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Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators

Sixth session
Geneva, 30 October-1 November 2012

Report of the sixth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document presents the outcomes of the sixth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators, which took place from 30 October to 1 November 2012 in Geneva. At its sixth session the Task Force: (a) reviewed six indicators of the *Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Indicator Guidelines)* and provided practical recommendations to the target countries on the regular production of these indicators;[1] (b) undertook a third reading of a proposed additional indicator on biodiversity not covered by the Indicator Guidelines and decided not to add the indicator of Catches of fish and other aquatic animals and products to the Indicator Guidelines; (c) undertook a second reading of proposed additional indicators of agriculture not covered by the Indicator Guidelines and agreed on the texts of indicators of Irrigation" and "Gross nitrogen balance"; and (d) discussed developments and plans for future work on the indicators under the ongoing project of the European Community on the Shared Environmental Information System through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.

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[1] See *Environmental Indicators and Indicator-based Assessment Reports: Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 07.II.E.9). Available online from http://www.unece.org/env/documents/2007/ece/ece.belgrade.conf.2007.inf.6.e.pdf.

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I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The sixth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 30 October–1 November 2012.

B. Attendance

2. Environmental experts and statisticians from the following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States attended the meeting: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

3. A representative of the United Arab Emirates participated under article 11 of the terms of reference of ECE.

4. Representatives of the European Environment Agency (EEA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT) participated in the meeting. Representatives of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia, the Cadaster Institute (Russian Federation), the World Economic Forum and the non-governmental organization Zoï Environmental Network also attended the meeting.

C. Organizational matters

5. The Joint Task Force adopted the agenda for its sixth session as contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/9.[2]

6. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Irina Komosko (Belarus).

7. The Joint Task Force adopted the English version of the report of its fifth session, contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/5. As the Russian version of the report was not made available for the meeting, the Joint Task Force decided that it might consider the adoption of that language version at its next meeting.

II. Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators

8. The Joint Task Force discussed six further indicators from the *Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Indicator Guidelines)*. The discussion focused on the use of statistical classifications, data collection methods and procedures for the production of the indicators discussed.

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[2] Meeting documentation, including national reviews and presentations are available online from a dedicated ECE website (http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.10.environ.html).

9.   Prior to the session, all members of the Joint Task Force from countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe submitted national reviews on the discussed indicators. The reviews were prepared on the basis of a questionnaire drafted by the secretariat. The questionnaire included time-series data for the period 1990, 1995 and 2000–2011. The questionnaire also asked for an evaluation of the indicators in terms of effective inter-agency cooperation mechanisms, data quality assurance and control procedures for the production of the indicators and their publication in statistical compendiums and state-of-the-environment reports.

A.   Air temperature and atmospheric precipitation

10.   A consultant to the secretariat gave a presentation on the indicators of "Air temperature" and "Atmospheric precipitation", providing examples of parameters used to measure temperature and precipitation in the Czech Republic. The primary parameters used are monthly average temperature and precipitation, annual average temperature and precipitation and long-term average temperature and precipitation for the period 1961–1990. Other parameters include the lowest and the highest average temperature and precipitation, and the annual average deviation from the long-term average.

11.   A representative of WMO presented that organization's work on the two indicators. WMO has a new global framework to guide the implementation of climate services. The purpose of the global framework is to develop climate datasets. This is done through routinely disseminated daily and monthly weather and climate observations from the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of the 189 WMO members following WMO standards for data collection, quality control and exchange. Additional information from historical climate records dating back to 1850, including marine climate summaries, is also used. WMO prepares the so-called "world weather records", which include monthly mean values of pressure, temperature and precipitation. It has recently published a general climate assessment related to temperature and precipitation, as well as a summary of key climate patterns and extreme events.

Summary of national reviews

12.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a summary of national reviews on the indicators of "Air temperature" and "Atmospheric precipitation". Only a couple of countries did not provide long-term data on precipitation, some countries did not report data for their capital cities and one country did not provide information on publishing the data. Most of the countries have good data that are appropriate for analysis.

