



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ECE/CEP/79
6 July 2001

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
(Eighth session, 25 - 27 September 2001)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE EIGHTH SESSION
to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
beginning on Tuesday, 25 September 2001, at 3 p.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report on the seventh session and progress in implementing the programme of work.
3. Presentation of the environmental performance reviews of Estonia, Romania and Uzbekistan.
4. Round-table discussion with high-level representatives of the reviewed countries.
5. Adoption of recommendations to the reviewed countries.
6. Discussion of the report of the EPR Expert Group.
7. Matters arising from the fifty-sixth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee.
8. Consideration of the outcome of the regional preparatory meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

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9. ECE multilateral environmental agreements:
 - (a) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters;
 - (b) Ongoing activities related to the ECE multilateral environmental agreements which need special attention;
 - (c) Follow-up to the round-table discussion on supporting the ECE multilateral environmental agreements.

10. Cross-sectoral activities within the Committee's programme of work:
 - (a) Transport, environment and health; /transport and the environment;
 - (b) Environment and health;
 - (c) Energy and the environment (energy pricing).

11. Other activities within the Committee's programme of work and their contribution to the "Environment for Europe" process:
 - (a) Environmental monitoring;
 - (b) Energy and the environment (follow-up to the Aarhus decisions);
 - (c) Follow-up to the Strategy to Phase Out Leaded Petrol;
 - (d) Local initiatives towards sustainable consumption patterns;
 - (e) Compliance and enforcement;
 - (f) Preparations for the fifth Ministerial Conference.

12. Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the ECE Trust Funds.

13. Other business.

14. Election of officers for the ninth session.

15. Closing of the eighth session.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

TIME	ITEM	INTRODUCTION	EXPLANATORY NOTES	DOCUMENTATION
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Tuesday, 25 September

3-3.30 p.m	Items 1 and 2 Adoption of the agenda and the report on the seventh session and progress in implementing the programme of work	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt, Chairman	The Committee is expected to adopt the agenda for its eighth session and the report of its seventh session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provisional agenda for the eighth session (ECE/CEP/79) - Report on the seventh session (ECE/CEP/74) - Progress in the implementation of the programme of work since the seventh session (annex I below)
3.30-6 p.m	Item 3 Presentation of the environmental performance reviews (EPR) of Estonia, Romania and Uzbekistan	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt	The Committee will begin the peer reviews by hearing the presentations of the three reviews.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft EPR of Estonia (CEP/2001/1) - Draft EPR of Romania (CEP/2001/2) - Draft EPR of Uzbekistan (CEP/2001/3)

Wednesday, 26 September

10 a.m-1 p.m.	Item 4 Round-table discussion with high-level representatives of the reviewed countries	Mr. K. Bärlund Ms. M. P. Silveira	The Committee will continue the peer reviews by holding a round table.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major policy issues emerging from the reviews of Estonia, Romania and Uzbekistan (CEP/2001/4)
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TIME	ITEM	INTRODUCTION	EXPLANATORY NOTES	DOCUMENTATION
3-4.30 p.m	Item 5 Adoption of recommendations to the reviewed countries		The Committee will conclude the peer reviews by adopting recommendations.	
4.30-6 p.m	Item 6 Discussion on the report of the EPR Expert Group	Co-Chairs of the Expert Group (Mr. H. Liiv and Ms. V. Grigorova)	The Committee is expected to decide on the proposals contained in the report of the Group, including, in particular, the renewal of the mandate of the Expert Group and its terms of reference.	- Report of the EPR Expert Group (CEP/2001/5)

Thursday, 27 September

10-10.15 a.m.	Item 7 Matters arising from the fifty-sixth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt Mr. K. Bärlund	The Committee will be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission that are relevant to the Committee.	- Report of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission (E/2001/37-E/ECE/1387) - (CEP/2001/10)
10.15-11.15 a.m	Item 8 Consideration of the outcome of the regional preparatory meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt	The Committee will be informed of the decisions taken at the ECE regional preparatory meeting and is expected to consider its possible role in their implementation.	- Regional Assessment Report - Ministerial Statement

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	Item 9 ECE multilateral environmental agreements			
11.15-11.45 a.m.	(a) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	Mr. F. La Camera, Chairman of the Meeting of the Signatories/ Mr. J. Wates	The Committee will be informed of the activities undertaken under the auspices of the Convention since the seventh session and the progress made towards entry into force. It is also expected to endorse the preparations for the first meeting of the Parties, including an intergovernmental preparatory meeting (Geneva, 28-30 November 2001).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on the first meeting of the Working Group on Compliance and Rules of Procedure (CEP/WG.5/AC.1/2001/2) - Reports on the first and second meetings of the Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (CEP/WG.5/AC.2/2001/2 and 5) - Report of the second meeting of the Task Force on Genetically Modified Organisms (CEP/WG.5/AC.3/2001/3)
11.45-12.15 p.m.	(b) Ongoing activities related to the ECE multilateral environmental agreements which need special attention	Mr. W. Schrage	The Committee will be informed of the progress made in the negotiations on a protocol on strategic environmental assessment (SEA) to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on the first meeting to negotiate a protocol on SEA (MP.EIA/AC.1/2001/2)

