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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Working Party on Land Administration

Sixth session

Geneva, 18–19 June 2009

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTH SESSION

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting on Thursday, 18 June 2009, at 10 a.m.*

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters arising from the sixty-ninth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management and the sixty-third session of the Economic Commission for Europe
3. Reports of the Bureau of the Working Party on Land Administration and of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM)
4. In-depth discussion of challenges posed by fraud to land management institutions

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available on the Committee's website (<http://www.unece.org/hlm/wpla/sessions/6thSession.htm>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat *no later than two weeks prior to the meeting – namely, by 4 June 2009* – either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or e-mail (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). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1499.

5. Programme of work for 2010–2011:
 - (a) Land administration policies;
 - (b) Major trends characterizing land administration development;
 - (c) Land administration reviews
6. Results of the performance evaluation of the 2008–2009 programme of work (self-evaluation)
7. Cooperation with other international organizations
8. Election of the Bureau
9. Any other business

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Thursday, 18 June (full day, starting at 10 a.m.)

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda (10 – 10.15 a.m.)

1. The provisional agenda is based on progress made with respect to the programme of work of the Working Party on Land Administration. The proposed agenda and timetable were agreed upon by the Bureau of the Working Party and will be presented for the Working Party's consideration and approval.
2. The Working Party is expected to adopt the agenda.

Item 2: Matters arising from the sixty-ninth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management and the sixty-third session of the Economic Commission for Europe (10.15 – 11 a.m.)

3. The Working Party will be informed about the decisions taken by the Committee on Housing and Land Management at its sixty-ninth session (ECE/HBP/149) and by the Economic Commission for Europe at its sixty-third session that have a bearing on the work of the Working Party.
4. Particular attention will be given to:
 - (a) The request by the Committee to the secretariat to prepare a modular approach for upcoming land administration reviews and country profiles on the housing sector (agenda item 5(c));

- (b) The decision of the Committee to launch the publication of a quarterly newsletter, *Vital Spaces*, to support outreach activities of the secretariat;
- (c) The outcomes of the third Regional Implementation Meeting on Sustainable Development (Geneva, 28–29 January 2008), which examined the topics of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;
- (d) The outcomes of the reporting during the Commission session on implementation of the reform of the Commission (E/ECE/1434/Rev.1).

5. The Working Party is expected to take note of information provided.

Item 3: Reports of the Bureau of the Working Party on Land Administration and of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM) (11 – 11.30 a.m.)

6. The Chairperson of the Bureau will inform the Working Party about the Bureau's activities. A representative of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group will provide information on REM's current programme of work.

7. The Working Party will take note of the information and will be invited to comment and agree on Advisory Group's programme of work.

Item 4: In-depth discussion on the challenge posed by fraud to land management institutions (11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

8. As suggested by the Bureau, a discussion will take place focused on the subject of fraud as it affects land administration practices. A concept note on fraud in electronic registration and conveyancing, together with a questionnaire to be distributed to the participants, will be presented by the delegation of the United Kingdom (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/3). The presentation will be followed by a keynote speech and short presentations by selected countries. The presentations will highlight concrete experiences with fraud and the means available to overcome this problem. Interventions from the floor will follow.

9. The Working Party may wish:

- (a) To discuss options and tools to effectively prevent and cope with fraud and its negative implications for both users and land administration authorities;
- (b) To discuss whether there is a need to develop guidelines addressing this issue;
- (c) If so agreed, to invite interested delegations to indicate their willingness to financially support the preparation of such guidelines.

Item 5: Programme of work for 2010–2011

10. The Working Party will review the implementation of activities reflected in its programme of work for 2008–2009. The Working Party will also review the draft programme of work for 2010–2011 (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/2), and will take decisions on each item of the programme.

(a) Land administration policies (3 – 5.30 p.m.)

11. Fees and charges. A report on fees and charges was approved for publication at the meeting held in Cavtat, Croatia, on 4 October 2008 and will be presented by a consultant (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/4). Delegates will be invited to present experiences with the application of fees and charges in their countries. The Working Party may wish to discuss and identify appropriate policies on how best to apply fees and charges, taking into account each country's legal and socio-economic context.

