



Seventh “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference

**Astana, Kazakhstan
21–23 September 2011**

List of documents and materials for the Conference

INFORMATION DOCUMENT



UNITED NATIONS

Economic Commission for Europe

Seventh “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference

Astana, 21–23 September 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the Conference and adoption of the agenda

List of documents and materials for the Conference*

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The present document provides an overview of documents prepared for the Seventh “Environment for Europe” (EfE) Ministerial Conference. The provisional list is structured in accordance with the provisions of the EfE Reform Plan (ECE/CEP/S/152, para.12 (d) and (e)) and the agreed Organizational Issues for the Conference (ECE/CEP/2010/2, section II). It includes official substantive documents and information documents prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE) and relevant EfE partners.

The following EfE partners are authors or co-authors of the Conference documents: UNECE Steering Group on Environmental Assessments (SGEA), UNECE Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (WGMA) under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention), Bureau of the Water Convention, Astana Water Action Drafting Group, UNECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA), UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention); Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), European Union Water Initiative (EUWI), European Commission (EC), European Environment Agency (EEA), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the OECD Task Force for the Implementation of the Environmental Action Programme for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia countries (OECD/EAP Task Force), and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC-CEE).

To minimise the use of natural resources, the Astana Ministerial Conference is a paperless event. In order to considerably diminish the printing of documents for the Conference, all Conference documents will be made available on the website (<http://www.unece.org/env/efe/Astana/documents.html>). Conference participants are encouraged to download them in electronic format and, if necessary, print them. Only documents produced during the preparatory meeting of the Committee and the Conference (e.g. Ministerial Declaration and Chair’s Summary) will be distributed with two hard copies per delegation.

The host country will provide the necessary technical equipment (electric sockets and wifi Internet connection) to enable the use of laptops in the Conference plenary hall. Given financial resource constraints, the host country invited participants to bring their own laptops to the Conference.

The present document is being submitted to the Conference to facilitate its work.

* This document was not formally edited.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Document title</i>	<i>Author(s)</i>	<i>Language(s)</i>	<i>Document nature / brief description</i>	<i>Conference symbol number</i>
Official documents submitted through the Committee on Environmental Policy					
1.	Annotated provisional agenda for the Conference	Committee on Environmental Policy	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting agenda	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/1
2.	Organization of work at the Conference	Committee on Environmental Policy	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting programme	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2
3.	Sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems	Committee on Environmental Policy; UNECE and OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Fr/Ru	Substantive document to support discussion and decision-making	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/3
4.	Greening the economy: mainstreaming the environment into economic development	Committee on Environmental Policy; UNECE and UNEP	En/Fr/Ru	Substantive document to support discussion and decision-making	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/4
5.	Draft Ministerial Declaration	Ministers and Heads of Delegation of UNECE region	En/Fr/Ru	Draft agreed outcome	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/L.1
6.	Astana Water Action	CEP Astana Water Action Drafting Group; Water Convention Bureau	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting outcome; initiative on actions required for a sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/5
7.	Partnership Programme of the Astana “Green Bridge” Initiative	Kazakhstan with interested countries and partners	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting outcome; Partnership Programme to implement the Astana “Green Bridge” Initiative	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/6
8.	Europe’s Environment – Assessment of Assessments: Summary ¹	EEA under the guidance from the Steering Group on Environmental Assessments	En/Fr/Ru	Assessment report; includes recommendations	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/8
9.	The second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters in the	Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the	En/Ru	Assessment report; includes recommendations	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/9– ECE/MP.WAT/34

¹ The full report is issued as a separate publication. It is available on the Conference website http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/europes-environment-aoa/at_download/file.

