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COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Fifth meeting

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COORDINATION OF CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

At its fourth meeting the Steering Committee noted that with the considerable increase in ESD activities, communication and coordination among organizations involved in capacity building activities on ESD was a prerequisite. The Committee agreed on the establishment of a coordination mechanism aimed at bringing together main ESD partners in the region, preferably organized back-to-back to the Steering Committee meetings and, where feasible, other international events. Such a mechanism would not only enable the sharing and coordination of ongoing and planned ESD-related activities, but would also offer a way to promote synergies and to avoid overlap and duplication.

The scope of the coordination mechanism is outlined in the note on the proposed coordination mechanism for Education for Sustainable Development partners in the region prepared for the fourth meeting the Steering Committee (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2009/8) and its mandate - in the report of the fourth meeting the Steering Committee (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2009/2, paras 57-58).

Following up on the discussion which took place at the fourth meeting of the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD, the secretariat proposed to organize a meeting for major international and regional organizations which carry out capacity-building (CB) work aimed at promoting ESD on regional, national and local level in the UNECE region.

To ensure the efficiency of the process, the meeting was scheduled back-to-back with the fifth session of the Steering Committee on ESD (18-19 March 2010), in the afternoon of Friday, 19 March 2010.

The meeting will focus on the introduction of ongoing and planned activities and discussions concerning possible linkages and joint initiatives, as appropriate.

The secretariat would also like to use this opportunity to discuss with the participating organizations how the ongoing capacity building activities in the countries could facilitate the preparation of the first cycle of the mandatory national reports under the ESD Strategy.