

UNECE Monthly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS*

No. 63 – May 2005

Dates	Title	Comments
2-4	Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes <i>Focal point:</i> Tom Heilandt <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2450 <i>E-mail:</i> tom.heilandt@unece.org	The Specialized Section will discuss amendments to the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes. The goal is to make this standard the international reference for seed potato certification to promote harmonization and transparency in trade. A technical visit is planned to the company BIOREBA in Switzerland. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/meetings/ge.06/a2005_35.htm
3 (3 p.m.)	Briefing by Executive Secretary to Missions <i>Focal point:</i> Susan Bartolo <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1469 <i>E-mail:</i> susan.bartolo@unece.org	
4 (10 a.m.)	Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission <i>Focal point:</i> Susan Bartolo <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1469 <i>E-mail:</i> susan.bartolo@unece.org	Room IX.
9-10	Consultation on target setting and progress monitoring of water and wastewater services <i>Focal point:</i> Rainer Enderlein <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2373 <i>E-mail:</i> rainer.enderlein@unece.org	The consultation will define, through consensus with all stakeholders, methods for target setting and indicators by which the progress towards the objectives of the Protocol on Water and Health can be assessed. In particular, the meeting will formulate recommendations on target setting and progress monitoring on the performance of water supply and sanitation services, taking into account existing mandatory and voluntary reporting mechanisms as well as existing standards and those under development. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/water/
9-12	Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (78th session) <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2456 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella@unece.org	The Working Party (WP.15) will discuss the status of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and questions relating to its implementation and interpretation. It will also discuss proposals of amendments to the annexes of ADR, in particular as regards construction and approval or vehicles and safety in road tunnels. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/wp15/wp15age.html

* Not an official record; for information only. Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

<p>11-13</p>	<p>Joint ECE/ILO/Eurostat Seminar on Quality of Work <i>Focal point:</i> Linda Hooper <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 3255 <i>E-mail:</i> linda.hooper@unece.org</p>	<p>The Seminar will have the following major objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review work of international and national governmental agencies in the ECE region in measuring qualitative aspects of work on the basis of statistical indicators; 2. Review indicators of quality of work developed by ILO, EUROSTAT, OECD and national statistical agencies; 3. Review methods used to analyse levels and trends of the quality of work and related statistics; and 4. Discuss possible ways of joining national and international efforts in measuring quality of work. <p>Expected outcomes of the meeting are the identification of different approaches to measuring dimensions of quality of work and decent work, thereby enhancing both national and international efforts in measuring qualitative side of labour.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2005.05.labour.htm</p>
<p>12-13</p>	<p>ECE/AIECE Meeting on the Current Economic Situation in Europe and Short-term Prospects <i>Focal point:</i> Dieter Hesse <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2479 <i>E-mail:</i> dieter.hesse@unece.org</p>	
<p>12-14 Reykjavik</p>	<p>13th Task Force meeting of ICP Integrated Monitoring <i>Focal point:</i> Matti Johansson <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2358 <i>E-mail:</i> matti.johansson@unece.org</p>	<p>The meeting reviews the integrated monitoring of air pollution effects on ecosystems, with particular emphasis on monitoring activities in Iceland, development of dynamic modelling, investigations on heavy metals, nitrogen, sulphur and ozone, and the links to global changes. This International Cooperative Programme (ICP) operates under the Working Group on Effects of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP). <i>Website:</i> http://www.environment.fi/syke/im</p>
<p>16-18 Ottawa</p>	<p>Work Session on Statistical Data Editing <i>Focal point:</i> Juraj Riecan <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2238 <i>E-mail:</i> juraj.riecan@unece.org</p>	<p>The study programme of the meeting focuses on methods and evaluation, with a particular emphasis on quality related issues. The publication “Statistical Data Editing – Volume 3” concerning the impact of editing on data quality will also be discussed at the meeting. The target audience of the meeting includes statisticians dealing with editing and imputation of statistical data derived from surveys, censuses, and administrative sources and spanning various subject matter areas, both social and economic. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2005.05.sde.htm</p>
<p>17-18</p>	<p>TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) (26th session) <i>Focal point:</i> Poul Hansen <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 3258 <i>E-mail:</i> poul.hansen@unece.org</p>	<p>The TIR Executive Board (TIRExB), a subsidiary body of the TIR Administrative Committee, is composed of 9 members, each from different Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention. The TIRExB supervises and provides support in the application of the TIR procedure at the national and international levels. At its 26th session, the Board will consider some topical issues related to the sustainability of the TIR procedure, in particular, combatting Customs fraud within the TIR system and a harmonized application of Annex 9, part II of the Convention (controlled access to the TIR procedure) at the national level.</p> <p><i>Website:</i> http://border.unece.org</p>

