



МОСКОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

Annex to the report of the workshop

RESOLUTION¹

**BY THE WORKSHOP FOR THE SUBREGION OF EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND
CENTRAL ASIA ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNECE STRATEGY
FOR EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

8-9 November 2006, Moscow, Russian Federation

Participants of the Workshop for the subregion of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) on the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for education for sustainable development (ESD) organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation and the Faculty of Geography of the Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) on 8-9 November 2006 in Moscow (Russian Federation) - representatives of governmental bodies, universities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, and regional environmental centers (RECs),

Having discussed the successes, specific features, problems and prospects of the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in EECCA countries,

Taking into account vital importance of education for transition to the sustainable development,

Recognizing that implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD «will arm people with knowledge and special skills in the field of sustainable development, raise their competence and self-confidence, and also expand their opportunities for a healthy and fruitful way of life in harmony with the nature and with due care of social values, gender equality and cultural variety»²,

Recognizing the need and timeliness of developing and integrating the ESD into all kinds and forms of education and training of people in EECCA countries;

Positively evaluating the first achievements of EECCA countries in the creation of conditions for starting the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD,

¹ Informal translation from Russian to English was kindly provided by the Faculty of Geography of the Lomonosov Moscow State University

² UNECE Strategy for ESD, Article 6.

Emphasizing the necessity of further development of partnerships and cooperation between State governing bodies responsible for education and environment protection and various sectors of the society for the development of ESD and implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in EECCA countries and in the subregion as a whole,

Stressing that, along with achievements, there are a number of specific features and problems in the sphere of ESD introduction in EECCA countries, which are caused by economic, political and socio-cultural features of these countries and their education systems, including insufficient public awareness of problems and tasks of the transition to sustainable development, poor interaction of the state governing bodies in the sphere of education and environment protection, secondary and high schools and other sectors of the society, lack of the operative access of teachers to modern information resources, insufficiency of financial resources and highly skilled staff, teaching aids and manuals in the sphere of ESD, the "brain drain» and some other problems,

Have adopted the present resolution, in which

1. Call upon the Governments of EECCA countries

1.1 To join the preparation of the high-level Segment on ESD of the ministers of education and environment of the UNECE region at the 6-th Conference «Environment for Europe» (Belgrade, Serbia, 10-12 October 2007) and to submit voluntary reports on the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD at national/State level to the UNECE Secretariat by 1 February 2007;

1.2. To recognize officially at the State policy level the leading role and high importance of the ESD for vocational training and education of modern highly-skilled and socially-responsible experts and citizen. To provide for the urgent implementation of ESD at all levels and in all forms of education in EECCA countries.

1.3. To integrate ESD, as a priority of the State policy, into the activities of State bodies, as well as in the strategies, programmes and plans of social and economic development;

1.4. To develop and adopt national/State strategies and plans of action on ESD in all EECCA countries in the period up to the end of 2007 according to the Vilnius Framework of Implementation;

1.5. To provide for the elaboration and introduction of necessary legal basis for ESD at the national/State and regional levels in all countries of EECCA subregion, including;

- Adequate reflection of ESD priorities in national legislation and national policy in the field of education;
- Introduction of ESD as a priority into national/State programmes and projects in the field of education development and environment protection;

1.6. To promote the development of the ESD institutional base at the national/State and local levels, to create competent national/State coordinating bodies on ESD for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD with obligatory participation of ministries of education, ministries or other State

bodies on environment protection, representatives of the sphere of education and science, NGOs, private sector, all interested sectors of the society; to support the activities of these bodies;

1.7. To provide conditions for the development and improvement of information and methodological base of the ESD, including publication and wide circulation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD with annexes to it in national languages, to promote publication, reprinting and wide circulation of educational and methodical manuals and information materials on ESD and their exchange in EECCA subregion;

1.8. To support and prioritize the professional training for ESD at the national/State level, among others, in the process of the improvement of professional skills and retraining of teachers for all levels of education, as well as decision-makers in the field of education and environment protection, to promote the organization of summer schools and camps for youth, and masters – classes on teaching ESD;

1.9. To provide for the involvement of all interested sectors of the society in ESD development, in particular:

- To recognize universities and other educational institutions, national Academies of sciences, training and methodical associations, RECs, NGOs and business community as key partners in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD at the national/State level, including the decision-making process on the ESD implementation;
- To support at the national/State level scientific studies on ESD and introduction of their results into education systems in the interests of sustainable development;
- To recognize the important role of NGOs of the EECCA region in the development of ESD and the organization of ESD, to support NGOs projects and public initiatives in this field and increase the use of NGOs resources for ESD development in the region;
- To pay special attention to the raise of public awareness in the interests of sustainable development, to expand the use of mass media and social advertising in education and raising public awareness in the interests of sustainable development;

1.10. To provide organizational support to the introduction of the UNECE Strategy for ESD at national/State and other levels.

