Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Item 6. Environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting

Renewal of the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

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Renewal of the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

CEP-21 renewed the mandates of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA) for one year, leading up to CEP-22.

Proposed new mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group: ECE/CEP/2017/3

See http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=42766#
The WGEMA Mandate and ToR takes into account:

- Recommendations made during the twenty-first session of the CEP (ECE/CEP/2015/12).
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Batumi Ministerial Declaration and the Ministerial decision on further establishing SEIS by 2021 (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.1).
- Eighteenth Session of the WGEMA (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2016/2).
- Common Approach UNECE-EEA-UNEP.
Renewal of the mandate and terms of reference for WGEMA

Considering next steps for implementation of the Ministerial decision on having SEIS in place in the countries of Europe and Central Asia by 2021 and a regular pan-European assessment:

• Consultative process including all WGEMA members and interested parties leading up to and following the Eighteenth Session of the WGEMA in June 2016.

• Outputs
  - WGEMA Vision document for 2030 (ECE/CEP/180, to be published).
  - Terms of Reference (ECE/CEP/2017/3).
Long-term objectives

- Continue efforts to deliver guidance that help make national monitoring programmes an efficient and practical tool for environmental policy.
Long-term objectives (continued)

• Support in the area of the 2030 Agenda and the Pan-European Strategic Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy in connection with the establishment of SEIS.
• Serve as a regional environmental information and assessment network-of-networks.
• Ensure that the Working Group and Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators and Statistics continue to work closely together in setting priority areas for action.
WGEMA Mandate

5 year mandate (2017-2021) reflecting the Batumi Declaration that call for countries of Europe and Central Asia to have SEIS in place by 2021.

- Annual timetable of activities and achievements, subject to the approval of the CEP.
- Allow the CEP to comment and monitor ongoing and future activities.
- Mid-term review to the CEP as a stocktaking exercise.
Key challenges

- Enhancing the Working Group’s role as an active forum for dialogue and collective action on regional issues of common concern.
- Mobilizing resources and support from regional and international organizations.
Thanks for your attention

WGEMA, meeting in Geneva for its Eighteenth Session, June 2016.