18 Baku	Trade Facilitation Workshop <i>Focal point:</i> Mario Apostolov <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1134 <i>E-mail:</i> mario.apostolov@unece.org	
18-20 Bratislava	Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment <i>Focal point:</i> Francesca Bernardini <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2463 <i>E-mail:</i> francesca.bernardini@unece.org	The sixth meeting of the Working Group will be devoted to the preparation of the strategic guidelines on monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters and the assessment of transboundary waters in the UNECE region, to be presented at the sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" in 2007. The Working Group will also review progress of the pilot projects on transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/water/
19-21 Malta	Workshop "Care Provision in Ageing Societies: What are the Policy Challenges and How to Address Them" <i>Focal point:</i> Nikolai Botev <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1324 <i>E-mail:</i> nikolai.botev@unece.org	The Workshop is organized by UNECE and the International Institute on Ageing (INIA), in cooperation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research and the Institute for Older Persons and Social Services (IMSERSO) of the Spanish Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. It is one of a series of events organized by UNECE as part of the regional follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing (Berlin, September 2002). The objective of the Workshop is to promote the national and regional implementation of the commitments related to care provision, contained in the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/ead/berlin2002/malta
19-21 Yerevan	Workshop on the Production of Medicinal Plants in Armenia and the Caucasus <i>Focal point:</i> Bo Libert <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2396 <i>E-mail:</i> bo.libert@unece.org	Organized by UNECE in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, UNDP and the Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/operact/Prpr.doc
22-27 Almaty	Aarhus Convention Meetings	
22-23	Working Group of Parties to the Aarhus Convention <i>Focal point:</i> Jeremy Wates <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2384 <i>E-mail:</i> jeremy.wates@unece.org	The Working Group will continue its work on the text of the Almaty Declaration, the draft decisions on genetically modified organisms, public participation in international forums and the compliance mechanism. The Working group will also discuss how to address the outcome of the first cycle of the reporting of implementation by Parties, including the conclusions of the synthesis report, at the second ordinary meeting of the Parties and will consider the draft work programme for 2006-2008. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/pp/wgp.htm#5thwgp
22-24	Compliance Committee <i>Focal point:</i> Jeremy Wates <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2384 <i>E-mail:</i> jeremy.wates@unece.org	The Committee is expected to discuss the subject matter of two communications (ACCC/C/2004/06 and ACCC/C/2004/08) and consider any new submissions, communications or referrals. It may also discuss the presentation of its report to the Meeting of the Parties. <i>Web site:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/pp/compliance.htm

25-27	<p>Meeting of Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters <i>Focal point:</i> Jeremy Wates <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2384 <i>E-mail:</i> jeremy.wates@unece.org</p>	<p>The meeting will be an opportunity both to review the progress achieved in the Convention's implementation and to reflect on and plan for the challenges that lie ahead. The meeting will consider a wide range of substantive and procedural issues. It will also discuss the main developments that are taking place at both global and regional levels in relation to principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and how the experience with the Convention may contribute to efforts to make further progress in other regions. The Ministerial segment of the meeting will take place on Friday 27 May 2005, and will culminate in the adoption of a declaration. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/pp/mop2.htm</p>
23-25	<p>Ad Hoc Working Group on the Harmonization of RID/ADR/ADN with the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (2nd session) <i>Focal point:</i> Olivier Kervella <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2456 <i>E-mail:</i> olivier.kervella@unece.org</p>	<p>Meeting of transport of dangerous goods experts, with limited participation. Objective: To prepare proposals for harmonization of UNECE legal instruments concerning the transport of dangerous goods (RID/ADR/ADN) with new recommendations adopted in December 2004 by the ECOSOC Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/har/har_age.html</p>
23-27 Berlin		
23-24	<p>Expert Group on Particulate Matter <i>Focal point:</i> Albena Karadjova/Keith Bull <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2345 <i>E-mail:</i> albena.karadjova@unece.org & keith.bull@unece.org</p>	<p>At its first meeting, the Expert Group will define its plans for future work. It was established in December 2004 by the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to assess the current control of pollutants contribution to the formation of particulate matter (PM) and to consider the requirements for developing further measures to reduce PM. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/wgs/welcome.html</p>
25-27	<p>Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling <i>Focal points:</i> Albena Karadjova/Keith Bull <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2345/2354 <i>E-mail:</i> albena.karadjova@unece.org & keith.bull@unece.org</p>	<p>At its thirtieth meeting, the Task Force will review progress in integrated assessment modelling, focusing in particular on establishing the results of current policies and the development of (alternative) targets for abatement strategies in view of the forthcoming review of the Gothenburg Protocol. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/env/tfiam/welcome.html</p>
23(pm)-27	<p>Working Party on Passive Safety <i>Focal point:</i> Juan Ramos García <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1998 <i>E-mail:</i> juan.ramos.garcia@unece.org</p>	<p>The GRSP 37th session of the body subsidiary to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) will continue consideration of worldwide harmonization concerning pedestrian safety, head restraints, child restraint systems, side impact dummy, and vehicle crash compatibility. GRSP will also consider a range of amendments to current UNECE Regulations related to vehicle passive safety requirements, in particular: safety-belts and its anchorages, frontal and lateral collision protection, child restraint systems, cabs of commercial vehicles, restraining of children and wheelchair users travelling on buses and coaches and frontal collision of buses, as well as a new draft Regulation on partitioning systems. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.htm</p>