No.	Document title	Author(s)	Language(s)	Document nature / brief description	Conference symbol number
	UNECE region: Executive Summary ²	Water Convention; UNECE			
Post-session documents					
10.	Report of the Conference (post-session)	UNECE	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting report	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2
11.	Ministerial Declaration (post-session)	Committee on Environmental Policy	En/Fr/Ru	Agreed outcome	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1
12.	Chair's Summary of the Conference (post-session)	Host country and UNECE in cooperation with relevant EfE partners	En/Fr/Ru	Meeting summary	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.2
Information documents (background, informational and analytical documents of direct relevance to the Conference agenda submitted by the "Environment for Europe" partners and other interested stakeholders)					
13.	List of Conference documents	UNECE	En/Fr/Ru	Overview of meeting documents and symbols	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/1/Rev.4
14.	Information note on logistics for the Conference	Host country and UNECE	En/Ru	Note including information on Conference venue, accommodation, transfer from/to hotels, etc.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/2
<i>Sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems</i>					
15.	Astana Water Action (AWA): a compilation of actions by countries and organizations	UNECE on the basis of inputs from countries and organizations	En	The document presents an overview of actions under the AWA submitted by countries and organizations as of 16 September 2011. All actions are also posted on the website http://www.unece.org/env/efe/Astana/documents.html	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/40
16.	Collection of good practices on the sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems	UNECE jointly with partners	En	Good practices	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/3
17.	Guidelines for developing national strategies to use	UNECE/WGEMA	En/Ru	Guidelines	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/4 –

² The full report is issued in a separate publication (ECE/MP.WAT/34).

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	water quality monitoring as an environmental policy tool				ECE/CEP/S/2011/5
18.	Strengthening water management and transboundary water cooperation in Central Asia: the role of UNECE Conventions	UNECE	En/Ru	Awareness and capacity building	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/5
19.	Report on EU Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management and vision for the future development of the dialogues	UNECE	En/Ru	This document gives an outline of objectives, current state and plans for the future development of the EU Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resource Management.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/6
20.	Progress Report of the EU Water Initiative Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia Component	UNECE, OECD, Ministry of Environment and Forests of Romania	En	The report will inform about the process and outcomes of implementation of the EU Water Initiative Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia Component. It will reflect the three pillars of the EUWI Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia Component - namely, water supply and sanitation, IWRM and financing.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/7
21.	Ten Years of Water Sector Reform in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	The objectives of this report are (i) to evaluate the performance of the water and sanitation sector in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia over the last ten years and (ii) to identify key factors underlying that performance. The report draws policy recommendations to help countries stem the overall decline in water and sanitation sector in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, building on existing achievements, and tackle new challenges such as climate change, and public budget cuts in a context of global economic crisis.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/8

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22.	Establishing a dynamic system of surface water quality regulation: Guidance for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia– Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	This guidance document promotes the adoption of ambitious but feasible water quality requirements by building capacity for the preparation and implementation of the water quality planning and regulatory components of integrated water resources management in Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries. It is designed to help Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries to progress with a “second generation” of water-related legislation.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/9
23.	Policy framework for managing water resources in the near Caspian region	Centre for International Projects (CIP), Russian Federation and UNEP with partners	En	Water challenges in the Russian Federation and strategy for improved water management	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/38
24.	Information system for Specially Protected Areas around Lake Baikal, Buryatia	Centre for International Projects (CIP), Russian Federation and UNEP	En	On-line information system for informed decision making and conflict resolution	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/39
<i>Sustainable management of water and greening the economy (cross-cutting theme)</i>					
25.	Environmental Performance Review Programme: third cycle of reviews	Committee on Environmental Policy; UNECE	En/Fr/Ru	Proposed structure for a third cycle of the Environmental Performance Review Programme	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/10 – ECE/CEP/S/2011/3
26.	Public private partnerships and innovative financial mechanisms for green infrastructure investment	UNECE in cooperation with partners	En/Ru	Initiative to strengthen the private sector participation in the EfE process	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/11
27.	Declaration by first session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Espoo Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	MOP to the Espoo Convention serving as the MOP to the Protocol on SEA	En/Fr/Ru	Agreed outcome; see paragraphs 18–20 of the draft declaration (http://live.unece.org/env/eia/meeting/s/mop_5.html)	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/12 - ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2

