

UNECE Monthly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS*

September 2012

Date and venue	Title	Conf. Room No.	Comments
3(pm)-4(am), Helsinki	Anniversary event to celebrate 20 years of the Helsinki Convention (UNECE Water Convention) and its future <i>Focal point:</i> Francesca Bernardini <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2463 <i>E-mail:</i> francesca.bernardini [at] unece.org	—	Since its adoption 20 years ago, significant results have been achieved, and experience gained, through the implementation of the UNECE Water Convention (Helsinki Convention). The event will provide a retrospective analysis of the work, successes and challenges of the past 20 years. The event will also debate on the future and on the challenges and opportunities ahead. In particular, it will discuss the future perspective linked to the entry into force of the amendment of the Water Convention allowing also countries outside the UNECE region to join the Convention, and the entry into force of the UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of international Watercourses. The event will debate the relationship between the two instruments and potential institutional arrangements for the implementation. The discussion will inform the decisions at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (Rome, 28-30 November 2012). <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/water/20th_anniversary_2012.html
3(pm)-5	Working Party on Noise (GRB) <i>Focal point:</i> Edoardo Gianotti <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2422 <i>E-mail:</i> edoardo.gianotti [at] unece.org	VII	GRB at its fifty-sixth session will develop discussion on proposals concerning sound emissions of passenger and commercial vehicles and motorcycles, on replacement silencing systems of motor vehicles and tire rolling noise and wet grip adhesion. Moreover, GRB will resume consideration on: (a) Development of a global technical regulation on Quiet Road Transport Vehicles. (b) Definitions and acronyms in Regulations under GRB responsibilities. (c) Proposal for amendments to Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles. (d) Environmentally Friendly Vehicles. (e) Development of the International Whole

* Not an official record; for information only. Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

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			<p>Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system and involvement of the Working Parties (GRs) in it.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29grb/grbage.html</p>
3-5	<p>Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention</p> <p><i>Focal point:</i> Ella Behlyarova <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2376 <i>E-mail:</i> ella.behlyarova [at] unece.org</p>	XI	<p>The Working Group is expected to review the progress made in implementing the Convention's work programme for 2012-2014 and will discuss draft proposals for an in-depth evaluation of the current functioning and implementation of the Convention and for an assessment of the current interim scheme of contributions.</p> <p>The meeting will also address the preparation of a new strategic plan for the Convention for the period 2015-2020. Furthermore, the meeting will feature a thematic session on promoting the application of the principles of the Convention in international forums.</p> <p>The session will review, <i>inter alia</i>, the promotion of the principles of the Convention in the lead-up to and at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, 20-22 June 2012), measures taken at the national level to promote public participation in international forums and public participation in IFI-funded projects.</p> <p>The session will also explore future steps and initiatives to promote the universal application of the Convention's principles.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/acwgp15.html</p>
3-5	<p>Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5)</p> <p><i>Focal point:</i> Konstantinos Alexopoulos <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3758 <i>E-mail:</i> konstantinos.alexopoulos [at] unece.org</p>	XXIII	<p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5age.html</p>

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4-5 Naples, Italy	<i>World Urban Forum meetings</i>		
4 (10:00- 13:20)	UNECE REM Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets: Sound rules to improve the real estate sector and promote economic growth <i>Focal point:</i> Michael Milligan <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1357 <i>E-mail:</i> michael.milligan [at] unece.org	Chamber of Commerce of Naples	The forum offers a discussion of the Italian legal situation, in order to make the real estate sector more efficient, competitive and more attractive to foreign investors and so contribute to the country's economic and social development. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30738
4 (14:30– 16:30)	Housing Agendas in Transition: UNECE Country Profiles and their impact on housing policies in countries in transition <i>Focal point:</i> Gulnara Roll <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2257 <i>E-mail:</i> gulnara.roll [at] unece.org	Pavilion 4, Room 22	On request of governments of ECE member States and upon decision of the intergovernmental Committee for Housing and Land Management (CHLM), UNECE prepares Country Profiles on Housing Sector. Country Profiles is a tool for Governments to analyze their housing policies, strategies, institutional and financial frameworks and to compare the progress made internationally. The networking event will present findings, recommendations and lessons learned from the country profiles prepared for transition countries in recent years, including Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Ukraine. Housing policies in these and other countries with economies in transition in the ECE region as well as methodology of preparation of country profiles will be discussed. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30706
5 (14:00- 16:00)	Energy-efficient housing as a participatory effort between policies, private sector and the people in the wider European region – Challenges, opportunities and good practices <i>Focal point:</i> Maike Christiansen <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4170 <i>E-mail:</i> maike.christiansen [at] unece.org	Pavilion 6, Room 8	Energy efficiency is a key solution to address the energy crisis and climate change. Increasing energy efficiency in housing and cities targets a range of sectors, including building and transport, but also people behaviour. Many countries in the UNECE region, especially in Central Asia, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, have comparably low energy efficiency levels in housing. This is placing additional strain on households and societies and jeopardising global climate change mitigation efforts. This event discusses experience in sustainable access to energy and energy-efficient housing with a focus on dissemination, discussion and collection of practices: showing what works, how it has worked and what the legislative and practical frameworks for these practices were. A project to develop a casebook of good practices will be launched with several key cases presented. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30708