<p>23-27 23 & 26-27</p>	<p>TRADE WEEK COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT <i>Focal point:</i> Virginia Cram-Martos <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2745 <i>E-mail:</i> virginia.cram-martos@unece.org</p>	<p>Highlights of the Committee session, in addition to its annual Forum described below, include a Policy Segment on “Trade Facilitation in the WTO context”, a segment on recent trade trends and policies (both to take place on Thursday, 26 May) and a review of the work undertaken by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during the past year (on 23 and 26 May). Copies of the agenda and documents are available at: <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/trade/ctied/ctied_mtg.htm</p>
<p>24-25</p>	<p>Forum “After Fifteen Years of Market Reforms in Transition Economies: New Challenges and Perspectives for the Industrial Sector” <i>Focal point:</i> Antal Szabo <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2471 <i>E-mail:</i> antal.szabo@unece.org</p>	<p>The objective of this year’s CTIED Forum is to provide a platform for discussion on the issues of market reforms and their impact on industrial restructuring, the role of new technologies and innovation, and the potential for entrepreneurship in transition countries. It is hoped that Governments will be able to use the Forum’s outcomes as inputs to their industrial and innovation policies. A copy of the programme is available at: http://www.unece.org/ie/wp8/main.html</p>
<p>24 Prague</p>	<p>OSCE Economic Forum <i>Focal points:</i> Abdur Chowdhury/ Robert Nowak <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2492 / 1267 <i>E-mail:</i> abdur.chowdhury@unece.org & robert.nowak@unece.org</p>	
<p>25</p>	<p>Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring <i>Focal point:</i> Iouri Adjoubei <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2488 <i>E-mail:</i> iouri.adjoubei@unece.org</p>	
<p>25-26 Rome</p>	<p>21st Task Force meeting of ICP Forests <i>Focal point:</i> Matti Johansson <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2358 <i>E-mail:</i> matti.johansson@unece.org</p>	<p>The meeting reviews the assessment and monitoring of air pollution effects on forests, including the activities in large-scale and intensive networks, ozone monitoring and biodiversity issues. The meeting is combined with the ICP Forests 20th anniversary event on 23-24 May. This ICP operates under the Working Group on Effects of the LRTAP Convention. <i>Website:</i> http://www.icp-forests.org</p>
<p>25-27 Astana, Kazakhstan</p>	<p>SPECA Conference</p>	
<p>25-27</p>	<p>International Conference on Strengthening Economic Cooperation in Central Asia and the Future Role of SPECA " <i>Focal point:</i> Andrey Vasilyev <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 4221 <i>E-mail:</i> andrei.vasilyev@unece.org</p>	<p>The main objective of the Conference is to provide a forum for the representatives of member States and other interested countries as well as of UNECE, UNESCAP, UNDP and other international organizations, IFIs and bilateral donors to engage in action-oriented discussion of ways of further strengthening subregional cooperation in Central Asia, including the future role of SPECA. <i>Website:</i> http://www.unece.org/operact/astana.doc</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>Round Table on Gender and Economy <i>Focal point:</i> Ewa Ruminska-Zimny <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1698 <i>E-mail:</i> ewa.zimny@unece.org</p>	<p>The Round Table, hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in cooperation with UNECE, will provide an opportunity to raise awareness, mainstream gender into subregional economic cooperation and discuss priority actions and programmes in economic area in the context of the follow up to the Beijing +10 process and implementation of the Millennium Declaration goals. The Round Table is expected to launch action-oriented discussion on ways to mainstream gender into economic</p>

		<p>policies and follow up activities, which could be further developed within the SPECA framework. Main objectives and themes of the Round Table are to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority actions in the implementation of the Beijing +10 Review in the area of women and economy - Experiences and good practices in selected areas, especially in relation to improving women's employability - Areas of cooperation among various international and regional organizations and donors - Possibility of developing a new sub-programme on gender and economy within SPECA
31 Astana, Kazakhstan	<p>Trade Facilitation Workshop <i>Focal point:</i> Mario Apostolov <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 1134 <i>E-mail:</i> mario.apostolov@unece.org</p>	
31(pm)- 3 June	<p>Working Party on Pollution and Energy <i>Focal point:</i> Romain Hubert <i>Phone:</i> +41 (0) 22 917 2402 <i>E-mail:</i> romain.hubert@unece.org</p>	<p>As a subsidiary body of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations, GRPE will resume, during its 48th session, the consideration of a range of items proposed to improve regulatory provisions concerning the emissions of wheeled vehicle engines, particularly regarding the development of worldwide harmonized test cycles for motorcycles and for four wheeled vehicles. The status of the development of hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles and environmentally friendly vehicles will also be considered. Website: select GRPE in http://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.htm</p>

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Environment & Human Settlements

ECE/INF/NONE/2005/02 – E,F,R

Nature for Water – Protecting water-related ecosystems for sustainable development

April 2005 – English – Also available from: http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/ecosystem/Brochure_final.pdf

**If you need more information do not hesitate to contact us: Information Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Palais des Nations, Room 356, CH-1211 Geneva 10,
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