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28.	Report on the implementation of the Belgrade Initiative on SEA	Armenia, Belarus and the Republic of Moldova, with the support of UNECE, UNDP and the REC-CEE	En/Ru	Report; presenting progress in the implementation of the Belgrade Initiative on SEA	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/13
29.	“Rio plus Aarhus — 20 years on: Bearing fruit and looking forward” Chişinău Declaration	Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention	En/Fr/Ru	Agreed outcome; see draft declaration (http://www.unece.org/env/pp/mop4/mop4.doc.htm); also serves as an input to the Rio+20 Conference. The declaration addresses issues of green economy and environmental governance	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/14 – ECE/MP.PP/2011/2/Add.1
30.	Private sector participation in water supply and sanitation in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	This document contains a review of Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries experience with private sector participation (PSP), including proceedings from a thematic regional meeting, as well as the results of applying the “OECD Checklist for PSP in water infrastructure” by several Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/15
31.	Guidelines for performance-based contracts between water utilities and municipalities: Lessons learnt from Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia– Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	This analytical report summarises the most recent experience with designing, negotiating and implementing performance-based contracts in the water supply and sanitation sector in selected Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/16
32.	Benefits of investing in water and sanitation: an OECD perspective – Executive Summary	OECD	En/Ru	The provision of water supply, sanitation and wastewater services generates substantial benefits for public health, the economy and the environment. Benefit-to-cost ratios can be as high as 7 to 1 for basic water and sanitation services in developing countries. The full magnitude of the benefits of water	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/17

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				services, however, often remains invisible to policy makers. The report tries to address this problem by summarising relevant information on this subject.	
33.	Managing water for all: An OECD perspective on pricing and financing – Executive Summary	OECD	En/Ru/Fr	This report examines strategic financial planning for water supply and sanitation that balances the key sources of revenues for the sector - the "3Ts" of taxes, tariffs and transfers. It also discusses the design and implementation of water pricing strategies and recent development in private sector participation in the water sector. A particular focus is put on trends and the future outlook of water use in agriculture. The report considers both developing and OECD countries and offers concrete recommendations for action.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/18
34.	Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication - Water: Investing in natural capital	UNEP	En/Ru	Making a case for early investment in water management and infrastructure, including ecological infrastructure.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/35
35.	The Environment and Security Initiative: information note for the Seventh "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference	ENVSEC	En	The Environment and Security Initiative comprises six organizations and works to reduce regional water and security risks in Central Asia, Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe and Southern Caucasus.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/37
<i>Greening the economy: mainstreaming the environment into economic development</i>					
36.	Regional analysis of policy reforms to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy investments; Executive Summary of the regional analysis	UNECE	En ; En/Ru	The regional analysis of policy reforms to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy investments is conceived as a wide-ranging regional assessment, including case studies, expert workshops and senior policymaker seminars. The main goal of the analysis is to provide	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/19 ; ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/20

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				recommendations addressed to the policymakers of the participating countries in order to develop and implement policy reforms that will support market formation and foster a favorable climate for investments in the sectors of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. To achieve this goal, an interactive approach has been applied with active involvement of the designated National Coordinators and National Participating Institutions from the project countries and direct contributions from experts which have been collected and consolidated in the final report.	
37.	Financing Global Climate Change Mitigation	UNECE	En/Ru ³⁾	The publication provides an appraisal of the energy efficiency situation worldwide and guidance to further action. In its first part, obstacles to investments are analysed and existing financing mechanisms to overcome these obstacles are reviewed. It then provides an overview of technical, economic and regulatory conditions in each region and a summary of main activities undertaken by national governments and international institutions, with a particular regard to the work of UN Regional Commissions.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/21 – ECE/ENERGY/72
38.	Global Energy Efficiency 21. Co-operation between the United Nations Regional Commissions on energy efficiency for climate change mitigation	UNECE	En	GEE21, led by UNECE and jointly implemented by the other UN Regional Commissions (RCs) is aimed at developing a systematic exchange of experience on capacity building, policy reforms and investment project finance among	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/22

³ The publication is available in hard copy in all 6 languages of the United Nations.