13.   In the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that the data is largely available and of good quality. It was concluded that there is no need to make any amendments to the texts of the two indicators as contained in the Indicator Guidelines.

B.   Total energy consumption

14.   A representative of IEA gave a presentation on the indicator "Total energy consumption (TEC)". This indicator corresponds to the indicator "total primary energy supply", which is published by IEA. From the supply side there are many problems with the data. For example, in some countries data on production of energy is confidential, data on trading of energy products is not always available or is misreported and in many countries there is no information for stock changes. In general, data from the demand side is easier to collect. The indicator aims to show the total level of energy needed in a country. In addition, it can provide information on the total energy self-sufficiency: total energy

production/TEC; overall economy intensity; TEC/gross domestic product (GDP); population consumption intensity: TEC/Population; etc. Energy consumption data can also be used in relation to greenhouse gas emissions calculations. It was noted that the TEC should be used with caution as an aggregated high-level indicator for international comparison, since it has a number of limitations, e.g., it does not provide information on the energy efficiency of various economic sectors. This underscores the importance of having data for more detailed breakdowns, for example by economic sector.

15.   In the following discussion, the participants noted the difference of energy units in which the information is collected. It was advised to use the conversion table attached to the questionnaire for the preparation of national reviews. With regard to information on fuel in bunkers (marine and aviation), these data are difficult to compile and often the statisticians need to rely on secondary sources.

Summary of national reviews

16.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a summary of national reviews on the indicator "Total energy consumption". All countries responded to the questionnaire although it seems data on this indicator are difficult to collect, e.g., only one country provided data on fuel in bunkers. Some countries do not publish information on this indicator.

17.   In the discussion, it was clarified that there is a difference between export and re-export of energy products. The data provided by countries include export of energy products that are processed in the country. For some countries this is a new area of work and they are currently developing data collection on, for example, marine bunker fuel. Energy balances are produced in only a few countries and only recently. IEA said it is calculating energy balances for all countries that provide data.

C.   Final energy consumption

18.   The IEA representative then gave a presentation on the indicator "Final energy consumption". This indicator corresponds to the indicator "Total Final Consumption", which is produced by IEA. Final energy consumption is calculated when subtracting from total energy consumption the transformation input (energy industries own use, and losses during distribution and other losses). The indicator cannot show the energy intensity of individual economic sectors and the energy efficiency potential and trends. It was recommended to consider reporting of sector-level demand by type of energy sources. This information is already available in IEA energy balances.

19.   Participants were informed that in 2004–2005, IEA and Eurostat prepared a joint *Energy Statistics Manual* to help countries collect and submit energy data. IEA is currently developing a manual on statistics for energy efficiency indicators, which aims to help countries to collect energy end-use and activity data for the development of energy efficiency indicators. The release of the new manual is expected in 2013. Furthermore, cooperation between different international organizations resulted in the publication of the *International Recommendations on Energy Statistics*. The International Recommendations contains definitions on energy flows and products and was adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in February 2011.

20.   In the following discussion, it was noted that there were problems with calculation of final energy consumption and, in particular, with regard to non-energy use of energy. Furthermore, a distinction was made between energy efficiency and energy intensity. While non-energy use is taken into account when calculating energy intensity, this is not the case with energy efficiency.

Summary of national reviews

21.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a summary of national reviews on the indicator "Final energy consumption". Fourteen countries had filled in the questionnaire on this indicator, with varying levels of detail. The most complete data (time series for at least five years) had been reported by eight countries. Five countries had reported data, which are not sufficient for the development of the indicator. Statistical authorities are responsible for the data collection in almost all countries. Some of the data needs to be checked.

22.   In the discussion, participants asked to consider an addition to the questionnaire to provide information for the type of consumption, i.e., to make a distinction between energy and non-energy use. It was noted that at the level of final consumption it is not possible to calculate the share of renewables, and in this case it is better to use the total energy consumption indicator.

