



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
10 December 2012

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Eighth meeting

Geneva, 21 and 22 March 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eighth meeting

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Thursday, 21 March 2013***

I. Provisional agenda

General session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Implementing the third phase of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development:

* In accordance with the accreditation procedures for meetings at the Palais des Nations, delegates are requested to complete the registration form available on the website of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (<http://www.unece.org/env/esd.html>) and to transmit it to the secretariat no later than two weeks prior to the meeting by e-mail to esd@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/fileadmin/DAM/meetings/UN_map_Feb.2012.pdf). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat at 41 22 917 6303.

- (a) Member States' progress, as well as outcomes of capacity-building activities implemented under the Strategy;
 - (b) Progress achieved in promoting educator competences for education for sustainable development;
 - (c) Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2013–2014;
 - (d) Activities to be implemented to advance the priority action areas in 2013–2014;
 - (e) Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes.
3. Round table: Promoting education for sustainable development on the regional level beyond implementation phase III.
 4. Other business.
 5. Calendar of meetings.

Joint Segment with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

6. Regional consultation on the assessment of and follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

General session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

1. The eighth meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development is expected to comprise two segments: (a) the general meeting of the Steering Committee for Education for Sustainable Development; and (b) a joint segment with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
2. The general meeting of the Steering Committee for Education for Sustainable Development will focus on the progress made and the experiences of countries in implementing the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development since the seventh meeting, in particular with regard to advancing the three priority action areas.
3. While member States stressed their dedication to continue working on implementing all aspects of the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development in the third phase of implementation, they decided on the following three priority action areas:¹ (a) to ensure that there was an education for sustainable development (ESD) school plan in every school by 2015; (b) to promote the introduction of ESD into teacher education; and (c) to reorient technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in support of sustainable development and the transition to a green economy.

¹ ECE/CEP/AC.13/2012/2, para. 48.

4. At its eighth meeting, the Steering Committee is moreover expected to consider activities to be implemented until the ninth Steering Committee meeting, as well as how to promote ESD on the regional level after the third phase of implementation.

5. The regional consultations jointly organized with UNESCO will address the final assessment of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014) and its follow-up.

1. Adoption of the agenda

6. The Steering Committee is expected to adopt the agenda of its eighth meeting, as prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/1).

2. Implementing the third phase of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

(a) Member States' progress, as well as outcomes of capacity-building activities implemented under the Strategy

7. The secretariat will give a synthesis presentation on the progress made and the experiences of member States in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD. Particular attention will be paid to the priority action areas that have been adopted at the Committee's seventh meeting.

8. Countries are invited to provide their reports to the secretariat before 15 February 2013, responding to the proposed topics for reporting on progress in the implementation of the Strategy as presented in document ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/3.

9. Countries will be invited to complement the presentation with interventions on outstanding good practices and experiences which appear to be particularly useful for the Committee. Those countries that would like to present under this agenda item are requested to provide presentations to the secretariat before 10 March 2013.

10. The results of workshops and other events implemented with the support of the secretariat will also be presented.

Documentation

Proposed topics for reporting on progress in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/3); country reporting 2013: Synthesis presentation (information paper 1); report on the outcomes of the Central Asian workshop on education for sustainable development (information paper 2).

(b) Progress achieved in promoting educator competences for education for sustainable development

11. The results of the sixth meeting of the expert group on competences for education for sustainable development will be presented.

Documentation

Empowering educators for a sustainable future: Tools for policy and practice workshops on education for sustainable development competences (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/4); report on progress made by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Expert Group on Competences in Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/5).

(c) **Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2013–2014**

12. The secretariat will inform the Steering Committee about contributions received since the Committee's last meeting.

13. The regional activities under the Strategy are funded exclusively through contributions by member States to the trust fund. Therefore the planning and implementation of activities in phase III will have to rely on advance indications of pledges by States.

Documentation

Contributions, incurred expenses and estimated resource requirements (information paper 4).

(d) **Activities to be implemented to advance the priority action areas in 2013–2014**

14. The secretariat will present the outcome of the work of the groups on expertise that worked on proposing specific actions to be taken in 2013–2014 to advance the priority action areas. The Committee is invited to consider the proposed activities and to discuss which activities are to be carried out and how to mobilize the necessary financial resources.

Documentation

Concept paper on priority action areas (information paper 5).

(e) **Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes**

15. Delegations, and in particular stakeholders such as international and non-governmental organizations, regional environmental centres and research institutions, may wish to inform the Steering Committee of activities related to the Strategy's implementation currently being carried out or planned at the national and international levels.

3. Round table: Promoting education for sustainable development on the regional level beyond implementation phase III

16. The Committee will be invited to discuss how to continue advancing the implementation of the Strategy for ESD after its implementation phase III comes to an end in 2015.

Documentation

Background paper on implementing the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development to 2015 and beyond (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/6).

4. Other business

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

5. Calendar of meetings

18. The Steering Committee will be invited to consider the scheduling of its next meeting. It is proposed that the Committee hold its ninth meeting as a two-day meeting in April 2014.

Joint Segment with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

6. Regional consultation on the assessment of and follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

19. Jointly with UNESCO, a regional consultation will be held for the Europe and North America region on the final assessment of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and its follow-up.

20. UNESCO, as the lead agency for the Decade of ESD, is organizing consultations in all five United Nations regions between November 2012 and April 2013. Those regional consultations are a crucial element in preparing a solid final assessment of the Decade and for collecting positions on the post-2014 framework.

21. Specifically, on the basis of the lessons learned during the implementation of the Decade, the consultations aim to: (a) identify priority areas for activities in the post-2014 period; and (b) identify successful initiatives that can be scaled up in a post-2014 framework. The meeting will also collect suggestions for the preparations of the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Japan, 10–12 November 2014).

22. The member States of the UNECE Strategy for ESD, moreover, will be invited to discuss possibilities to further align the UNESCO and UNECE reporting frameworks for the region.

23. A detailed agenda of the consultation is presented in document ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/8.

Documentation

Detailed agenda for the regional consultation on the follow-up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/8); member State questionnaire on the final assessment of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and the post-2014 framework (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/9); information note on the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development in 2014 (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2013/7); overview of global processes relevant to education for sustainable development (information paper 7).

III. Organization of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
Thursday, 21 March 2013	
10–10.30 a.m.	1
10.30 a.m.–12 p.m.	2 (a)
12–12.30 p.m.	2 (b)
12.30–1 p.m.	2 (c)
3–3.45 p.m.	2 (d)
3.45–4.15 p.m.	2 (e)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
4.15–5.40 p.m.	3
5.40–5.50 p.m.	4
5.50–6 p.m.	5
Friday, 22 March 2013	
10 a.m.–12 p.m.	6
3–6 p.m.	6
