Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy                          Conference of European Statisticians
Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators
First session
Geneva, 3-4 May 2010
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Annotated Provisional Agenda

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 3 May 2010*

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
   (a) Revision of indicators that were discussed at the first Joint Meeting and selected for further consideration;
   (b) Review of additional indicators from the Guidelines.
3. Review of selected indicators not covered by the Guidelines.
4. Other business.
5. Conclusions and closing of the meeting.

* According to the accreditation procedures for meetings at the Palais des Nations, delegates are requested to complete the registration form available from the website of the Committee on Environmental Policy (www.unece.org/env/cep/welcome.html) and to transmit it to the secretariat no later than two weeks prior to the meeting, by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (nadiya.dzyubynska@unece.org). 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 Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the Committee’s website). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat on +41 22 917 2364.
II. Annotations

The Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators was established upon the recommendation of the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) and the Bureau of the Conference of the European Statisticians (CES) by a decision of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) taken at its meeting of 27 February 2009. According to its terms of reference, the Joint Task Force should assist national statistical agencies and institutions responsible for the production of national reports on the state of the environment in countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia (EECCA) and South-Eastern Europe (SEE). Its objectives are to improve environmental data collection, further strengthen environmental reporting and promote comparability of environmental statistics and indicators in the region (ECE/EX/2009/L.6, annex).

Participants in the first session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators to be held on 3-4 May 2010 will be nominated by country focal points from the Conference of European Statisticians and the CEP Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. The United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Statistics Division, Eurostat, the European Environmental Agency, the World Health Organization European Centre for Environment and Health, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Inter-State Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States are invited to designate representatives.

In addition to circulation through the normal channels, meeting documentation, including country contributions, will be posted on-line at: www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.05.environ.htm. Documentation of the informal joint meeting on environmental indicators, held from 31 August to 2 September 2009, is available online at: www.unece.org/stats/documents/2009.05.environ.htm.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the agenda.

2. Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

The Joint Task Force will review of selected indicators covered by the Guidelines\(^1\) to provide practical recommendations on the use of statistical classifications, data collection methods and procedures for the production of indicators.

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(a) **Revision of indicators that were discussed at the first Joint Meeting and selected for further consideration**

The Joint Task Force will clarify the purpose and/or methodologies for data collection, calculation and/or publication of five indicators that were discussed at the informal joint meeting on environmental indicators and selected for further considerations (ECE/CEP/2009/9, para.53(c)). These indicators are as follows:

(i) Emissions of pollutants into the atmospheric air;
(ii) Greenhouse gas emissions;
(iii) Household water use per capita;
(iv) Land uptake;
(v) Waste reuse and recycling.

The discussion will be based on written proposals for amendments submitted by meeting participants.

(b) **Review of additional indicators from the Guidelines**

The Joint Task Force will discuss six further indicators from the Guidelines. The discussion will focus on the use of statistical classifications, data collection methods and procedures for the production of indicators on the following points:

(i) Renewable freshwater resources;
(ii) Freshwater abstraction;
(iii) Protected areas;
(iv) Renewable energy consumption;
(v) Passenger transport demand;
(vi) Freight transport demand.

The indicator evaluation will be supported by countries’ written communications, including examples, indicator by indicator, of the following points:

(i) Effective inter-agency cooperation mechanisms to produce indicators;
(ii) Evidence of the publication of indicators in statistical compendiums and state-of-the-environment reports;
(iii) Procedures applied to ensure data quality assurance and control;
(iv) Time-series data on the six indicators for 2003-2008.

3. **Review of selected indicators not covered by the Guidelines**

Pursuant to a decision of the informal joint meeting on environmental indicators, the Joint Task Force will discuss the following points:

(i) Indicator of environmental expenditures;
(ii) Agri-environmental indicators;
(iii) Energy and environment indicators.
The secretariat will circulate three papers that describe the latest developments in the production at the international level of the above indicators and recommend specific indicators to EEECA and SEE experts (ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2010/3-5).

4. Other business

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item.

5. Conclusions and close of the meeting

The Chair of the Joint Task Force will make a concluding statement on the main outcomes of the meeting.

III. Organization of work

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