



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Eleventh meeting of UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development
15-16 February 2016

Agenda Item 2: Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2016

Information Paper 1

2(a): Organizational issues for the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development

Prepared by the UNECE Secretariat

* This document was not formally edited.

At its twentieth session (Geneva, 28–31 October 2014), the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy welcomed progress in the work under the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (Strategy for ESD). It further supported the request by the Steering Committee to organize a high-level meeting of education and environment ministries in the framework of the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016), with a view to assessing progress during the first 10 years of the Strategy and to consider its future implementation.

At its twenty-first session (Geneva, 27–30 October 2015), the Committee on Environmental Policy considered the main organizational issues for preparing the Batumi Ministerial Conference, with a view to advancing the preparatory process. It welcomed progress in preparing the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development, and invited the secretariat to provide an update on preparations at the Committee's special session (23-25 February 2016).

The Steering Committee will be informed about the relevant decisions of the Committee on Environmental Policy, including regarding organizational issues for the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. On that basis, the Committee will be invited to agree on the format and content of the High-level Segment on ESD. The delegations are also expected to express interest in proposing candidates for various roles during the meeting, keynote addresses and possibly other kinds of interventions.

The members of the Steering Committee, at its tenth session, were asked to send proposals on the outline of the High-level Meeting and eventually the side event to the secretariat in writing within the two weeks after the meeting which took place in June 2015. As no proposals have been received from the member States delegations by the deadline, the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, proposes to use a similar scenario which was applied for organising a Joint Session of Environment and Education Ministers held within the sixth EfE Ministerial Conference in Belgrade (Serbia) in October 2007. Please find below draft scenario for your consideration.

Draft Scenario for the High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Welcome address by the Minister of Education of Georgia	5 min
Introduction by the Chairperson of HLS	5 min
Keynote address by an Education Minister	5 min
Keynote address by an Environment Minister	5 min
Keynote address by UNESCO (??)	5 min
Presentation of the key findings of the report on progress in implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD [by Canada]	10 min
Interventions from the floor (3 min per intervention)	30 min
Introduction [by ??] and adoption of the Future implementation framework	10 min
Introduction by the [Chairperson] and adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement	10 min
Concluding remarks by the Chairperson	5 min
Total	1,5 h

PRE-MEETING DOCUMENTS

Document for adoption

- Draft future implementation framework (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2016/4)
- Draft ministerial statement - joint statement on ESD by Ministers of Education and of the Environment (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2016/5)

Background documents

- *“Learning from each other: achievements, challenges and ways forward. Third evaluation report of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development”* (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2016/3)

Other materials

- Publication *“Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development”* - Evaluation report on the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2005 to 2015

POST-MEETING DOCUMENTS

- Chairperson Summary
- Report on the Joint session, as an integral part of the report of the Batumi Conference

Reference documents:

Note: New versions of the relevant reference documents will become available briefly before the Special Session of CEP (23-25 February 2016)

- 1) “Organizational issues for the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference” (ECE/CEP/2014/15), available at the following link:
<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2014/ece/cep/ece.cep.2014.15.e.pdf>
- 2) “Proposed framework for preparing the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference” (ECE/CEP/2014/9), available at the following link:
<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2014/ece/cep/ece.cep.2014.9.e.pdf>
- 3) (As a sample) A guidance for interventions with detailed information on the substance and format of the Joint Session of Environment and Education Ministers held at the Sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”, Belgrade, 10-12 October 2007, available at the following link:
<http://www.unece.org:8080/fileadmin/DAM//env/esd/BelgradeConf/Guidance.pdf>