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Committee on Housing and Land Management

Seventy-fifth session

Geneva, 8-9 October 2014

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-fifth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, room XII
starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 8 - 9 October 2014

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Results of the review of the Committee's work by the ECE Executive Committee
3. Work of the Bureau of the Committee on Housing and Land Management
4. Charter on Sustainable Housing¹
5. Biennial evaluation report for the period 2012-2013
6. Implementation of the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014-2020
7. Review of the implementation of the programme of work of 2014-2015
 - (a) Sustainable housing and real estate markets
 - (b) Sustainable urban development
 - (c) Land administration and management
 - (d) Country profiles on housing and land management
8. Draft Rules of Procedure for the Committee
9. Status of the Trust Fund on Human Settlements
10. Interdivisional and inter-agency activities

¹ There will be an informal negotiating session on the Charter on Sustainable Housing on 7 October starting at 10 a.m.

11. Other business
12. Election of the Bureau
13. Closing of the session and adoption of the report

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The provisional agenda is based on decisions taken by the Committee at its seventy-fourth session (ECE/HBP/173)² and on progress made since then in implementing the 2014-2015 programme of work (ECE/HBP/2013/10).³ The provisional agenda, which was approved by the Committee Bureau at its meeting on 6 May 2014, is presented to the Committee for adoption.

2. Results of the review of the Committee's work by the ECE Executive Committee⁴

2. The secretariat will report on decisions of the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM) relevant to the work of the Committee.

3. Work of the Bureau of the Committee on Housing and Land Management

3. The Chair of the Committee will report on the Bureau's work and the main decisions taken since the seventy-fourth session of the Committee (ECE/HBP/2014/1).⁵ The Committee is invited to take note of this information.

4. Charter on Sustainable Housing

4. At the sixty-sixth meeting of EXCOM on 6 February 2014, the Chair of the Committee presented the Committee's priorities for 2014 and sought EXCOM's approval for the Committee's development of a non-legally-binding Charter on Sustainable Housing for the ECE Region. EXCOM encouraged the Committee to further investigate and discuss the possibility of developing the Charter. The development of the Charter was added to the Committee's programme of work for 2014-2015, which was adopted by EXCOM (ECE/EX/2014/L.2).⁶

² Available at <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2013/ece.hbp.173.en.pdf>

³ Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2013/ECE_HBP_2013_10.pdf

⁴ The decisions of the sixty-sixth meeting of EXCOM held on 5 March 2014 to approve the Committee's 2014-2015 Programme of Work (ECE/EX/2014/L.2), Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Land Administration (ECE/EX/2014/L.3), and Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (ECE/EX/2014/L.4), available at

<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34681>; and of the sixty-seventh meeting of EXCOM held on 6 February 2014, related on the Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 - Item 6 – Strategic Framework, available in the Chairman's Conclusions (EXCOM/CONCLU/67) at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35050>

⁵ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

⁶ Decisions on matters relating to the Committee on Housing and Land Management- Programme of Work of the Housing and Land Management subprogramme for 2014-2015

5. At its informal meeting on 7 May 2014⁷, the Committee elaborated a draft Charter, which was further developed through an e-mail and web consultation with member States and discussed at a second informal meeting of the Committee on 4 and 5 September and at the pre-session informal negotiating session on 7 October 2014.⁸

6. The Committee will be presented with the draft Charter on Sustainable Housing in the ECE region as contained in (ECE/HBP/2014/2)⁹ and amendments proposed by countries during the informal negotiating session on 7 October. The Committee may wish to endorse the Charter and recommend it to EXCOM for adoption.

5. Biennial evaluation report for the period 2012-2013

7. The Committee will be presented with an evaluation of activities carried out by the Committee on Housing and Land Management in 2012-2013 (ECE/HBP/2014/3).¹⁰ This is in line with the decision of the Commission requesting each sectoral committee to conduct biennial evaluations.¹¹ The Committee is invited to endorse this report.

8. The new ECE evaluation policy approved in 2014 makes the Biennial Evaluation reports discretionary for the subprogrammes. The Committee is invited to consider if it wishes to continue preparing biennial evaluation reports in the future.

6. Implementation of the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region for the Period 2014-2020

9. The Ministerial Meeting on Housing and Land Management on 8 October 2013¹² adopted the Strategy on Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region for the Period 2014-2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3).¹³ The Committee Bureau, at its meeting on 6 May 2014, requested a discussion at the Committee session on the progress in implementing the Strategy.