1.11. To provide mechanisms of State financing for ESD, including allocation of State budget funds for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD and further development of ESD in EECCA countries at the stage of budget formation for the current fiscal year;

1.12. To develop international cooperation in the sphere of ESD at the global level within the framework of the United Nations' Decade on ESD (2005-2014) and within the framework of implementation of the Strategy in UNECE region and, in particular, in EECCA countries. To support the organization of annual subregional meetings of national ESD coordinators and partner organizations with the purpose to exchange experience, coordinate efforts and render mutual support for the implementation of ESD in EECCA subregion;

2. Highly appreciate the results of work of the UNECE Expert Group on indicators of the

implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD.

2.1. Welcome the first experience of Central Asia in preparing in 2006 the subregional review on ESD on the basis of indicators elaborated by the Expert Group;

2.2. With a view of further effective application of indicators to measure the effectiveness of the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD invite the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD:

- To request the Expert Group to develop the criteria to assess successful examples of implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in countries of UNECE region based on the indicators as well as on the examples submitted by the countries to the UNECE Secretariat;
- To prepare methodological recommendations for the application of indicators for the ESD evaluation in EECCA countries in cooperation with national ESD coordinators of EECCA countries and partner organizations and with due account of specific features of educational systems in the subregion, using additional parameters for the quantitative assessment which allow to reveal achievements and problems in the field of ESD introduction within EECCA subregion;

3. Point out the need of further assistance and support in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in EECCA countries and requests the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD:

- To support and promote the organization of annual meetings of national ESD coordinators, experts in the field of education and partner organizations (schools, NGOs etc.) of EECCA countries for the exchange of experience and coordination of activities on ESD implementation;
- To develop a programme for the exchange of experience, including the exchange of experts and students of EECCA countries, and the organization of training workshops for national ESD coordinators and other ESD decision-makers in EECCA subregion, aimed at the development of intersectoral cooperation, monitoring and assessment of the ESD introduction and further development;
- To develop a programme of joint scientific research on sustainable development for EECCA countries and other countries at the level of universities, national academies of sciences and academies of education;
- To request the UNECE Secretariat together with national coordinators and the partner organizations to develop a pilot catalogue of ESD resources in EECCA subregion and a Web-portal of ESD resources of EECCA countries (in Russian), with the mechanism of expert assessment of resources for their inclusion into the catalogue and the organization of a forum within the portal for discussion of problems and prospects of ESD in EECCA countries (in Russian). To consider subsequently the opportunities of the expansion of the catalogue for the whole UNECE region;

4. Come up with initiatives:

- To prepare a subregional assessment report on the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD in EECCA countries indicating the potential, problems, needs and prospects of ESD in the subregion and to present it to the high-level segment on ESD of the 6-th Ministerial

Conference « Environment for Europe» (Belgrade, Serbia, 10-12 October 2007) (the report will be an additional one to the overall review of the implementation of UNECE Strategy for ESD in the UNECE region);

- To entrust the Lomonosov Moscow State University and the ECO-Accord centre (Russian Federation) with coordination of the report preparation;
- To hold annual subregional meetings of national ESD coordinators, experts in the field of education and partner organizations (representatives of educational and research institutions, NGOs and the private sector) aimed at the exchange of experience, coordination of efforts and providing each other with support in the process of implementation of ESD in EECCA region;

5. Request international organizations and donor countries to assist the development of ESD, implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD and of the above-mentioned priority tasks for countries of EECCA region; to develop a capacity-building component within the the existing and perspective programmes of support to EECCA countries;

6. Call upon the Steering Committee to use its sessions as a regional forum for the implementation of this resolution and invite the UNECE Secretariat to coordinate the implementation of the above-mentioned actions together with national ESD coordinators of EECCA countries;

7. Express their gratitude to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, and the MSU Faculty of Geography for the organization of the Workshop;

8. Entrust the representative of the Russian Federation with the presentation of Workshop results and the present resolution at the 2-nd meeting of the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD to be held on 4-5 December 2006 in Geneva.
