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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Conference of European Statisticians

Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators**Seventh session**

Geneva, 5–7 November 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Annotated provisional agenda for the seventh session****To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Tuesday, 5 November 2013*****I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the sixth session.
3. Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia:
 - (a) Total water use;
 - (b) Public water supply;
 - (c) Connection of population to public water supply;
 - (d) Population connected to wastewater treatment;

* 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 Joint Task Force (<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.11a.environ.html>) and to transmit it to the secretariat as soon as possible and no later than two weeks prior to the meeting, by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (ludmila.boichuk@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 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe website http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat at +41 22 917 2364.

- (e) Wastewater treatment facilities;
 - (f) Concentration of pollutants in seawater and sediments;
 - (g) Waste reuse and recycling.
4. First reading of the indicators on transport and environment not covered by the Guidelines:
 - (a) Use of cleaner and alternative fuels;
 - (b) Exceedances of air quality objectives due to traffic;
 - (c) Transport accident fatalities;
 - (d) Waste from road vehicles;
 - (e) Fuel prices;
 - (f) Proportion of vehicle fleet meeting certain emission standards.
 5. Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.
 6. National systems for regular data reporting on the core set of environmental indicators.
 7. Other business.

II. Annotations

The Committee on Environmental Policy and the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians approved the extension of the mandate of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators for the period 2013–2014 (ECE/CEP/2012/2, annex IV). According to its terms of reference, the Joint Task Force should assist national statistical agencies and institutions responsible for the production of national state-of-the-environment reports in countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Its objectives are to further improve environmental statistics and produce the agreed indicators, strengthen environmental reporting and promote comparability of environmental statistics and indicators in the pan-European region.

The Joint Task Force is open to environmental experts and statisticians from all United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) countries. The European Environment Agency (EEA), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the United Nations Statistics Division, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Energy Agency, the World Health Organization European Centre for Environment and Health, the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other institutions are also invited to designate representatives to the Joint Task Force.

In addition to circulation through the regular channels, meeting documentation, including country contributions, will be posted online on a web page dedicated to the meeting.¹

¹ See <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2013.11a.enviro.html>.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the agenda for its seventh session as contained in the present document.

2. Adoption of the report of the sixth session

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the report of its sixth session, contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/10. It will be also invited to adopt the Russian version of the report of its fifth session, contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/5.

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

- (a) **Total water use**
- (b) **Public water supply**
- (c) **Connection of population to public water supply**
- (d) **Population connected to wastewater treatment**
- (e) **Wastewater treatment facilities**
- (f) **Concentration of pollutants in seawater and sediments**
- (g) **Waste reuse and recycling**

The Joint Task Force will review the selected indicators (sub-items (a)-(g) above) covered by the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia² (Guidelines). The discussion will focus on the use of statistical classifications, data-collection methods and procedures for the production of these indicators.

The indicator evaluation will be supported by written communications by members of the Joint Task Force on their countries' experiences with the production of these indicators covering the points (indicator by indicator) as follows:

- (a) Effective inter-agency cooperation mechanisms to produce the indicator;
- (b) Data quality assurance and control procedures for the production of the indicator, including information on compliance of data quality control methods with international or national regulations;
- (c) Evidence of the publication of the indicator in statistical compendia and state-of-the-environment reports, indicator-based reports, environmental databases and information systems, and on Internet web pages, as appropriate;
- (d) Use of the indicator and/or related data at the national level and main information holders;

² 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 at <http://www.unece.org/env/documents/2007/ece/ece.belgrade.conf.2007.inf.6.e.pdf>.

- (e) Time-series data on the indicator for 1990–2012.

Country submissions (in English and/or Russian) should be provided to the secretariat **before 1 October 2013** so as to ensure their distribution to all registered participants and the preparation of a summary report before the meeting.

4. First reading of the indicators on transport and environment not covered by the Guidelines

- (a) Use of cleaner and alternative fuels
- (b) Exceedances of air quality objectives due to traffic
- (c) Transport accident fatalities
- (d) Waste from road vehicles
- (e) Fuel prices
- (f) Proportion of vehicle fleet meeting certain emission standards

The Joint Task Force, at its sixth session, requested the secretariat to prepare proposals, in the light of the latest developments in other forums, for additional indicators on transport and environment to be considered at the seventh session. The Joint Task Force will be invited to consider the proposal for inclusion of the additional selected indicators (sub-items (a)-(f) above).

5. Revision of the Guidelines on the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

The Joint Task Force, at its sixth session, agreed to start revising the text of the Guidelines by introducing previously agreed amendments to the descriptions of the individual indicators, making additions to the descriptions of the tables of data and calculations of each indicator, and including additional indicators on which the Task Force had agreed descriptions. The secretariat will report on progress made in the revision carried out,³ as well as on the feedback received from the members of the Joint Task Force in that regard.

6. National systems for regular data reporting on core set of environmental indicators

The Joint Task Force agreed at its fifth session on an initial core set of environmental indicators for regular and sustained data-flow reporting (ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/5, para. 77). Furthermore, at its sixth session, the Joint Task Force discussed ways to determine the most practical approach for the development of the regular data-flow reporting system. It further called for the establishment of the necessary normative and legislative basis in the countries concerned to ensure regular data collection and to make the

³ See <http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/areas-of-work/environmental-monitoring/areas-of-work/enveurope-monitoring-iandr-en/revised-guidelines-on-the-application-of-environmental-indicators.html>.

data sets available and easily accessible in common and harmonized formats (ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2012/10, para 47).

The Joint Task Force will be invited to consider the required institutional, legislative and technical arrangements necessary for establishing national systems for regular data collection and for making the data sets publically available and easily accessible in common and harmonized formats.

7. Other business

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

III. Organization of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Item(s) of the agenda</i>
Tuesday, 5 November 2013	
10–10.10 a.m.	1 and 2
10.10–11.10 a.m.	3 (a)
11.10 a.m.–12.10 p.m.	3 (b)
12.10–1 p.m.	3 (c)
3–4.30 p.m.	3 (d)
4.30–6 p.m.	3 (e)
Wednesday, 6 November 2013	
10–11.30 a.m.	3 (f)
11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	3 (g)
3–5 p.m.	4 (a)–(f)
5–6 p.m.	5
Thursday, 7 November 2013	
9.30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	6 and 7