D.   Drinking water quality

23.   A representative of WHO gave a presentation on the use of the indicator "Drinking water quality" under the Monitoring Programme on Water Supply and Sanitation, implemented jointly by WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). One of the targets of Millennium Development Goal 7 is to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015. The proportion of the population that uses an improved drinking-water source was suggested as a proxy indicator for access to safe drinking water. The recommended minimum water quality parameters to be monitored included E. coli, arsenic, fluoride and also nitrate.

Summary of national reviews

24.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a summary of national reviews on the indicator "Drinking water quality". Most countries had reported data starting from 2000, while some countries had been estimating this indicator since only recently. Three sources of drinking water were covered in the questionnaire: treated water in public water supply systems; decentralized water supply from open sources with untreated water; and groundwater, e.g., springs and wells. Only one country was able to respond to the questionnaire with data on all three sources. In most countries, the sanitary-epidemiological authorities are responsible for the collection of data on this indicator.

25.   In the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that some data may be missing because one of the drinking water sources listed in the questionnaire is not available in a given country, in particular decentralised water supply from open sources with untreated water. It was, therefore, suggested to include in the questionnaire the ratio of the population using the water source to total population for each water source utilised in the country. It was also noted that it is important to look at indicators at the sub-regional level in countries. Usually national standards contain many parameters with different level of risks. It was clarified that it does not necessarily mean that water has a bad impact on health if, for example, water samples do not meet national requirements on parameters with low health risks. It was also suggested to add in the questionnaire the number of people exposed to a risk of contamination.

E.   Average age of road motor vehicle fleet

26.   An invited international expert from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland gave a presentation on the indicator "Average age of road motor vehicle fleet". According to data published by EEA, road transport is responsible for 17.5 per cent

of overall greenhouse gas emissions in Europe, and these emissions increased by 23 per cent between 1990 and 2009. The age of a road motor vehicle has an impact on the amounts of various types of emissions. According to EEA, average carbon dioxide emissions for new cars registered in 2011 were 3.3 per cent less than for new cars registered in 2010.

27.   Estimates of how emissions of different gases per kilometre vary depending on vehicle speed for different vehicle types, fuel types, year of first registration (used as a proxy for Euro emissions class), engine size, etc. To help achieve reductions in transport emissions, strict targets have been introduced in the European Union (EU) and other major economies for vehicle fuel efficiency.

28.   In general, countries maintain registers of vehicles licensed to operate on their roads for police and taxation purposes. The date of the first registration is used for determining the age of the vehicle. The problem however is with used vehicles imported from abroad. To address this issue, at the EU level, the Harmonized Registration Certificate was introduced with records for foreign second-hand cars for all EU countries. When the first country registration is not known, it is recommended to adjust the date of first registration by some factor.

29.   In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that to assess the impact of transport on environment it is not enough to take into account the type of vehicle, its age and the type of fuel only. The density of traffic, for example, is also an important factor that determines the use of fuel, its exhaust and its impact on environment. Nevertheless, the age of the vehicle is a good indicator for assessing vehicle emissions. Other issues, like repair of old vehicles and providing them with filters, were also mentioned as difficult to account for.

Summary of national reviews

30.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a summary of national reviews on the indicator "Average age of road motor vehicle fleet". Twelve countries filled in the questionnaire on this indicator with varying levels of detail. Only a few countries provided basic data. In most countries, the responsibility for collection and control of data is with internal affairs (interior) authorities. Although most countries had reported some data, in the majority of cases they were not sufficient for the development of the indicator. The highest data coverage can be seen in the case of two countries, one of which applies an internationally agreed "intelligent transport systems" [3] glossary of terms and acronyms. Data on the size and composition of the road vehicle fleet are not being published in two countries. In most countries, more than 50 per cent of road vehicles of all categories are over 10 years old.

31.   In the discussion, it was pointed out that the age breakdown is not the same across countries and that some countries are not following the methodology presented in the questionnaire, which is the one used for ECE transport statistics and for those of other relevant international organizations. It was also noted that various institutions, e.g., the ministries of internal affairs, road police, customs and statistical offices, need to enhance cooperation in order to improve data collection.

