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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT**

Sixty-ninth session  
Geneva, 22–23 September 2008

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting on Monday, 22 September 2008, at 10 a.m.\*

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Work of the Bureau and the report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network (HUMAN)
3. Programme of work for 2008–2009
  - (a) Country profiles on the housing sector
  - (b) Improvement of urban environmental performance
  - (c) Land registration and land markets
  - (d) Housing modernization and management

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\* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management (<http://www.unece.org/hlm/welcome.html>), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting, namely, **by 8 September 2008**, either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail ([evelina.rioukhina@unece.org](mailto:evelina.rioukhina@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 Committee's website). If you have any difficulties, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1499/2553.

4. Energy efficiency in housing
5. Housing and demographic changes
6. Informal settlements
7. Outreach, communications and knowledge management
8. Outcome of the third regional implementation meeting on sustainable development
9. Seventieth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management
10. Other business
11. Election of the Bureau
12. Closing of the sixty-ninth session

## **II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

Monday, 22 September 2008 (morning, starting at 10 a.m.)

### **Item 1: Adoption of the agenda**

1. This provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken by the Committee of Housing and Land Management (CHLM) at its sixty-eighth session (ECE/HBP/145) and on progress made in the programme of work since then. The proposed agenda and timetable were agreed upon by the Committee's Bureau at its May meeting (ECE/HBP/2008/10) and are presented for approval to the Committee.
2. The Committee is expected to adopt the agenda.

### **Item 2: Work of the Bureau and report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network (HUMAN)**

3. The Chairperson of the Committee's Bureau will report on the work of the Bureau and the main decisions taken since the Committee's previous session. The Chairperson of the Advisory Network will report on its activities.
4. The Committee is expected to approve the work of the Bureau and the Advisory Network.

**Item 3: Programme of work for 2008–2009**

5. As part of the Committee's programme of work for 2008–2009 (ECE/HBP/2008/1), a number of activities and meetings were carried out. The Committee will review them and give advice on future activities.

**(a) Country profiles of the housing sector**

6. The delegation of Belarus will be invited to report on the results of the country profile study (ECE/HBP/150) and the Government's intentions and plans for implementing the recommendations, including organization of a local launching event. The delegation of Georgia will report on progress made with respect to the organization of a launching event for their country profile.

7. The secretariat will provide information on the latest country profile of Kyrgyzstan, carried out in concert with Kyrgyzstan's Environmental Performance Review as recommended by the Bureau and the Committee. The delegation of Kyrgyzstan will be invited to provide information, especially regarding the main issues to be highlighted in the review.

8. The secretariat will report on other countries that have expressed interest in having a country profile review, including progress in obtaining the relevant information to carry out the country profile of Azerbaijan in early 2009.

9. The secretariat will also inform the Committee about the results and recommendations of the self-evaluation regarding the preparation of the country profiles (ECE/HBR/2008/4), and how these results and recommendations had been taken into consideration in the country profile of Kyrgyzstan.

10. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Take note of the information provided and discuss the progress made with the country profiles programme element;
- (b) Agree on the next study to be carried out, based on countries' requests and as agreed by the Bureau.

**(b) Improvement of urban environmental performance**

11. The UNECE publication, *Spatial Planning – Key Instrument for Development and Effective Governance, With Special Reference to Countries in Transition*, was printed and launched in Geneva in May 2008. The study was presented to the Bureau immediately on publication.

12. The delegation of Belarus will inform the Committee about the outcome of the workshop on the sustainable development of small and medium-sized cities, held from 25 to 28 September 2007 in Minsk.

13. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Discuss follow-up activities to the publication on spatial planning, including the possible organization of a workshop on urban sprawl;
- (b) Discuss the results of the workshop, and provide advice on how to integrate results it in the work of the Committee.

**(c) Land registration and land markets**

14. The Chairperson of the Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) will report on composition and the workplan of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM) as well as the group's future activities.

15. The Committee will be informed about the progress made by WPLA on the study on fees and charges, based on a questionnaire survey.

16. The Committee will also be informed on the progress in the Land Administration Reviews, notably on the Land Administration Review on Bulgaria and on the preparations for the Land Administration Review of Tajikistan.

17. The WPLA Chairperson will briefly report on recent and upcoming workshops, highlighting the workshop's conclusions and their relation to the Committee's programme of work. Workshops were held on:

- (a) Registering the World (Dublin, 26–28 September 2007) (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2007/9);
- (b) Legal Empowerment of the Poor (Bergen, Norway, 10–11 April 2008) (ECE/HBP/2008/9);
- (c) International Conference on the Real Estate Development in Albania (Tirana, 13–14 May 2008).

18. Other upcoming workshops will take place in Cavtat, Croatia (Influence of Land Administration on People and Business, 2–3 October 2008), Bulgaria (spring 2009) and Baku, Azerbaijan (autumn 2009).

19. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Discuss and comment on the work of WPLA and REM;
- (b) Take note of the progress made in WPLA and REM work.

