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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

Working Party on Land Administration  
Fourth session, Geneva, 21-22 November 2005  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2007**

Introduction

1. The present note provides information to assist the Working Party in discussing and establishing its programme and methods of work. The Bureau of the Working Party has met five times since the third session of the Working Party in November 2003 to review the programme of work and its implementation.
2. The draft programme of work is set out in the annex below. The Working Party's activities are described under programme element 10.1.3 "Land registration and land markets" of the programme of work of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements. When discussing its programme of work, the Working Party should bear in mind that its programme should reflect the real interests of member countries and their willingness to contribute expertise, as well as financial resources, to its implementation. In order to be effective, new activities can be initiated only if other activities in the existing programme are finished.
3. The Working Party should take into account the results of the in-depth discussion on social and economic benefits of human settlements development in the light of the implementation of the UN Millennium Development Goals. It should also consider the discussion on the UNECE reform concerning the Committee on Human Settlements and its Working Party on Land Administration, held at the sixty-sixth session of the Committee on Human Settlements.

Proposed decisions by the Working Party

4. In the light of the discussion, the Working Party may wish to:
  - (a) Take note of the progress made in the implementation of its programme of work, as presented in the annex;
  - (b) Consider and adopt the new work plan in the light of the discussions held under item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda and the outcome of the Committee session on the UNECE reform taking also into account the subsequent proposals put forward by the open ended reform Committee established by the Ad Hoc informal Meeting on the Commission (14 July 2005)
  - (c) Update and approve its programme of work.

## Annex

### DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2007

#### **10.1.3.1 Situation and trends in land administration in the ECE region**

**Description:** The Working Party promotes land administration activities in the ECE region. It provides a forum for senior land administration officials to meet and discuss current trends and policies. In particular, it focuses on land registration to secure land tenure and property rights, the development of real-estate markets in countries in transition and the facilitation of European integration processes. The Working Party exchanges information and experience on modern cadastre and land registration systems in the ECE region, and shares its experience, when relevant, with other regions.

**Work accomplished:** At its third session in November 2003, the Working Party held two in-depth discussions on: (a) current trends and policies in the ECE region; and (b) raising the public profile of the land administration work. As a follow-up to the discussion on current trends and policies, the Working Party prepared a new publication Land Administration in the UNECE Region: Development Trends and Main Principles (ECE/HBP/140) to address new priorities and challenges in the ECE countries. The second edition of Social and Economic Benefits of Good Land Administration was prepared in January 2005. The Working Party contributed to the discussions at a number of meetings organized by the European Union, the Regional Center of Excellence in Budapest (initiated by the World Bank), EuroGeographics, etc.

**Work to be undertaken:** An exchange of views on land administration trends and policies, as well as public/private partnerships in land administration will be organized at the fourth session of the Working Party in November 2005. The results of these discussions will be taken into account for future activities in the period 2006-2007. The Working Party will continue to facilitate the initiation of international assistance projects in countries in transition, and strengthen its cooperation with other international organizations active in land administration.

#### **10.1.3.2 Legislation on land administration**

**Description:** The Working Party promotes the development of legal rights in real property, including ownership rights; security of data; public access to land information; legislation on registration of real property and its management (including housing condominiums); resolution of disputes on land rights, etc.

**Work accomplished:** A survey of restrictions on ownership, leasing, transfer and financing of land and real property in Europe and North America was prepared and published in 2003 by the delegation of the Russian Federation (Federal Land Cadastre Service) as lead country. The Working Party contributed to the preparation of the ECE Guidelines on Condominium Ownership of Housing for Countries in Transition (ECE/HBP/123). The ECE Guidelines on Real Property Units and Identifiers were prepared and published in 2004. A study on public/private partnerships in land administration was prepared (HBP/WP.7/2005/8). A

research activity on public access to data was implemented. The Land Administration Inventory was updated by the delegation of the United Kingdom.

**Work to be undertaken:** In the period 2006-2007, the Working Party will focus on the practical implementation of the Guidelines on Condominium Ownership, the Guidelines on Real Property Units, public-private partnerships through different types of follow up activities. At its fourth session, it will decide on the new studies and/or guidelines which could be prepared in response to the priorities defined in Land Administration in the UNECE Region: Development Trends and Main Principles.

### 10.1.3.3 Country-specific activities on land administration

**Description:** The Working Party on Land Administration promotes the practical application of the ECE Land Administration Guidelines (ECE/HBP/96) and the recommendations of the recent study on land administration in the UNECE region (ECE/HBP/140), through different types of operational activities in the ECE countries: land administration reviews and advisory missions of international experts; workshops and seminars or capacity-building activities. These activities vary and are implemented according to the needs and requests of the recipient countries.

**Work accomplished:** Since the third session of the Working Party, workshops have been held in: Armenia (Yerevan, 6-7 May 2004) on real property markets; Lithuania (Vilnius, 23-24 September 2004) on real property administration in developing the information society; Hungary (Budapest, 7-8 April 2005) on EU enlargement and developments in land administration; and Finland (Helsinki, 1-2 September 2005) on multipurpose cadastre. The Working Party carried out land administration reviews in Armenia (November 2000, HBP/WP.7/2001/5,), in Georgia (May 2001, HBP/WP.7/2001/9,) in the Russian Federation (November 2002, HBP/2003/7 and Add.1) and in Lithuania (February-March 2002, HBP/WP.7/2005/3). International experts undertook fact-finding missions to these countries and prepared analytical reviews with practical policy recommendations. The land administration reviews were coordinated with the country profiles on the housing sector carried out by the Committee on Human Settlements.

**Work to be undertaken:** The Working Party will continue to carry out land administration reviews at the request of individual countries. In autumn 2005/spring 2006, a land administration review will be implemented in Azerbaijan in conjunction with the country profile of the housing sector. Workshops are planned in Georgia (spring 2006), Czech Republic (autumn 2006), Germany (spring 2007) and Ireland (September 2007).