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[3] For further information, please see http://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/its/road/glossary_en.htm.

III. Third reading of the indicator of biodiversity not covered by the Guidelines: catches of fish and other aquatic animals and products

32.   A consultant to the secretariat presented a revised description of the indicator "Catches of fish and other aquatic animals, aquatic animal products and aquatic plants", proposed for inclusion in the Indicator Guidelines. The indicator provides a measure of pressure on the aquatic environment and its state. It is broken down by individual species and aquatic products (fish, crustaceans, molluscs, whales and seals, etc.), and by water bodies (e.g., inland water, sea).

33.   A representative of FAO gave a presentation focusing on the meaning of "catch" of fish and its effects on environment. The speaker stressed that the fish-stock is not necessarily affected only by catch levels, but also by the destruction of the habitat and water pollution. It is also essential to evaluate the impact of catches of fish on the reproduction function of the fish. For example, in the case of tuna, one fish produces about 10 billion eggs; therefore the reduction of tuna fish-stock has an enormous impact on the reproduction ability of this species of fish. Furthermore, it was noted that, along with the fall in the size of fish, it is also important to monitor the change in the composition of species of fish. Estimates on the sustainable level of catches of fish are difficult to make and FAO is currently not making calculations on this aspect.

34.   Experts participating in the ensuing discussion considered that it was too early to develop this indicator, as there were many unresolved methodological issues.

IV. Second reading of indicators of agriculture not covered by the Guidelines

35.   A consultant to the Zoï Environmental Network presented proposals for new agri-environmental indicators, as contained in a document prepared for the meeting.[4] The following three indicators were discussed: "Water-use intensity by agriculture"; "Cropping and livestock patterns"; and "Gross nitrogen balance". It was proposed to change the name of the first indicator from "Water-use intensity by agriculture" to "Irrigation".

36.   A representative of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) discussed the lessons learned and future directions of OECD work on agri-environmental indicators. The work is relatively recent compared with other sectoral environmental indicators. It is characterized by the complexity of trying to cover agricultural activities in very diverse biophysical and economic conditions. The speaker emphasized the importance of the indicator on the gross nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) balance calculation. He also noticed that the impact of agriculture on biodiversity is very difficult to estimate and is poorly done.

A.   Water-use intensity by agriculture (new name "Irrigation")

37.   The proposal for the "Water-use intensity by agriculture" indicator defined it as the total irrigated area and irrigated area by type of crops (cereals, pulses and beans, root crops,

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    [4] The unofficial information note by the secretariat on agri-environmental indicators is available from http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/documents/ece/ces/ge.33/2012/mtg4/Agri-environmental_indicators_EN.pdf.

fruit, vegetables and forage, cotton plants) grown with the aid of full or supplementary irrigation. The indicator can be presented as: total irrigable area; irrigable area by type of crops grown with the aid of full or supplementary irrigation; and share of irrigable area in the total agricultural area.

38.   In the discussion it was noted that some of the countries do not maintain farm registers. Statistics on irrigation by types of crops is not so useful because farmers change which crop to irrigate depending on the price of the crops. It is important to know if agriculture is using water more or less efficiently, e.g., to look at the mega-litters per irrigated hectare.

B.   Cropping and livestock patterns

39.   The proposal defined the indicator "Cropping and livestock patterns" as cropping patterns, which include trends in the share of the agricultural area occupied by the major agricultural land uses (arable, permanent grassland and permanent crops). The indicator also includes livestock patterns, which include trends in the share of major livestock types (cattle, including cows, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry).

40.   In the discussion, the participants clarified that only changes in the type of agricultural land should be noted and not measures of the agricultural land area itself. This approach was agreed in order to facilitate the comparisons across countries.

C.   Gross nitrogen balance

41.   The proposal for the "Gross nitrogen balance" indicator defined it as the balance between all nitrogen added to an agricultural system and nitrogen removed from the system. The gross nutrient balance for nitrogen provides insight into the links between agricultural nutrient use, changes in environmental quality and sustainable use of soil nutrient resources. A persistent surplus indicates potential environmental problems; a persistent deficit indicates potential agricultural sustainability problems.