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5 & 7	Implementation Committee, 30th session (Air Convention) <i>Focal point:</i> Alina Novikova <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2630 <i>E-mail:</i> alina.novikova [at] unece.org	XV	The Committee will continue reviewing cases of non-compliance by Parties with their obligations to the Protocols to the Convention, as requested by the Executive Body. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/ic/welcome.html
5-7 Budapest	Workshop on Human Resources Management and Training in National Statistical Offices <i>Focal point:</i> Tetyana Kolomiyets <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4150 <i>E-mail:</i> tetyana.kolomiyets [at] unece.org	—	<i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.09.hrm.htm
10-12(am)	Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat <i>Focal point:</i> Liliana Annovazzi-Jakab <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1176 <i>E-mail:</i> liliana.annovazzi-jakab [at] unece.org	V	<i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=28939
10-14, Belarus and Lithuania	Project meeting and field trip within the project “River basin management and climate change adaptation in the Neman basin” <i>Focal point:</i> Sonja Koeppel <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1218 <i>E-mail:</i> sonja.koeppel [at] unece.org	—	The project implemented by UNECE and UNDP Belarus in the framework of the ENVSEC initiative aims to improve integrated river basin management and transboundary cooperation in times of a changing climate in the Neman river basin. The project meeting will be held partly in Belarus (Hrodno) and partly in Lithuania (Druskininkai) and aims to discuss project progress and the next steps. It will be combined with a field trip where participants travel along the Neman river from Belarus to Lithuania taking water samples and visiting water infrastructure and other places of interest in order to achieve a better understanding of water monitoring and management practices on the shared river as a basis for improved cooperation. Local authorities will be involved as well as media. <i>Website:</i> http://www1.unece.org/ehlm/platform/display/ClimateChange/Neman
10-14	Working Group on Strategies and Review, 51st session <i>Focal point:</i> Franziska Ilg <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2480 <i>E-mail:</i> franziska.ilg [at] unece.org	VII	The Working Group will continue discussions on revision of the Protocol on Heavy Metals with high priority to secure agreement on the text. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/workinggroups/wgs/welcome.html
11-13	Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (25th session) <i>Focal point:</i> Tea Aulavuo <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1723 <i>E-mail:</i> tea.aulavuo@unece.org	VIII	The Implementation Committee's objective is to review compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, with a view to assisting them fully to meet their commitments. In its twenty-fifth session, the Committee will focus on considering, in closed sessions, three submissions by Parties regarding other Parties' compliance with the Convention: by Azerbaijan regarding Armenia; by Lithuania regarding Belarus, and by Armenia regarding Azerbaijan. The Committee will also

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			<p>continue its consideration of its initiative on Azerbaijan.</p> <p>The Committee will then finalize the questionnaire relating to the implementation of the Protocol in 2010-2012. It will also discuss a possible specific compliance issue regarding Portugal's implementation of the Convention.</p> <p>Finally, time permitting, it will review information provided by Romania and Ukraine in response to requests by the Committee as well as consider information provided by a non-governmental organization from Belarus. Finally, it may briefly consider initial information on the development of general guidance to resolve a possible systemic inconsistency between the Convention and the State ecological expertise system in the countries of the former Soviet Union.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=25480</p>
11-14 Lviv, Ukraine	The Lviv Forum on Forests in A Green Economy <i>Focal point:</i> Paola Deda <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2553 <i>E-mail:</i> paola.deda [at] unece.org	—	<p>The Lviv Forum on Forests in a Green Economy for countries in Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia will bring together different stakeholders, policy makers and international experts to share experiences and explore opportunities for implementing the concepts and requirements of the Green Economy in the forest sector. The overall aim is to make the concept meaningful, operational and beneficial for forest management and forest communities in the countries of Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/lviv-forum-2012.html</p>
12 (pm) Paris	Seventh meeting of the International PRTR Coordinating Group <i>Focal point:</i> Ella Behlyarova <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2376 <i>E-mail:</i> ella.behlyarova [at] unece.org	—	<p>The International PRTR Coordinating Group seeks to build synergies and promote coordination at the global level between international organizations, Governments and other interested parties in their ongoing and planned efforts related to the further development and implementation of PRTR systems. The meeting will discuss strategic directions for future work and capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/env/pp/prtr/intlgimages/about.html</p>

