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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Second meeting  
Geneva, 4–5 December 2006

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND MEETING**

to be held at the Palais des Nations  
from Monday, 4 December at 10 a.m. until Tuesday, 5 December\* at 1 p.m.

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
2. Implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

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\* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the UNECE website (<http://www.unece.org/env/esd/SC.Meet.htm>), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by **6 November 2006** either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail ([esd@unece.org](mailto:esd@unece.org)). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the UNECE website <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307. Delegates are encouraged to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. There will be no documents available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents can be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room PN C 337, 3rd floor, Palais des Nations).

3. Review of implementation: indicators and reporting
4. Financial arrangements
5. Input for the sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”
6. Interlinkages and possible mutual benefits of the UNECE process and other ESD processes and activities
7. Calendar of meetings
8. Other business
9. Concluding remarks by the Chairperson and closing of the meeting

## **II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Pursuant to the adoption of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and the framework for its implementation, the High-level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries (17–18 March 2005, Vilnius) established a steering committee of representatives of the environment and education sectors with a view to ensuring equal opportunities for representation and input from both sectors. Key stakeholders were invited to participate as observers. The Steering Committee is the principal decision-making body for the activities related to the Strategy in the UNECE region. It is responsible for giving guidance and strategic direction for the implementation of the Strategy and reviews the progress of the Strategy’s implementation.

2. The first meeting of the Steering Committee took place on 13–14 December 2005 in Geneva. The Meeting adopted the Work Plan for 2005–2007 (CEP/AC.13/2005/8), which laid the ground for a number of priority activities for the implementation of the Strategy, including the coordination and information-sharing mechanisms, the capacity-building projects, and the procedure for reviewing implementation. The Meeting also considered a proposal on a high-level segment on ESD to be organized at the sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (Belgrade, 10–12 October 2007).

### **Monday, 4 December**

#### **Item 1 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (10 a.m. – 10.05 a.m.)**

The Chairperson of the Steering Committee will deliver introductory remarks and will invite the Meeting to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

#### **Item 2 Implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (10.05 a.m. – 12 noon)**

The Committee will be invited to hear statements by governments and the secretariat on recent activities (since the first meeting of the Steering Committee) to implement the following elements of the Work Plan:

- (a) **Coordination at the national/state and international levels** (designating national focal points, developing national<sup>1</sup> implementation plans, establishing a consultative mechanism and translating the Strategy into official and other relevant languages)
- (b) **Capacity-building and sharing of experience** (subregional workshops, compilation of national good practices, use of electronic tools, case study on pilot reporting)

**Item 3      Review of implementation: indicators and reporting** (12 noon – 1 p.m., 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

The Committee will be informed by the Chairperson of the Expert Group on Indicators for ESD about progress in developing indicators. The Steering Committee will be invited to comment on the document (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2006/5 and Add.1) as appropriate, and to endorse the set of indicators prepared by the Expert Group.

**Item 4      Financial arrangements** (4 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.)

The implementation of the Strategy has so far relied on support from member States and international organizations through the voluntary scheme of contributions agreed on by the High-level Meeting.

The secretariat will inform the Committee about the use of funds for implementing the Strategy. Member States, international organizations and financial institutions will be invited to inform the Meeting about their respective plans for financial and in-kind contributions. They are also invited to express their views on how to secure more stable and predictable funding for long-term implementation.

**Item 5      Input for the sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”** (4.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.)

The Chairperson will refer to the original proposal on the ESD segment of the Belgrade Conference submitted by the Bureau to the Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO) (ECE/CEP/AC.11/2006/7) and will inform delegates about the relevant outcomes of the second and third meetings of the WGSO (June and October 2006). He will also report to the Committee on the Bureau’s further recommendation regarding the organization of the segment.

The Committee will be invited to provide its views on the Bureau’s recommendation and to address the format and content of the ESD segment:

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<sup>1</sup> For countries with a federal structure, national plans will be based on subnational/state inputs.

(a) Formal plenary session

- Title of the session (e.g. “Learning from Each Other: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward” or “A Learning Region: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward”)
- A statement by the Environment and Education Ministers
- Possible candidates for chairperson and vice-chairperson

(b) Informal panel discussion (side event)

- Theme of the panel discussion
- Possible candidates for chairperson-moderator and panellists (three representatives of Governments and two representatives of stakeholders)

**Tuesday, 5 December**

**Item 5 *continued*** (10 a.m. – 12 noon)

**Item 6 Interlinkages and possible mutual benefits of the UNECE process and other ESD processes and activities** (12 noon – 12.40 p.m.)

Delegations, in particular stakeholders (e.g. international and non-governmental organizations, regional environmental centres and research institutions), may wish to inform the Steering Committee of activities related to the draft Work Plan for the implementation of the Strategy are currently being carried out or planned at the national and international levels, with a view to promoting coordination and synergies.

**Item 7 Calendar of meetings** (12.40 p.m. – 12.45 p.m.)

Delegations will be invited to consider a proposal for working arrangements and a tentative calendar for meetings of the Steering Committee and its Bureau.

**Item 8 Other business** (12.45 p.m. – 12.50 p.m.)

Delegations wishing to propose items are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

**Item 9 Concluding remarks by the Chairperson and closing of the meeting** (12.50 p.m. – 1 p.m.)

The Chairperson will summarize the decisions of the Steering Committee and key issues raised during the discussions before closing the meeting.

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