10. The Committee will discuss progress in the implementation of the strategy based on the outcomes of the survey conducted by the secretariat in 2014 at the request of the Committee at its seventy-third session.¹⁴ The outcome of this survey is contained in the draft publication “Challenges and Priorities in Housing and Urban Development in the ECE

⁷ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35204>

⁸ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

⁹ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

¹⁰ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

¹¹ Decision adopted by EXCOM at its tenth meeting on 30 November 2006. See also Guide for biennial evaluations of subprogramme performance by UNECE sectorial committees available at <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/Biennial-evaluations-Guide.pdf>

¹² Statements of Ministers and Delegations at the Ministerial Meeting on Housing and Land Management available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35150>

¹³ Available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35252>. Also, please see Item 6 (a) in the report of the seventy-fourth session of the Committee (ECE/HBP/173) available at <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2013/ece.hbp.173.en.pdf>.

¹⁴ The Committee on Housing and Land Management at its seventy-third session from 24 to 26 September 2012 requested the secretariat to prepare a publication, which would include short national reports on housing and land management. The outline of the publication “Challenges and Priorities in Housing and Urban Development in ECE Region” was approved at the seventy-fourth session; it is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32606>

Region” (Informal Note 1).¹⁵ The Committee will be invited to make recommendations for further implementation of the strategy and for finalising the publication.

7. Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2014-2015

11. The Committee will review progress made in the implementation of the 2014-2015 programme of work, agreed upon at its seventy-fourth session (ECE/HBP/2013/10)¹⁶, and how the related activities support implementation of the Strategy on Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region for the Period 2014-2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3).¹⁷

(a) Sustainable housing and real estate markets

Social housing

12. On 4 and 5 February 2014, the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management, in cooperation with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and the European Federation of Public, Cooperative and Social Housing (CECODHAS), organized the workshop “The Future of Social Housing: Environmental and Social Challenges and the Way Forward”.¹⁸ Discussion during this workshop focused on the impact of the global financial crisis on housing affordability, Governments’ responses and the challenges that countries face to increase social housing. Further, a draft policy brief was developed by the secretariat (Informal Note 2),¹⁹ providing recommendations to assist member States in addressing their social housing policy challenges. The main conclusions and recommendations of the policy brief will be presented and discussed. The Committee will be invited to take note of this information.

Energy efficiency in the housing sector

13. The Committee will be informed about activities supporting the implementation of the ECE Action Plan for Energy-Efficient Housing (ECE/HBP/164). At its seventy-fourth session, the Committee approved the publication on “Good Practices for Energy-efficient Housing in the ECE Region”, which was prepared jointly with UN-Habitat and the City of Vienna, (ECE/HBP/164).²⁰ This publication will be further used as training material for workshops on energy efficiency in the housing sector.

14. Some member States have requested training workshops in their countries on energy efficiency. The Committee will be informed about the status of the preparations for national training workshops on energy efficient and affordable housing in Albania, Armenia, Republic of Moldova and Tajikistan.²¹

15. To ensure high-quality training and effective policy advice on energy efficiency, the secretariat created an informal ECE Expert Network for Energy Efficiency in Buildings. Members of this network will be invited to participate as trainers in the UNECE workshops

¹⁵ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

¹⁶ Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2013/ECE_HBP_2013_10.pdf. The programme of work was adopted by the sixty-sixth meeting of the EXCOM on 6 February 2014.

¹⁷ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35252>

¹⁸ Report of the workshop available at <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/prgm/hmm/social%20housing/geneva2014/2014.social.housing.report.pdf>

¹⁹ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

²⁰ Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/sessions/docs2013/Committee_session/informal.note.2.e.pdf

²¹ The workshops in Armenia, Republic of Moldova and Tajikistan will be organized with the support of the United Nations Development Account; more information is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35619>

as well as to be authors and reviewers of the Committee's policy documents on energy efficiency. The Committee will be informed about the status of this informal network.

16. Member States will be invited to inform the Committee on training needs in their countries and their availability to support workshops in their own and other countries.

17. A representative of the Government of Georgia will report on progress in the development of a National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency in Housing in Georgia. Delegations will be invited to inform the Committee about their interest in developing a national action plan for their country.