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12-14 Issyk-Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan	<i>Third International Sustainable Energy Forum</i>		
12-14	Third International Forum: Energy for Sustainable Development <i>Focal point:</i> Oleg Dzioubinski <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2360 <i>E-mail:</i> feei@unece.org	—	<p>The Forum is organized jointly by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNECE, ESCAP and UNDP. The Forum will explore policies and legislation needed to support energy efficiency improvements and access to cleaner energy and to institute the necessary investment frameworks for energy efficiency and sustainable use of energy.</p> <p>A high-level segment with participation of officials responsible for energy and sustainable development is expected to adopt a joint statement.</p> <p><i>Four thematic workshops</i> will be organized in the framework of the Forum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policies and Legislation to Promote Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Technologies in Central Asia; 2. Energy Efficiency in Buildings (see below); 3. Foreign Direct Investments in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies; 4. Case Studies on Energy Efficiency Financing and Promotion of Advanced Energy Efficiency Technologies. <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29476</p>
13 (09:00- 17:30)	Workshop 2: Energy efficiency in buildings organized within the Third International Forum: Energy for Sustainable Development <i>Focal point:</i> Maike Christiansen <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4170 <i>E-mail:</i> maike.christiansen [at]unece.org	—	<p>This one-day workshop as part of the Third International Forum: Energy for Sustainable Development will outline elements for a national strategy to transform the energy efficiency of the building sector, present policy guidelines, tools and support networks to assist national governments in building the legal and financial framework for a move towards energy efficient and sustainable buildings and provide a platform to exchange information on good energy-efficient building practices.</p> <p>The outcome of the workshop discussions will be reflected in a Casebook on energy efficient housing practices in the UNECE region.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29476</p>
13 Bishkek	Working Group on Water and Health under the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management <i>Focal point:</i> Iulia Trombitcaia <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3332 <i>E-mail:</i> iulia.trombitcaia [at]unece.org	—	<p>The National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on Integrated Water Resources Management in Kyrgyzstan focuses on the development of targets and target dates in the context of the UNECE/WHO-Europe Protocol on Water and Health. The Working Group will further elaborate on the draft targets and baseline analyses, to be submitted to the eighth meeting of the NPD Steering Committee.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/water/npd</p>

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14 Kyiv	Second Meeting of the Project Management Group within the project on hazard and crisis management in the Danube Delta <i>Focal point:</i> Nicholas Bonvoisin <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1193 <i>E-mail:</i> nicholas.bonvoisin [at] unece.org	—	The Project Management Group will review the lessons learned in the first year of the project on hazard and crisis management in the Danube Delta and discuss the next steps for the implementation of the planned activities. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30724
17-19	EMEP Steering Body, 36th session <i>Focal point:</i> Krzysztof Olendrzynski <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2722 <i>E-mail:</i> krzysztof.olendrzynski [at] unece.org	XII	The Steering Body is expected to consider and approve the provisional guidance related to the application of adjustment procedures under the revised Gothenburg Protocol. It will also discuss various aspects of the EMEP domain and its spatial resolution, as well as emission related issues. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/emeep/welcome.html
17-19 Vienna	Twentieth session of the UN/CEFACT Forum <i>Focal point:</i> Maria Rosaria Ceccarelli <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2455 <i>E-mail:</i> maria.ceccarelli [at] unece.org	—	The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and E-business (UN/CEFACT) is organising the 20 th session of the UN/CEFACT Forum in Vienna, from 17 to 21 September 2012. UN/CEFACT supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transition economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contributing to the growth of global commerce. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29610
17-21	Joint Meeting of RID Committee of Experts and of the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and the RID Safety Committee (WP.15/AC.1) <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2456 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella [at] unece.org	VII	<i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=26487
18-20	Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) <i>Focal point:</i> Branko Milicevic <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3158 <i>E-mail:</i> branko.milicevic [at] unece.org	V	As a subsidiary body of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) will resume, during its 73 rd session, the consideration of a range of items proposed to improve regulatory provisions concerning vehicle braking, handling and stability, steering, mechanical couplings and tyres. The proposals, listed in the agenda, refer to all categories of vehicles, including motorcycles, agricultural tractors, buses and trucks. <i>Website:</i> select GRRF in http://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.htm