12. The following workshops were held during 2008–2009:

- (a) “Influence of land administration on people and business” (Cavtat, Croatia, 2–3 October 2008; ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/6);
- (b) “Experiences with data management to improve land administration in UNECE¹ countries” (Sofia, 23–24 April 2009; Informal notice 1).

13. Delegations of the respective countries where the workshops were held will be invited to report on these events' main outcomes.

14. The Chairperson will invite the delegation of Azerbaijan to provide information on the upcoming workshop in Baku (1–2 October 2009) on the topic of transparency in land markets, and the delegation of Belarus to comment on the workshop to be organized in Minsk in spring 2010 on the topic of E-government and land administration. The Working Party may wish:

- (a) To comment on the contents and to provide input on possible items to be covered in each of the workshops;
- (b) To discuss whether any other issues need to be addressed in future workshops under this item.

Friday, 19 June (full day, starting at 9.30 a.m.)

**(b) Major trends characterizing land administration development
(9.30 – 10.45 a.m.)**

15. Informal settlements. The Bureaux of the Committee and the Working Party considered the final draft of the study on informal settlements titled “Self-made cities: in search for

¹ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

sustainable solutions for informal settlements in the UNECE region, challenges and policy guidance” (ECE/HBP/155). The study, resulting from the joint work of Committee and Working Party, will be presented during the session.

16. Delegations will be invited to put forward proposals on how best to implement the guidelines contained in the study.

17. The workshop on “Legal empowerment of the poor” was held on 10-11 April 2008 in Bergen, Norway. The delegation of Norway will be invited report on the event’s main outcomes (ECE/HBP/2008/9).

18. A workshop in Antalya, Turkey, on the role of land administration to improve security of tenure will be held during autumn 2010. The delegation of Turkey will be invited to provide preliminary information on the event.

19. The Working Party may wish to discuss and agree on specific topics for the upcoming workshop to be held in Turkey.

(c) Land administration reviews (11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

20. The land administration review of Bulgaria has been finalized and will be launched during the session. The delegation of Bulgaria will be invited to report on the findings and how they intend to implement the recommendations contained in the review (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/5 and Informal notice 3). A chapter on land administration was included in the country profiles of Belarus and Kyrgyzstan. Information will be provided on the recommendations contained in these studies.

21. A document containing a proposal for the application of a modular approach related to land administration reviews and country profiles on the housing sector will be presented by the secretariat for discussion (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/7).

22. Delegations may wish to express their interest in carrying out land administration reviews in their countries. They may also wish to comment on how a modular approach might better suit their needs.

23. The Working Party may wish:

- (a) To decide on the next land administration reviews, based on requests received.
- (b) To provide comments to the proposal for a modular approach. These will be consolidated and included in a document to be considered by Committee.

Item 6: Results of the performance evaluation of the 2008–2009 programme of work (3 – 4 p.m.)

24. As part of a UNECE-wide self-evaluation exercise, UNECE subprogrammes are requested to undertake assessments of selected areas of work, projects or key activities. The

main aims of these self-evaluations are to help increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the work undertaken and to receive feedback on the subprogrammes' impact (ECE/HBP/2007/10).

25. In the 2008–2009 biennium, a self-evaluation on the “Themes and impact of the Working Party workshop series to improve land management systems” (ECE/HBP/WP.7/2009/8) was carried out during and after the Bergen and Cavtat workshops (ECE/HBP/2008/9 and ECE/HBP/WP.9/2009/6, respectively). A similar exercise to collect information is to be undertaken during the workshops in Sofia (23-24 April) and in Rome (3–4 June 2009) (Informal notice 2).

26. The Working Party will be invited:

- (a) To discuss the results of the self evaluation and the relevant recommendations to be borne in mind when organizing future workshops;
- (b) To suggest particular recommendations to be taken into consideration for the upcoming workshops in Baku and Minsk.

Item 7: Cooperation with other international organizations (4 – 4.45 p.m.)

27. Information will be provided on cooperation and networking with other international organizations such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), EuroGeographics, International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Permanent Committee on Cadastre in the European Union (PCC) and the World Bank.

Item 8: Election of the Bureau (4.45 – 5 p.m.)

28. The Working Party is expected to elect its Bureau, which will be in office until the Working Party's seventh session in June 2011.

Item 9: Any other business (5 – 5.30 p.m.)

29. Delegations wishing to discuss other issues under this item of the agenda are invited to inform the secretariat.