18. The secretariat will present a proposal for developing a study on standards related to energy efficiency in buildings and disaster risk reduction (ECE/HBP/2014/4).²² The Committee will be invited to discuss issues in energy efficient housing and make recommendations for future activities in this programme area and to endorse the proposal for the study.

Real Estate Markets

19. The Committee extended the mandate of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group for two years at its seventy-second session in 2011.²³ At its seventy-fourth session the Committee agreed to recommend to the EXCOM the renewal of the mandate of the Advisory Group for one year and, meanwhile, to entrust the Bureau with drafting new terms of reference to be adopted at the seventy-fifth session of the Committee.²⁴ EXCOM, at its sixty-sixth session in February 2014, renewed the mandate of the Advisory Group for one year (ECE/EX/2014/L.4).²⁵

20. The Chair will present the draft terms of reference of the Advisory Group (ECE/HBP/2014/5)²⁶ to the Committee.

21. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Endorse the new terms of reference of the Advisory Group.
- (b) Provide input and advice on future activities of the Advisory Group.
- (c) Entrust the Bureau with overseeing the Advisory Group's programme of work for the period 2015-2016.

(b) Sustainable urban development

Activities on smart cities

22. The secretariat will inform the Committee on the implementation of activities on smart cities (Informal Note 3),²⁷ which include a series of smart cities capacity building events and the preparation of policy documents. The secretariat will report on the workshop, "Land Information Systems for Smart Cities", which was organized by the UNECE jointly with Geospatial Media and Communications on 8 and 9 May 2014.²⁸

23. The Committee will be invited to discuss these activities and make recommendations for future activities.

Disaster risk reduction and urban planning

²² Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

²³ Please see paragraph 62 of the report of the session (ECE/HBP/167) at <http://www.unece.org/hlm/sessions/currentsession.html>

²⁴ Please see the report of the session (ECE/HBP/173) at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32586>

²⁵ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34681>

²⁶ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

²⁷ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

²⁸ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34473>

24. The Committee will be presented with a proposal for the development of a policy brief on spatial planning, which would contain recommendations for addressing disaster risks, such as earthquakes, floods, landslides and industrial accidents (ECE/HBP/2014/6).²⁹

25. The Committee will be invited to discuss the proposal and make recommendations for the possible content of the policy brief to be developed.

(c) Land administration and management

26. The Chair of the Working Party on Land Administration will report on the activities and the workshops carried out by the Working Party since the last session of the Committee (Informal Note 4).³⁰

Workshops and other events

27. The Chair of the Working Party will report on the workshop, “The Socioeconomic Potential of Land Administration Services”, organized by the Danish Geodata Agency and the Working Party in Copenhagen on 22 and 23 May 2014, and on the meeting of the Working Party with key international agencies active in land administration in the ECE region held in Copenhagen before the workshop. The Chair will also report on the Working Party’s contribution to the Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty held from 24 to 27 March 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Benchmarking of land administration systems

28. The Chair of the Working Party will present the publication, *Survey on Land Administration Systems* (ECE/HBP/180)³¹ prepared based on a survey of land administration systems in UNECE member States. This study provides an analysis of national land administration systems services, data security, practices on recovering data in the event of a disaster and other aspects of land administration.

A study on informal settlements in the ECE region

29. The Committee will be presented with a draft study on informal settlements in the ECE region (Informal Note 5).³² The study was prepared in cooperation with The International Federation of Surveyors.

A study on advantages and disadvantages of unification of land registries and cadastres

30. The outline of a study examining advantages and disadvantages of unification of land registries and cadastres (Informal Note 6)³³ will be presented to the Committee.

31. The Committee may wish to take note of the information and make proposals for possible future activities of the Working Party.

(d) Country profiles on housing and land management

32. At its seventy-fourth session, the Committee approved guidelines for the preparation of country profiles on housing and land management (ECE/HBP/2013/8).³⁴ The Committee will be informed about the implementation of the guidelines in preparing new country profiles and national action plans which have been developed as a result of recommendations in the country profiles.