42.   In the discussion, it was noted that water contamination by nitrates is one of the main problems associated with agricultural activities. This is due to the characteristics of the nitrates - they are highly soluble and migrate easily into groundwater through the soil and to surface water through run-off.

V.   Discussion of developments and plans for work on indicators under an ongoing project for countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and the Russian Federation

43.   Mr. Peder Jensen, Head of Programme, Governance and Networks at EEA, chaired the session. He outlined the conceptual framework — from monitoring (national responsibility), to data and indicators (national and regional), to policy-relevant assessments at national, regional (e.g., state-of-the-environment reports) and global (e.g., Group on Earth Observations) levels. He also underlined the importance of the work done by the Joint Task Force in reviewing indicators, and stressed on the implementation and effective production (populating) of the agreed indicators as a possible next step.

44.   A consultant to the Zoï Environmental Network presented the progress made on developing a core set of indicators and the findings of a metadata survey and feasibility study to help develop regular/sustained data flows for these indicators. The metadata survey was a participatory exercise built around an online metadata questionnaire. Eleven data sets

were examined in order to identify their production processes, comparability and availability for multiple use and reuse according to the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles for the production of the eight environmental indicators agreed at the fifth session of the Joint Task Force.

45.   The core findings of the survey were presented. Two of the eleven data sets (for production of eight indicators) chosen for the metadata survey are regularly produced at the national level to meet international reporting obligations. These two data sets are available through international organizations in a common, comparable format with a prescribed, harmonized data structure.

46.   Nine data sets respond to national reporting obligations, and are produced, stored and disseminated in national languages; they are based on unique national data structures and appear in different formats. Although in most of the countries these data sets are free of charge, they are not easily accessible. This limits their usefulness for national assessments, policymaking, benchmarking and various regular regional and global assessment processes.

47.   The countries supported the progress made on a feasibility study to help determine the most practical approach to develop a regular dataflow system and the establishment of the core set of indicators. It was proposed to continue the work on expanding the core set to other indicators described in the Indicator Guidelines, and to increase information sharing. Available data is not sufficient. In addition, it has to be made comparable and it has to be ensured that the normative and legislation basis necessary to make data available for the public and for analysis is in place.

48.   A representative of the Statistical Office of Ukraine presented the results of a workshop on the information technology side of the data flows, which took place on 19–20 September 2012 in Skopje. The speaker emphasized that data is available, but not in the necessary data formats. The standard on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) was explained.

49.   A representative of ECE presented the outcomes of the Workshop on Waste Statistics, which took place on 11–13 April 2012 in Geneva. The workshop focused on how to compile and disseminate high-quality, harmonized and timely waste statistics in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. In particular, participants discussed practical challenges and problems in producing statistical data, information and indicators on waste generation and waste management, including recovery and disposal of waste.

50.   A representative of EEA provided information about the Water Statistics Workshop held on 11–13 September 2012 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and highlighted that there are promising indicators in the water area, such as water abstraction and use, that could be added to the eight core indicators agreed by the Joint Task Force.

51.   A representative of EEA informed the Joint Task Force about the Workshop on Emission Inventory, held on 24–26 September 2012 in Chisinau. Most of the countries have data for emission inventories. However, there is a need for better inter-institutional cooperation at the country level to facilitate the fulfilment of countries' reporting obligations to international conventions.

VI.   Conclusions and the way forward

A.   Conclusions of the Joint Task Force on the reviewed indicators

52.   The Joint Task Force took the decisions set out below.

1. **Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators**

53. The Joint Task Force recommended the use of available data for the development of indicators on "Air temperature", "Atmospheric precipitation", "Drinking water quality", "Final energy consumption", "Total energy consumption", and "Average age of road motor vehicle fleet".

54. Furthermore, the Joint Task Force agreed:

(a) With regard to the indicators "Final energy consumption" and "Total energy consumption", to recommend that countries use the international methodology. The indicator needs further work to consider the energy sources for non-energy use;

(b) To consider revising the indicator "Drinking water quality" to bring it in line with the international developments.