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18-20 Vienna	Regional Ministerial Conference on Ageing <i>Focal point:</i> Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1462 <i>E-mail:</i> ageing@unece.org	—	<p>With this Ministerial Conference, under the motto "Ensuring a society for all ages: promoting quality of life and active ageing", UNECE member States will mark the tenth anniversary of MIPAA/RIS. Experts and ministerial panels will tackle pressing policy questions such as how best to promote the participation of older persons in the labour market and societal activities, as well as means of creating enabling environments for healthy and independent ageing.</p> <p>The Ministerial Conference will be hosted by the Austrian Government under the auspices of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection and will also include the participation of NGOs and the scientific community.</p> <p>The Conference will conclude with a Ministerial Declaration.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/pau/ageing/ministerial_confidence_2012.html</p>
20-21	Working Group on Effects, 31st session <i>Focal point:</i> Krzysztof Olendrzynski <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2722 <i>E-mail:</i> krzysztof.olendrzynski [at] unece.org	XII	<p>The Working Group will discuss the issue of spatial resolution of the EMEP domain and implications for effects related work, as well as recent updates and further developments of effects oriented activities.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/workinggroups/wge/welcome.html</p>
24-26	Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) <i>Focal point:</i> Robert Nowak <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1267 <i>E-mail:</i> robert.nowak [at] unece.org	V	<p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/roadsafe/wp12012.html</p>
24-26	Committee on Housing and Land Management events		
24	Launch of the exhibition “Building the Future We Want” <i>Focal point:</i> Nina Peeva <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2477 <i>E-mail:</i> nina.peeva [at] unece.org	Palais des Nations 3rd floor, opposite Salon des Délegués	<p>Pictures of sustainable buildings and green designs from all over the UNECE region will be showcased at the Palais des Nations from 24 September to 15 October.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30710</p>

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24-26	Committee on Housing and Land Management, 73rd session <i>Focal point:</i> Gulnara Roll <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 2257 <i>E-mail:</i> gulnara.roll [at] unece.org	VII	The 73 rd Committee session will discuss such topics as: Country Profiles on the housing sector, sustainable housing and urban development, land management, spatial planning and real estate markets. The meeting will also consider the organization of the 2013 Ministerial Meeting on Housing and Land Management, as well as the possible development of a framework convention on sustainable housing in the region. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29836
26	UNECE Green Economy Seminar – “Cities in a Green Economy” <i>Focal point:</i> Maike Christiansen <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 4170 <i>E-mail:</i> maike.christiansen [at] unece.org	VII	Whether compact, resource-efficient or climate-neutral – sustainable urban development has many faces. During this third UNECE Green Economy Seminar, different concepts, approaches and initiatives, which aim to achieve sustainable urban development and support the transition to a Green Economy in urban areas, will be presented and discussed. The seminar will contribute to preparation of the Work Programme 2014 – 2015 of the Committee on Housing and Land Management <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=30603
24-26 Oslo	Work Session on Statistical Data Editing <i>Focal point:</i> Steven Vale <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3285 <i>E-mail:</i> steven.vale [at] unece.org	—	This Work Session will bring together experts in statistical data editing to discuss recent advances and share experiences. A particular emphasis will be placed on modernizing and improving the efficiency of the production of official statistics in national statistical organizations. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.09.sde.html
25-26 Bratislava	21st session of Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR procedure (WP.30/GE.1) <i>Focal point:</i> André Sceaia <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 1313 <i>E-mail:</i> etir@unece.org	—	<i>Website:</i> http://www.etir.unece.org
25-28	Aarhus Convention 38th meeting of the Compliance Committee <i>Focal point:</i> Aphrodite Smagadi <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0)22 917 3294 <i>E-mail:</i> aphrodite.smagadi [at] unece.org	VIII	Among other things, the Committee will discuss the subject matter of communications ACCC/C/2008/31 (Germany), ACCC/C/2011/62 (Armenia) and ACCC/C/2011/63 (Austria). The Committee is expected to finalize its findings, and as appropriate recommendations, with regard to communications ACCC/C/2010/53 (United Kingdom) and ACCC/C/2011/58 (Bulgaria). It will continue its deliberations on communications ACCC/C/2010/45 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2010/51 (Romania), ACCC/C/2011/59 (Kazakhstan), ACCC/C/2011/60 (United Kingdom) and ACCC/C/2011/61 (United Kingdom).

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			<p>The Committee will also consider how to follow up with the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties concerning compliance by individual Parties with provisions of the Convention, in particular with respect to decisions IV/9b (Belarus), IV/9c (Kazakhstan) and IV/9i (United Kingdom).</p> <p>Website: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=28219</p>

If you need more information do not hesitate to contact us: Information Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Palais des Nations, Room 356, CH-1211 Geneva 10,
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