**(d) Housing modernization and management**

20. The delegation of Norway will report on preparations and the programme of the Workshop on Homelessness, to be held in mid-May 2009.

21. The Committee will be informed about progress made in the implementation of the project on the multifamily housing sector (ECE/HBP/2008/5), including advice from and decisions made by the Bureau.

22. The Committee may wish to discuss and advise on further steps for the project on the multifamily housing sector.

Monday, 22 September 2008 (afternoon, starting at 3 p.m.)

**Item 4: Energy efficiency in housing**

23. As part of its programme of work for 2008–2009 on housing modernization and management, and to further support for the proposal by the delegation of Austria made at the Committee's sixty-eight session to initiate a project on energy efficiency and energy-saving in the housing sector, a concept note elaborated by Austria with the assistance of the secretariat was considered by the Bureau in May 2008. The Bureau also made some recommendations for further work. The updated version of the note is contained in documents ECE/HBP/2008/2. An additional note prepared by the Secretariat on energy efficiency and economics in the ECE region is contained in document ECE/HBP/2008/3.

24. The delegate of Austria will introduce the note and provide information on the Task Force on Energy Efficiency in Housing and its work, as well as on the kick-off workshop to be held in early 2009.

25. As agreed by the Bureau, to advance the work of the Committee in this area, an in-depth discussion with a focus on current challenges and solutions for increasing energy efficiency in housing will be held. The debate will be based on input from countries as well as the aforementioned concept note.

26. The discussion will begin with a short introduction by the Chairperson, followed by keynote presentations. Selected countries will present their experiences with energy efficiency in housing, devoting particular attention to existing housing stocks. The discussion will conclude with interventions from the floor, based on the questions included in the concept note.

27. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Consider recommendations contained in the concept note (ECE/HBP/2008/2 and ECE/HBP/2008/3), endorse them and provide further advice;
- (b) Highlight and discuss the main issues emerging from the in-depth review, in order to contribute to the discussion at the kick-off workshop;
- (c) Invite interested delegations to designate experts to participate as speakers and moderators in the kick-off workshop as well as in future work on the issue;
- (d) Invite countries to provide financial assistance to support the exercise.

Tuesday, 23 September 2007 (full day, starting at 9.30 a.m.)

**Item 5: Housing and demographic changes**

28. To increase synergies with other UNECE programmes, thus strengthening implementation of the programme of work for 2008–2009, a keynote speech on issues related to housing and demographic changes will be delivered by an expert.

29. The speech will be followed by related presentations by UNECE member States and organizations, followed by an interactive discussion moderated by the Committee. An updated note on housing and population matters will be issued after the meeting (ECE/HBP/2008/6).

30. The Committee may wish to take note of the main findings and offer advice on how to take the issues into consideration in its work.

**Item 6: Informal settlements**

31. A draft study on informal settlements, prepared following the recommendations of the sixty-eighth CHLM session and the fifth meeting of WLPA, will be presented (Informal notice 1), together with further advice and comments from the Bureau.

32. To make the study useful at the national and local levels and to reinforce the practical recommendations contained in the study, the Bureau proposed further developing the recommendations and guidance for member States. To this end, the Bureau decided to discuss and develop practical recommendations in a workshop to be held immediately following this CHLM session, on the morning of 24 September 2008, to allow for the presence of interested experts and Committee members while containing costs.

33. The Committee may wish to:

- (a) Take note of progress and make suggestions on how to develop advice further;
- (b) Participate in the expert workshop of 24 September;
- (c) Further advise on how to make the results of the study useful to member States facing informal settlements related problems.

**Item 7: Outreach, communications and knowledge management**

34. In order to increase the visibility of the CHLM work, better communications between Committee members and between the stakeholders both in and outside the Committee, and to better organize and make use of the tool developed by the Committee and available online, the secretariat identified some activities to be considered by it. Suggestions items to be considered by the Bureau are contained in document ECE/HBP/2008/7.

35. The Committee may wish to consider recommendations contained in the note and discuss their content. Further to the discussion the Committee is invited to endorse them.

**Item 8: Outcome of the third regional implementation meeting on sustainable development**

36. The Committee will be informed about discussions held and the outcome of the third regional implementation meeting (Geneva, 28–29 January 2008), in particular on the issue of land. Information will be also provided on the sixteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, 5–16 April 2008).

37. The Committee may wish to take note of the outcome of the meeting;

**Item 9: Seventieth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management**

38. The secretariat will present a short note containing some suggestions for consideration by the Committee on potential items of discussion for its seventieth session (ECE/HBP/2008/8).

39. The Committee may wish to further discuss the proposals and to add further ideas.

**Item 10: Other business**

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

**Item 11: Election of the Bureau**

41. The Committee is expected to elect the Bureau for its seventieth session.

**Item 12: Closing of the sixty-ninth session**

42. The Chairperson will sum up the major decisions taken by the Committee. After the session, the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, will prepare the report of the sixty-ninth session.

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