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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Eleventh meeting

Geneva, 15 and 16 February 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Monday, 15 February 2016*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2016:
 - (a) Organizational issues for the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Official documents for consideration at the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the online registration form available from the Internet (<http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/education-for-sustainable-development/meetings-and-events.html#/>) no later than two weeks before the meeting. On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307.



3. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development:
 - (a) Capacity-building activities;
 - (b) Activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums.
4. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes.
5. Promoting education for sustainable development beyond 2015: organization of work after the High-level Meeting.
6. Round table: mainstreaming gender issues in education for sustainable development.
7. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2016–2017.
8. Calendar of meetings.
9. Other business.
10. Closure of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 10–10:15 a.m.

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development is expected to adopt the agenda for its eleventh meeting, prepared by the secretariat and the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the Bureau, as set out in the present document.

2. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2016

(a) Organizational issues for the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 10:15–11 a.m.

2. At its twentieth session (Geneva, 28–31 October 2014), the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy welcomed progress in the work under the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (Strategy for ESD). It further supported the request by the Steering Committee to organize a high-level meeting of education and environment ministries in the framework of the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016), with a view to assessing progress during the first 10 years of the Strategy and to consider its future implementation.

3. At its twenty-first session (Geneva, 27–30 October 2015), the Committee on Environmental Policy considered the main organizational issues for preparing the Batumi Ministerial Conference, with a view to advancing the preparatory process. It welcomed progress in preparing the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development, and invited the secretariat to provide an update on preparations at the Committee's special session in February 2016.

4. The Steering Committee will be informed about the relevant decisions of the Committee on Environmental Policy, including regarding organizational issues for the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. On that basis, the Committee will be invited to agree on the proposed format and content of the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development (Information paper No. 1). The delegations are also expected to express interest in proposing candidates for chairing the meeting, keynote addresses and possibly other kinds of interventions.

(b) Official documents for consideration at the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development

*Learning from each other: achievements, challenges and ways forward
(third evaluation report)*

Timing: Monday, 15 June, 11–11:30 a.m.

5. The secretariat will update the Steering Committee on the status of preparation of the third evaluation report of the Strategy for ESD (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2016/3) — the final evaluation report on the three phases of implementation within the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2015) — which will be presented at the High-level Meeting in Batumi. The secretariat will also provide a brief summary of the main findings, which were presented in detail at the Steering Committee’s tenth meeting in June 2015.

“Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development” publication

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

6. The Steering Committee will be updated on the contents of the publication “Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development”, which will present the outcomes of the progress reports from the three implementation phases. The publication will also feature success stories collected from the national implementation reports, which were then further developed to serve as examples of good practices for the priority action areas.

Draft future implementation framework

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 12:30–1 p.m.

7. Following the request by the Steering Committee at its tenth meeting, the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau has revised the current draft of the future implementation framework for the Strategy in the light of the outcomes of the discussions held and the comments received.

8. The Steering Committee is invited to approve the final draft future implementation framework (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2016/4) to be submitted for the High-level Meeting in Batumi in June 2016.

Draft ministerial statement

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 3–3:30 p.m.

9. A zero draft ministerial statement for adoption at the High-level Meeting in 2016 was reviewed by the Steering Committee at its tenth meeting and commented. The document was then revised by the secretariat in accordance with the comments from members both at the meeting and received electronically until the end of June 2015. The

revised version of the draft ministerial statement was then submitted by the secretariat for information to the Committee on Environmental Policy at its the twenty-first session, as one of the proposed draft outcomes of the Batumi Conference.

10. The Steering Committee will be invited to consider and officially approve the revised draft ministerial statement (Information paper No. 2) for its submission to the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in Batumi.

3. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

(a) Capacity building activities

11. The secretariat will update meeting participants on the planned Swiss-funded capacity-building workshop, scheduled to be held before the end of March 2016 in Belarus, on the promotion of education for sustainable development (ESD) in that country.

(b) Activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums

12. The Steering Committee will be updated about recent activities to promote ESD in other international forums, such as the joint activities currently being undertaken by the Partner Networks established to help implement the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD launched at the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, 10–12 November 2014). It will also be informed about the relevant outcomes of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris, 30 November–11 December 2015).

4. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes

Timing: Monday, 15 February, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

13. Delegations, and in particular stakeholders such as international and non-governmental organizations, Regional Environmental Centres and research institutions, may wish to inform the Steering Committee of activities related to the Strategy's implementation currently being carried out or planned at the national and international levels.

5. Promoting education for sustainable development beyond 2015: organization of work after the High-level Meeting

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 10–11 a.m.

14. The secretariat will briefly recall details of the previous workplans developed for the implementation of the first three phases of the Strategy, and will propose the development of a new draft workplan for the implementation of the Strategy beyond the United Nations Decade of ESD.

15. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss and agree on the timeline and modalities for the elaboration of the draft workplan for the future implementation of the Strategy.

6. Round table: mainstreaming gender issues in education for sustainable development

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

16. At its tenth meeting, the Steering Committee agreed to organize a round table at the eleventh meeting to share experiences and achievements in the area of mainstreaming gender issues in the education sector in general and specifically in ESD.

17. The secretariat will briefly summarize the inputs provided by the member States in the framework of reporting under the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality (Information paper No. 3), and invite the members to make presentations on their achievements in the area, to be followed by a general discussion on the topic.

7. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2016–2017

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 3–4 p.m.

18. The secretariat will inform the Steering Committee about contributions received since the Committee's last meeting (Information paper No. 4). Since the funding situation of the Strategy for ESD is very tight, and the regional activities under the Strategy are funded exclusively through contributions by member States to the trust fund, advance indications of pledges by States are vital.

8. Calendar of meetings

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 4–4:30 p.m.

19. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the format and the timing of the twelfth Steering Committee meeting to be held in 2016 or 2017.

9. Other business

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 4:30–5 p.m.

20. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the date of the next election of officers.

21. The Steering 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.

10. Closure of the meeting

Timing: Tuesday, 16 February, 5–5:30 p.m.

22. Following some concluding remarks, the Chair will officially close the eleventh meeting.
