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Council**

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Sixty-sixth session
(Geneva, 19-21 September 2005)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting on Monday, 19 September 2005, at 10 a.m.*

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken at the sixty-fifth session of the Committee (ECE/HBP/134) and the progress made in the programme of work since then.

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

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form, also available from the web site of the UNECE / ENHS Division (<http://www.unece.org/env/hs/welcome.html>), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the meeting, by fax (+41-22-917-0107). Before the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) to pick up their identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact the UNECE secretariat by telephone (extension 74145).

The Committee will be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its sixtieth session, held from 22 to 25 February 2005, which will have a bearing on the work of the Committee. This includes the outcome of the comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE, as well as related recommendations and decisions on reforming the Commission (HBP/2005/1).

The Committee may wish to take the above decisions into account when deciding on its future work programme.

Item 3: Social and economic benefits of the development of human settlements

The Committee will hold an in-depth discussion based on a paper prepared by the secretariat (HBP/2005/5). The purpose of the discussion is to engage the continuing attention of policy makers in the UNECE region on the importance of human settlement development for promoting stability and prosperity across the region.

As a follow up to the discussion, the Committee may wish to:

- (a) Agree on the organization of a high-level meeting in conjunction with the sixty-seventh session in September 2006;
- (b) To prepare a political Declaration on the basis of the outcome of the in-depth discussion, for adoption at the high-level meeting; and
- (c) To set up a drafting group of experts to be designated by interested delegations to work on a draft in light of the discussion.

Item 4: Programme of work for 2006-2007

The Committee will discuss the directions of its work and corresponding activities, based on the draft programme of work (HBP/2005/2).

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

The delegation of Serbia and Montenegro will be invited to present the main findings of the recently accomplished housing profile study on the country.

The delegation of Armenia will report on the follow-up workshop to its Country Profile, held in Yerevan on 20-21 May 2005 (HBP/2005/4). The workshop was organized to bring together all stakeholders to discuss and agree on priorities defined in the draft housing policy document following the recommendations of the Country Profile study.

Since the previous session of the Committee, the Country Profile on the Russian Federation has been published (ECE/HBP/131).

The delegation of the Republic of Moldova is invited to report on the preparations for the follow-up event planned in autumn 2005.

Preparations for a country profile study on Azerbaijan have started. A pre-mission was carried out in April 2005. This was organized in conjunction with a pre-mission for the Land Administration Review. The research missions of the international experts team are scheduled for October 2005 both for the country profile study and land administration review. The delegation of Azerbaijan is invited to report on the preparations for the country profile and land administration review.

The following countries have stated or restated their interest in having a country profile carried out: Belarus, Ukraine and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRM).

A presentation will be made of the draft study on Trends and Progress in Housing Reforms in South-East Europe, and its main conclusions, jointly prepared by the UNECE, Council of Europe and Council of Europe Development Center.

The Committee may wish to hold a discussion on the study on Trends and Progress mentioned above.

The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Acknowledge the study on Trends and Progress and to request the secretariats to finalise it for its dissemination;
- (b) Discuss the results of the workshop on the country profile for Armenia as well as different options for future follow-up activities on the implementation of the recommendations in reviewed countries;
- (c) Take note of the progress in the preparation of the country profile study in Azerbaijan; and
- (d) Recommend which countries should initiate a review in 2006-2007, taking into account the proposal of the Bureau.

Item 4 (b): 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 and on the preparations for the 4th session of the Working Party to be held on 21-22 November 2005.

The Committee will be informed of the results of the land administration review of Lithuania (HBP/WP.7/2005/3). The review was prepared by experts from Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the ECE secretariat. A follow-up workshop was organized in Lithuania on 23-25 September 2004 (HBP/WP.7/2005/5).

A pre-mission on Land Administration Review on Azerbaijan took place in April 2005 and the research mission is planned for October 2005, both in conjunction with the Country Profile review.

Information will be provided on the finalized and the ongoing studies, in particular on ECE Guidelines on Real Estate Units and Identifiers and on Land Administration in the UNECE Region: Development Trends and Main Principles.

Mr. P. Creuzer (Germany), the Chair of the task force, will present a study on the main principles of public/private partnership in land administration (HBP/WP.7/2005/8)

The Committee may wish to discuss the approach taken and principles contained in the study and how these could be applied to human settlements policies.

The Committee may also wish to take note of the progress made by the Working Party on Land Administration.

Item 4 (c): Improvement of spatial planning and urban environmental performance

The delegation of Poland will be invited to inform the Committee of the results of the workshop on spatial planning (19-21 June 2005).

The Committee will be informed on the preparation of the study on spatial planning systems and the results of the first meeting of the task force.

Delegations will be invited to exchange views on the revised content of the study in the light of the discussions and results of the Polish workshop and agree on further steps foreseen in the preparatory process.

Item 4 (d): Major trends characterizing the development of human settlements

The delegation of Slovakia will be invited to present the programme and organization of the 10th ECE Conference on Urban and Regional Research (HBP/2005/6) to be held in Slovakia in 2006.

The Committee may wish to consider and approve the programme for the Conference.

Item 4 (e): Housing modernization and management

The study on housing finance systems for countries in transition was published.

Mr. W. Förster (Austria), Chair of the task force on social housing, will be invited to present the final version of the guidelines on social housing for approval by the Committee.

The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Adopt the guidelines on social housing for publication; and
- (b) Discuss the practical application of the Guidelines and other policy recommendations, including those on housing finance systems in the UNECE member countries,

and look at ways in which the Committee could assist them in the implementation process (including the role of HUMAN in this process).

Item 4 (f): Development of statistics on human settlements

The secretariat will inform the Committee on the ECE work on the recommendations for the new round of the housing censuses. The Committee may wish to take note of this information.

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

The Chairperson 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 be invited to report on the work of the Network and suggest candidates to serve in it till the Committee's next session.

The Committee may wish to discuss cooperation with the Advisory Network and approve its membership.

Item 6: Adoption of the programme of work for 2006-2007

The Committee may wish to adopt its programme of work for 2006-2007 (HBP/2005/2), taking into account the discussions and the decisions reached under each programme element. Delegations may also wish to announce their contributions to those activities requiring additional extra budgetary resources.

Item 7: Other business

Information will be provided on the UNECE Trust Fund on Human Settlements. Delegations may wish to raise other issues.

Item 8: Election of officers

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

Item 9: Closing of the sixty-sixth 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-sixth session.

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

Monday, 19 September	Morning Afternoon	Items 1, 2 and 3 Item 3 (continued)
Tuesday, 20 September	Morning Afternoon	Items 4 (a) Items 4 (b)-(c)
Wednesday, 21 September	Morning	Items 4 (d)-(f), 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

Web site of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements:
<http://www.unece.org/env/hs>



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Conference Registration Form

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Attn. Mr. G.Vinogradov and Ms.Oksana Rott

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66th Session of the Committee on Human Settlements (Geneva, 19–21 September 2005)

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