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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Sixty-second session

(Geneva, 17-19 September 2001)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from the fifty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee.
3. ECE input to the Istanbul+5 special session and follow-up in the ECE region.
4. Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration and the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century in the Committee's programme of work for 2001-2004:
 - (a) In-depth discussion on facilitating social cohesion and security through urban development;
 - (b) Country profiles on the housing sector;
 - (c) Improvement of urban environmental performance;
 - (d) Land registration and land markets;
 - (e) Housing modernization and management;
 - (f) Development of human settlements statistics; and
 - (g) Major trends characterizing human settlements development.

5. Work of the Bureau and the report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network.
6. Other business.
7. Election of officers.
8. Closing of the sixty-second session.

T E N T A T I V E T I M E T A B L E

Monday, 17 September	Morning Afternoon	Items 1, 2 and 3 Item 4 (a)
Tuesday, 18 September	Morning Afternoon	Items 4 (b) and (c) Items 4 (d) - (g)
Wednesday, 19 September	Morning	Items 5, 6, 7 and 8.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken by the Committee at its sixty-first session (ECE/HBP/119), Ministerial Declaration (ECE/HBP/119/Add.1) and the progress made in the programme of work since then. The Committee is expected to adopt its agenda.

Item 2: Matters arising from the fifty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee

The Committee will be informed about the decisions adopted by the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, held from 7 to 11 May 2001, which have a bearing on the work of the Committee (HBP/2001/7).

The Committee may wish to discuss these issues and take them into account when deciding on its future work programme.

Item 3: ECE input to the Istanbul+5 Special Session and follow-up in the ECE region

During the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda ("Istanbul + 5") on 6-8 June 2001, ECE will hold a parallel event to present the work of the Committee. At the Committee's sixty-second session, information will be provided on this event. All delegations will be invited to reflect on the results of the Istanbul + 5 special session, together with representatives of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and other international organizations.

The Committee may wish to discuss the implications of the General Assembly's special session for the Committee's programme of work and for ECE member countries.

Item 4: Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration and the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century in the Committee's programme of work for 2001-2004

The ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century (ECE/HBP/120) has been published and will be distributed to all Heads of Delegation.

The Committee will review its programme of work in the context of the Strategy and the Ministerial Declaration. In line with the ECE Plan of Action, the Committee will keep its work programme focused on a limited number of priorities. The Committee will discuss its draft programme of work (HBP/2001/3), take decisions on each programme element and adopt the programme.

Item 4 (a): In-depth discussion on facilitating social cohesion and security through urban development

In accordance with the request of the Committee on Human Settlements, the Bureau has reviewed the proposals sent by national delegations and agreed to organize an in-depth discussion on facilitating social cohesion and security through urban development. The topic was one of the challenges of the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century.

The purpose of the discussion is to outline the main social problems and issues of human settlements development to be addressed at national and regional level, and to come up with possible actions and priority directions for the Committee.

To facilitate the discussion, Mr. W. Förster (Austria), member of the Bureau, has prepared a discussion paper (HBP/2001/2), in cooperation with the secretariat, on issues which will be taken up by the moderators. All delegations are invited to prepare written notes on the issues identified in the discussion paper and to make short presentations (not more than 5 minutes each).

The Committee may wish to consider how the social dimension of urban development could be reflected in its programme of work.

All delegations are invited to suggest a topic for next year's in-depth discussion. The Bureau will then consider all proposals and make a decision.

Item 4 (b): Country profiles on the housing sector

The secretariat will report on the project's implementation in Romania and the Republic of Moldova.

The Committee will hold a comprehensive discussion on the follow-up to the country profile projects in Bulgaria, Poland, Slovakia and Lithuania, as well as on the ongoing projects in Romania and the Republic of Moldova, according to the outline presented in document HBP/2001/4. The main objective of the discussion is to share views on the results achieved. Countries where studies were implemented are requested to report on how the results have been used, whether the process has been useful and how the recommendations have been followed up. Their presentations should also review the latest developments in their housing sectors. Furthermore, best practices as well as shortcomings should be reported and discussed. The discussion will also aim to identify ways in which the Committee could best assist countries in policy implementation.

The Committee may also wish to review the ways in which the studies are carried out, and decide how to make project implementation more efficient.

The Committee may wish to consider the requests of Albania, Armenia, and the Russian Federation to undertake studies in these countries.