²⁹ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

³⁰ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

³¹ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35209>

³² Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

³³ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

³⁴ Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2013/ECE_HBP_2013_8.pdf

33. The Committee will be provided with updates on the status of the country profiles on housing and land management. In particular, the Committee will be informed of the:

- Status of the implementation of the country profile on housing and land management of Ukraine (ECE/HBP/176)³⁵.
- Key outcomes and policy recommendations in the country profile on housing and land management of the Republic of Moldova (ECE/HBP/181)³⁶.
- Key outcomes and policy recommendations in the country profile on housing and land management of Uzbekistan.
- Steps taken to develop country profiles for Armenia, Croatia, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

34. The delegations of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine will report on the progress made in implementing the recommendations in their respective country profiles.³⁷

35. Delegations of all member States are invited to inform the Committee if they are interested in having a country profile prepared for their country. The Committee may wish to:

- Discuss the impact of country profiles on countries and mechanisms to monitor the implementation of their recommendations.
- Take note of the information provided and decide on the next countries to be reviewed.

8. Draft Rules of Procedure for the Committee

36. The seventy-fourth session of the Committee invited the secretariat to develop Rules of Procedure for the Committee to be presented for approval at the seventy-fifth session. According to the Guidelines on Procedures and Practices for ECE bodies adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2013/37-E/ECE/1464, annex III),³⁸ all Sectoral Committees and other subsidiary bodies may adopt their own Rules of Procedure on the basis of ECE Rules of Procedure and, where applicable, Rules of Procedure of ECOSOC, taking into account these guidelines.

37. A presentation will be made of the Bureau's proposal for Rules of Procedure for the Committee (ECE/HBP/2014/7)³⁹, which are based on the Guidelines on Procedures and Practices for ECE Bodies (E/ECE/1468).⁴⁰

38. The Committee may wish to endorse these new rules of procedure.

9. Status of the trust fund on human settlements

39. The secretariat will report on the status of the trust fund on human settlements. Delegations will be invited to announce their voluntary contributions and in-kind support.

³⁵ Available at

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/Publications/CPUkraine_finaldraft_web.pdf

³⁶ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

³⁷ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/hlm/publicationsandreports.html>

³⁸ Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/2013/E_ECE_1468-EN.pdf

³⁹ Information available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35435>

⁴⁰ For more information, please see Annex III, paragraph 2 of the Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE (E/ECE/1468) at:

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/2013/E_ECE_1468-EN.pdf

10. Interdivisional and inter-agency activities

40. Information will be presented on activities carried out in cooperation with other ECE subprogrammes, United Nations agencies or programmes, as well as other international organizations.

41. Other interested organizations will be invited to present their work and proposals for cooperation on different projects, publications and events in the areas of energy efficiency, green economy, disaster preparedness, land management, real estate markets, and other themes relevant to the work of the Committee.

42. The Committee will take note of the information provided and will be invited to provide advice on how to further cooperate with other organizations and ECE subprogrammes.

11. Other business

42. Member States may raise any other issues under this agenda item.

12. Election of the Bureau

43. The Committee is expected to elect the Bureau for its seventy-fifth session.

13. Closing of the session and adoption of the report

44. The Chair will summarize the major decisions taken by the Committee. The Committee will be invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.

45. The Chair will close the session.

III. Tentative Timetable

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>	
Wednesday, 8 October	10:00 – 10:10	1	Adoption of the agenda
	10:10 – 10:30	2	Results of the review of the Committee's work by the ECE Executive Committee
	10:30 – 11:00	3	Work of the Bureau of the Committee
	11:00 – 13:00	4	Charter on sustainable housing
	15:00 – 15:45	4	Charter on sustainable housing (cont'd)
	15:45 – 16:00	5	Biennial evaluation report for the period 2012-2013
	16:00 – 16:30	6	Implementation of the strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region for the Period 2014-2020
		7	Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2014-2015
	16:30 – 17:15	7 (a)	Sustainable housing and real estate markets
	17:15 – 18:00	7 (b)	Sustainable urban development
Thursday 9 October	10:00 – 11:00	7 (c)	Land administration and management
	11:00 – 12:00	7 (d)	Country profiles on housing and land management
	12:00 – 12:30	8	Draft Rules of Procedure for the Committee
	12:30 – 13:00	9	Status of the Trust Fund on Human Settlements
	15:00 – 16:00	10	Interdivisional and inter-agency activities
	16:00 – 17:00	11	Other business
	17:00 – 17:20	12	Election of Bureau
	17:20 – 18:00	13	Closing of the session and adoption of the report.