2. **Third reading of the indicator of biodiversity not covered by the Guidelines: catches of fish and other aquatic animals and products**

55. Having considered thoroughly in the third reading the indicator on biodiversity not covered by the Guidelines, "Catches of fish and other aquatic animals and products", the Joint Task Force decided not to include this indicator in the list of environmental indicators. The countries were recommended to use data prepared by FAO to address issues related to biological water resources management.

3. **Second reading of indicators of agriculture not covered by the Guidelines**

56. Having considered in the second reading the three agri-environmental indicators "Water-use intensity by agriculture", "Cropping and livestock patterns" and "Gross nitrogen balance", the Joint Task Force agreed to introduce changes in the title and the description of the indicator "Water-use intensity by agriculture", as follows:

(a) To agree on the title as "Irrigation";

(b) The "brief definition" should read: "The indicator can be presented as: (a) total irrigable area; and (b) share of irrigable area in the total agricultural area."

57. If needed, the text "Irrigable area by type of crops grown with the aid of full or supplementary irrigation" could be included in the "brief definition".

58. The Joint Task Force also agreed to amend the description and the unit of measurement of the additional indicator, "Total water use", not included in the Guidelines, in line with the new additional indicator "Irrigation", with the purpose of determining the amount of water for the irrigation of a cubic metre per hectare. It agreed, furthermore:

(a) Not to include the indicator "Cropping and livestock patterns" in the list of environmental indicators;

(b) To include the indicator "Gross nitrogen balance" in the list of environmental indicators and to ask the secretariat to prepare the questionnaire and the glossary, using the OECD gross nitrogen balances handbook.

B. The way forward and plans for future work

59. The Joint Task Force agreed on the following way forward and future work:

(a) It invited countries to revise, update or complete questionnaire IV by not later than 15 December 2012, taking into account the recommendations made on the Indicator Guidelines;

(b)   It will continue to review the Indicator Guidelines with the objective to build progressively a complete and consistent data set on environment for regular reporting. It was also agreed to review at its seventh session (2–4 July 2013) indicator No. 35 from the Indicator Guidelines, "Waste reuse and recycling", and six additional water-related indicators approved at the fifth session of the Joint Task Force — "Total water use", "Public water supply", "Connection of population to public water supply", "Population connected to wastewater treatment", "Wastewater treatment facilities" and "Concentration of pollutants in seawater and sediments";

(c)   It also agreed to review at its eighth session (4–6 November 2013) the following approved additional indicators — two agri-environmental indicators: "Irrigation" and "Gross nitrogen balance"; two biodiversity indicators: "Biosphere reserves and wetlands of international importance" and "Invasive alien species"; the indicator of "Environment protection expenditure"; and two energy-related indicators: "Final electricity consumption" and "Gross electricity production";

(d)   It decided to amend the questionnaire for those completing it in future by amending the text in columns "B" and "C" of the table on "Evaluation of indicators" as follows:

(i)   Adding, in column "B", after the words, "Data quality assurance and control procedures for the production of the indicator", the words "Compliance of the data quality control methods with the international or national regulations (title, publication source)";

(ii)   Adding, in column "C", after the words, "Publication of the indicator in statistical compendia, state-of-the-environment reports and other periodical environmental publications", the words ", as well as web page references on the Internet";

(e)   It requested the secretariat to prepare proposals, in the light of the latest developments in other forums, for new additional indicators on transport and on green economy for consideration by the Joint Task Force in 2013;

(f)   It agreed to start revising the text of the Indicator Guidelines by introducing previously agreed amendments to the description of the individual indicators, making additions to descriptions of the tables of data and calculation of each indicator and including the additional indicators, whose descriptions have been agreed by the Joint Task Force. To that end, it requested the secretariat to arrange for the revisions of the indicators one by one and to upload the revisions on the Joint Task Force website.

VII.   Other business

60.   The Joint Task Force thanked donor Governments and EEA/the European Commission for providing funds to support the Joint Task Force meeting.

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