



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Committee on Environmental Policy

#### Special session

Batumi, Georgia, 7 June 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the special session

To be held at the Batumi Hilton Hotel, Batumi, Georgia, starting at  
10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7 June 2016\*

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. The Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference:
  - (a) Conference outcomes;
  - (b) Conference agenda.
3. Calendar of meetings.
4. Other business.
5. Closure of the meeting.

#### II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The Reform Plan of the Environment for Europe process (ECE/CEP/S/152 and Corr.1, annex I), adopted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Environmental Policy in 2009 and subsequently endorsed by ECE, mandates the Committee to act as the convening body for the preparatory processes for the

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\* Delegates are requested to complete the online registration form, available on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe website from <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=Pb3FIP>, no later than one month before the meeting. The place and procedure for registration in Batumi to obtain an identification badge will be communicated closer to the meeting day.



Environment for Europe ministerial conferences. It further stipulates that special sessions of the Committee could be scheduled, if needed, in the year prior to the Conference. In accordance with that mandate, the Committee agreed at its special session in Geneva in February 2016 to organize another one-day special session back to back to the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016) with a view to addressing pending issues regarding the Conference's preparation.

## **1. Adoption of the agenda**

2. The Chair will open the special session. The Committee will then be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document. The provisional time schedule is presented in information paper No. 1.<sup>1</sup>

## **2. The Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference**

3. The Committee prepared the Batumi Ministerial Conference during two annual sessions in 2014 and 2015, and one special session in February 2016. The remaining issues to address for the Conference are the finalization of the draft ministerial declaration and the consideration of last-minute organizational issues related to the agenda of the Conference. The organizational procedures for the Conference, adopted by the Committee at its twentieth session (Geneva, 28–31 October 2014), are set out in document ECE/CEP/2014/15.<sup>2</sup>

### **(a) Conference outcomes**

4. In line with the Environment for Europe Reform Plan, at its special session in February 2016 the Committee prepared and approved a draft ministerial declaration (ECE/CEP/S/2016/2, annex I, forthcoming) for consideration and adoption at the Batumi Ministerial Conference. The draft declaration is focused on follow-up and further actions, and is strictly limited in terms of scope to the themes of the Conference.

5. The Committee will be invited to consider the draft ministerial declaration, including the text in square brackets with a view to submitting a clean text to the Conference for adoption.

6. Furthermore, the Committee will be invited to consider any proposals for initiatives and policy tools at either the regional or subregional level that might have been forwarded by interested countries and Environment for Europe partners by the established deadline of 18 April 2016. To facilitate the discussions, interested Environment for Europe actors should make the texts of such initiatives available in the English, French and Russian languages.

### **(b) Conference agenda**

7. The Committee will be invited to consider any last-minute organizational issues related to the Conference agenda and the organization of work that might arise.

8. Also, two documents that were mandated by the Committee at its special session in February 2016, namely the document presenting the mapping of the Environment

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<sup>1</sup> Information and materials for the meeting are available on a dedicated web page on the ECE website ([www.unece.org/environmental-policy/committee-on-environmental-policy](http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/committee-on-environmental-policy)).

<sup>2</sup> The document is available on the ECE website from [www.unece.org/index.php?id=35032](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35032) (see documents table at the bottom of the web page; the document is under agenda item 10 (f)).

subprogramme processes and activities that support countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CEP/S/2016/5), and the document presenting the seven messages on air pollution for ministers (ECE/CEP/S/2016/6), are being processed for the Conference through the Committee's June 2016 special session.

### **3. Calendar of meetings**

9. At its twenty-first session (Geneva, 27–30 October 2015), the Committee approved the proposed schedule of its meetings until 2018 (information paper No. 9), and agreed on the dates of its twenty-second session, which is scheduled to take place in Geneva from 7 to 9 December 2016. An updated schedule of meetings until 2019 will be prepared for the Committee's consideration at its twenty-second session.

### **4. Other business**

10. The Committee will be invited to discuss any other business that might be brought to its attention. Delegations wishing to propose items are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

### **5. Closure of the meeting**

11. The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will sum up the conclusions and decisions of the Committee and close the meeting. The report of the meeting and the list of participants will be finalized by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau for circulation to the Committee after the meeting. These documents will be posted on the meeting website.

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