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		<p>Mr. R. Enderlein Mr. S. Ludwiczak</p>	<p>The Committee will be informed about the outcome of the joint special session of the governing bodies of the Industrial Accidents and Water Conventions to consider entering into a negotiation process to draw up a regime on civil liability.</p> <p>The Committee will also be provided with information on other key developments and activities under the ECE environmental conventions.</p>	<p>- Report on the joint special session (ECE/MP.WAT/7-ECE/CP.TEIA/5)</p>
12.45-1 p.m.	(c) Follow-up to the round-table discussion on supporting the ECE multilateral environmental agreements	<p>Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt Ms. C. von Schweinichen</p>	<p>The Committee is expected to discuss the outcome of a meeting of representatives of the Bureaux of the Committee and the governing bodies of the ECE environmental conventions regarding public participation and exchange views on possible future action.</p>	<p>- Minutes of the meeting (CEP/2001/6) - Progress report on interlinkages (CEP/2001/7)</p>

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	<p>Item 10 Cross-sectoral activities within the Committee's programme of work</p>			
3-4 p.m.	(a) Transport, environment and health/Transport and environment	Mr. P. Robineau, Senior Adviser to the Executive Secretary	<p>The Committee will be informed of the outcome of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health (Geneva, 4 May 2001), organized jointly by ECE and the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe as a follow-up to the London Charter on Transport, Environment and Health.</p> <p>The Committee may wish to endorse the decisions of the High-level Meeting on further steps to be taken in the field of transport, environment and health relating in particular to a possible framework convention on transport, environment and health as well as to the rationalization and streamlining of the Vienna and London follow-up work.</p>	- Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health (ECE/AC.21/2001/3)

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			<p>The Committee may wish to take note of the progress report on the implementation of the decisions of the High-level Meeting prepared by the two secretariats for submission to the ministerial-level regional preparatory meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Geneva, 24 – 25 September 2001).</p> <p>The Committee will be informed of the outcome of the fourth session of the Joint Meeting on Transport and Environment (Geneva, 6 June 2001). Delegations may wish to endorse in particular the terms of reference for a joint UNECE – WHO ad hoc expert group on transport, environment and health adopted by the Joint Meeting and by the London Charter Steering Group (at its fourth meeting, 7 June 2001) to implement the decisions of the High-level Meeting.</p>	<p>- Report on the fourth session of the Joint Meeting (JMTE/2001/5)</p>
			<p>In view of the 2002 mid-term review of the Vienna Programme of Joint Action and with due consideration of the outcome of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, the Committee may also wish to discuss the future implementation of the Programme.</p>	<p>- Report of the first session of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Transport and the Environment (JMTE/AC.1/2001/2)</p>

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4-4.10 p.m.	(b) Environment and health	The Co-Chairpersons of EEHC	The Committee will be informed and is expected to discuss the outcome of the meetings of the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC).	- Reports of the meetings are available at www.eehc.dk
4.10-4.20 p.m.	(c) Energy and the environment (energy pricing)	Mr. G. Kowalski, Director of the Energy Division	The Committee will be informed about the planned activities of the joint task force on environment and energy (Committee on Environmental Policy/Committee on Sustainable Energy), including its first meeting (November 2001).	
	Item 11 Other activities within the Committee's programme of work and their contribution to the "Environment for Europe" process			
4.20-4.30 p.m.	(a) Environmental monitoring	Mr. Yu. Tsurov, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group, or Mr. M. Kokine, secretariat	The Committee will consider the outcome of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring to be held on 20-21 September 2001.	- Report on the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group
4.30-4.40 p.m.	(b) Energy and the environment (follow-up to the Aarhus decisions)	The Chair of the Working Group	The Committee will be informed of the progress made in the implementation of the Energy Charter Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects.	- Report by the Working Group (CEP/2001/9)

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4.40-4.50 p.m.	(c) Follow-up to the Strategy to Phase Out Leaded Petrol	The delegation of Denmark Mr. K. Bull	The Committee will hear a report on the results of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution's 2000 review of strategies and policies that relate to this issue.	- EB.AIR/2000/1
4.50-5.00 p.m.	(d) Local initiatives towards sustainable consumption patterns	Mr. M. Kokine	The Committee will be informed of the current status of preparation for the workshop on this issue.	
5.00-5.20 p.m.	(e) Compliance and enforcement	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt	The Committee will be informed of the activities of the Task Force on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement and is expected to agree on the proposed work and timetable.	- Report on the first meeting of the Task Force (CEP/2001/8)
5.20-5.35 p.m.	(f) Preparations for the fifth Ministerial Conference	Mr. Y. Movchan, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials	The Committee may wish to discuss the preparations for the Conference and make suggestions.	- Report of the first meeting of the Working Group (CEP/AC.11/2000/2)
5.35-5.45 p.m.	Item 12 Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the ECE Trust Funds	Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt	The Committee will be informed about the current status of the Trust Fund and donor countries are expected to pledge further funds.	- Financial situation and eligibility criteria for 2002

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5.45-6 p.m.	<p>Item 13 Other business</p> <p>Item 14 Election of officers for the ninth session</p> <p>Item 15 Closing of the eighth session</p>		<p>The secretariat had no points to propose when finalizing this agenda.</p> <p>The Committee is expected to elect the officers for its ninth session.</p> <p>The Chairman, with the assistance of the secretariat, will sum up the Committee's conclusions and decisions. The secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, will finalize the report of the eighth session for circulation to member countries and for adoption at the ninth session.</p>	