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				countries of all regions of the world through the five RCs in order to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements that raise economic productivity, diminish fuel poverty and reduce environmental air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.	
39.	Global Strategy to promote energy efficiency market formation	UNECE	En	The present report is a draft global strategy to promote market formation and self-financing Energy Efficiency (EE) improvements for implementation through the Regional Commissions (RCs) of the UN system. The objectives of the current draft global strategy to promote EE market formation are to (i) give an overview and analysis of EE policies and market development in the various UN RCs and (ii) recommend instruments for implementation to scale up EE development in the UN RCs through collaborative measures that the UNECE and other RCs can undertake.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/23
40.	Astana “Green Bridge” Initiative	Kazakhstan with interested countries and partners	En/Ru	Initiative; aims to stimulate regional, trans-regional and intersectoral cooperation, and to enable implementation of principles of “green” economy in relation to changing political and economic conditions, environmental priorities and the growing needs of the countries of Europe, Asia and the Pacific. The Initiative was welcomed and endorsed by the ESCAP 6 th Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, Astana, Sep 2010	E/ESCAP/MCED(6)/13
41.	The role of education for sustainable development	UNECE	En	Discussion paper; presents potential key linkages between ESD and	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/24

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	(ESD) in shifting to a green economy			greening the economy, namely shifting economic thinking and promoting sustainable consumption and green skills	
42.	Green Economy: Success stories	UNEP	En/Ru	Compilation and analysis of achievement and on-going good practices	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/25
43.	Greening public budgets in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	This analytical report presents the results from a survey of ten Eastern Europe, Caucasian and Central Asian countries on mainstreaming environmental programmes into public budgets. The analysis contains policy relevant recommendations on improving medium-term financial planning of environmental expenditure.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/26
44.	Green growth and environmental governance in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – Executive Summary	OECD/EAP Task Force	En/Ru	This paper presents an assessment of opportunities and constraints for green growth in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, particularly as concerns the potential of current environmental policies to catalyse transition towards green economy and the capacity of environmental authorities to play a leading role in this process.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/27
45.	Towards green growth – Green Growth Strategy Synthesis Report – Executive Summary	OECD	En/Ru/Fr	This report, delivered to the 2011 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, elaborates specific tools and recommendations to help governments to identify the policies that can help achieve the most efficient shift to greener growth. It proposes a flexible policy framework that can be tailored to a country's specific needs and circumstances.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/28
46.	Towards green growth - Monitoring progress. OECD Indicators – Executive	OECD	En/Ru/Fr	This report, delivered to the 2011 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, provides a conceptual framework and indicators for monitoring progress	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/29

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	Summary			towards green growths and proposes a way forward towards addressing the most pressing data development needs in this area. The set of green growth indicators listed in the report is a starting point rather than a final list and will be further elaborated as new data become available and as concepts evolve.	
47.	Opportunities and options for promoting a green economy in the Eastern Partnership countries	The report was prepared with the financial assistance of the EC. It reflects the views of the consultants who prepared it but is not an official position of the EC.	En/Ru	The global objective of this report is to provide information about the current situation and potential opportunities in the Eastern partner countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) to make progress towards a green economy and the introduction of eco-innovation policy instruments.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/30
48.	Green Pack Turning Innovative Education into Action for a Sustainable Development Interactive DVD	REC-CEE	En/Fr/Ru and other languages ⁴	An educational toolkit aimed at supporting national efforts towards sustainable development. The interactive DVD is a compilation of 15 green packs in national languages of the participating countries.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/31
49.	Green and healthy jobs in transport: launching a new partnership under THE PEP	THE PEP	En/Ru	Fact sheet on the potential and opportunities for investments and jobs in green transport	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/32
50.	Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (Advance copy)	UNEP	En	The report demonstrates that the greening of economies is not generally a drag on growth but rather a new engine of growth; that it is a net generator of decent jobs, and that it is also a vital strategy for the elimination of persistent poverty. The report also seeks to motivate policy makers to create the enabling conditions for increased investments	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/33

⁴ Albanian, Azerbaijani, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, English, Hungarian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Slovakian and Turkish.

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				in a transition to a green economy.	
51.	Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication – Synthesis for Policy Makers	UNEP	En/Fr/Ru	A synthesis of the above report.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/34
52.	Summary of the discussions by representatives of the South Eastern European countries at the regional Workshop “Sustainable Consumption and Production and the Green Economy – experiences and good practices”	Croatia and Serbia	En	The Regional Workshop provided broad policy advice and guidance with the aim of promoting and strengthening regional and international cooperation in the transition to a Green Economy and SCP in a broader context of sustainable development.	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/INF/36