Moreover, the Committee may wish to:

- (a) Decide on new approaches to the project implementation, if appropriate;
- (b) Agree on ways to assess the implementation of the country profiles' recommendations;

and

- (c) Decide on the next country for which a study should be initiated.

Item 4 (c): Improvement of urban environmental performance

The Committee will be informed about the work done by the Steering Group on Land-use Planning and Local Transport, which was established jointly with the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy in preparation of the workshop scheduled for 2002.

The Committee will be informed of the ECE preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10) and on the outcome of the High-Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, which include human-settlements-related issues.

The Committee may wish to take note of this information.

Item 4 (d): Land registration and land markets

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Land Administration will report on the progress made since the previous session of the Committee, in particular on the workshops held in Spain (28-29 September 2000, HBP/2001/1) and Sweden (14-15 June 2001). Attention will be given to the preparation of the second session of the Working Party.

The report of the Chairperson will be supplemented by a presentation of the major conclusions and practical results achieved since the Committee's previous session.

The Committee may wish to take note of the progress made in the activities related to land markets and land registration and approve the report of the Chairperson of the Working Party.

Item 4 (e): Housing modernization and management

Information will be provided on the progress made in the preparation of the ECE guidelines on housing condominiums.

On the basis of a draft of the guidelines, all delegations will be invited to discuss their experience in the organization and management of housing condominiums.

The Committee may wish to take note of the progress made in the implementation of this programme element and consider what future activities could be initiated to implement the ECE guidelines on housing condominiums.

The Chairperson of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network will present a proposal for a new study on housing finance, on which the Committee will take a decision.

Item 4 (f): Development of human settlements statistics

The secretariat will present a proposal on the possibilities for collecting ECE housing-policy-related statistics/indicators provided by national housing and land administration authorities (HBP/2001/5).

The delegations will be invited to comment on the proposal and the types of statistics/indicators that the Committee should collect to meet national and international demands for housing policy assessment and formulation and coordinate similar work carried out by member countries of the European Union.

Delegations should confirm their interest in this activity.

The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Agree with the proposal on the new types of statistics and indicators (social, economic and financial) to be collected by national delegations for regular presentation to the Committee, starting from the sixty-third session;
- (b) Agree to organize a meeting on housing indicators before the end of 2001.

Item 4 (g): Major trends characterizing human settlements development

The delegation of the United Kingdom will be invited to report on preparations for the Ninth Conference on Urban and Regional Research to be held in Leeds (United Kingdom) in June 2002 and present the final programme for the Conference (ECE/SEM.53/1), which was adopted by the Committee's Bureau in May 2001.

The Committee may wish to invite the delegations to widely disseminate the Programme among officials, NGOs and the private sector in their countries, and invite all delegations to prepare response papers and to take an active part in the Conference.

Item 5: Work of the Bureau and report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network

The Chairman of the Bureau will report on the work of the Bureau and the main decisions taken since the Committee's previous session. The Chairperson of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network will introduce a report on its activities (HBP/2001/6).

The Committee is expected to:

- (a) Approve the work of the Bureau;
- (b) Discuss cooperation with the Advisory Network.

Item 6: Other business

Information will be provided on the ECE Trust Fund on Human Settlements. Delegations are invited to announce their contributions to the Trust Fund for particular programme activities.

Delegations wishing to discuss other points under this item are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

Item 7: **Election of officers**

The Committee is expected to elect the officers for its sixty-third session.

Item 8: **Closing of the sixty-second session**

The Chairperson will sum up the major decisions taken by the Committee. After the session, the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, will draw up the report on the sixty-second session.

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Registration

According to the current accreditation procedures, all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to fill in a registration form in English (annex). Moreover, delegates who do not have a badge for entry in the Palais des Nations have to present themselves before the meeting at the Security and Safety Section's Pass and Identification Unit to receive their identification badge. This is located at the Villa des Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (opposite to the Place des Nations Gate). It is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m to 5 p.m.

Please complete the attached registration form and fax it to Mr. G. Vinogradov, Environment and Human Settlements Division (Fax: (4122) 907 0107) as soon as possible, but no later than one week before the beginning of the meeting. You are requested to bring with you the original registration form, which you will have to show when Security gives you your badge, as the secretariat will only have a copy.



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

Conference Registration Form

Please Print

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Committee on Human Settlements, Sixty-second session, 17-19 September 2001
Please return the completed form to the attention of Mr. G. Vinogradov, Fax: (+4122 9070107)

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