, and **adopt** the draft mandate of the Working Group. The first meeting of the Working Group is expected to be held back to back with the Committee's session in 2005.

The Committee may wish **to exchange views** on a possible theme for the next Conference.

The delegation of Serbia and Montenegro is invited to provide preliminary information on the organization of the Conference to be held in Belgrade in 2007.

Establishment of the preparatory group for the sixth "Environment for Europe" Conference (CEP/2004/13)

Item 8: Any other business (4.30-5 p.m.)

Delegations **may wish to raise** any other point relevant to the meeting.

Item 9: Election of officers for the twelfth session (5-5.30 p.m.)

The Committee **is expected to elect** a chairperson and members of its Bureau.

Item 10: Closing of the eleventh session (5.30-6 p.m.)

The Chairman with the assistance of the secretariat will sum up the Committee's conclusions and decisions. In consultation with the Bureau, the secretariat will finalize the report of the eleventh session for circulation to the members countries.

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For advance copies, please visit the Committee's web site (<http://www.unece.org/env/cep/>)

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