

Task Force on Electronic Information Tools
(Third meeting, Geneva, 1-2 July 2004)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

to be held in Geneva, Switzerland
starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 1 July 2004

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Relevant developments and processes
Regional and national developments in electronic information tools
 - a. Virtual Classroom - <http://prtrvc.unitar.org>
 - b. Re-launch of REC electronic information tools website - <http://www.rec.org/e-aarhus>
 - c. Additional Russian language electronic tools
 - d. The Access Initiative – <http://www.accessinitiative.org>
 - e. WSIS-2 - <http://www.itu.int/wsis/>
 - f. Other regional and national e-projects
4. Capacity-building activities
 - a) EECCA 'In Your Backyard' pilot projects
 - b) Report on Tech Forum presentation
5. Draft recommendations on the more effective use of electronic information tool to promote implementation of the Convention: *continuation of discussion of draft document prepared by the voluntary core group, pursuant to para. 37(a) of the report of the first meeting, with a view of finalizing the document and transmitting it to the Working Group of the Parties and eventually to the Second Meeting of the Parties.*
6. Clearing-house mechanism
Launch of the Convention's clearing-house mechanism
7. Innovative use of electronic information tools in processes under the Convention, e.g., web-based reporting on implementation
8. Priority Themes at the Regional and Subregional Levels
9. Conclusions and next steps
10. Any other business
11. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

INDICATIVE TIMES

THURSDAY

1000-1010 1. Opening of the meeting

1010-1020 2. Adoption of the agenda

1020-1130 3. Relevant developments and processes

Coffee break

1130-1215 4. Capacity-building activities

1215-1300 5. Draft recommendations on the more effective use of electronic information tools to promote implementation of the Convention

Lunch

1500-1630 5. Draft recommendations (continued)

Coffee break

1650-1800 5. Draft recommendations (continued)

FRIDAY

1000-1045 5. Draft recommendations (continued)

1045-1115 6. Clearing-house mechanism

Coffee break

1140-1230 7. Innovative use of electronic information tools in processes under the Convention (continued)

1230-1300 8. Priority Themes at the Regional and Subregional Levels

Lunch

1500-1550 9. Conclusions and next steps

1550-1610 10. Any other business

Coffee break

1630-1700 11. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Item 1 Opening of the meeting

The chairperson of the Task Force, Ms. Svetlana Zhekova, will open the meeting.

Item 2 Adoption of the agenda

The task force is invited to adopt the agenda as set out in the present document.

Item 3 Relevant developments and processes

Experts designated by States and organizations, such as REC, EMLA, REFIA, UNITAR as well as the secretariat, are invited to briefly present relevant activities they are engaged in.

Item 4 Capacity-building activities

Experts designated by States and organizations, such as Belarus, Ukraine, United Kingdom and UNEP/GRID-Arendal, are invited to briefly present new capacity building activities they are engaged in. The Task Force may wish to consider the development of a Type II Partnership on innovative use of electronic information technologies in support of implementation of the Aarhus Convention. Continuation of ETTF-2 discussion of proposed recommendations on the use of electronic tools to promote access to information and facilitate public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters.

Item 5 Draft recommendations on the more effective use of electronic information tools to promote implementation of the Convention

The document 'Draft recommendations on the more effective use of electronic tools to provide public access to environmental information' which had been prepared by the voluntary core group established by the Task Force at its first meeting, in conjunction with the secretariat (MP.PP/WG.1/2003/4, para. 37 (a) was discussed by the Task Force at its second meeting, amendments were made and included as an annex to the Report of the Second Meeting to the Task Force on Electronic Information Tools (MP.PP/WG.1/2004/4). The revised document appears as Annex 1:

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/documents/mp.pp.wg.1.2004.4.e.pdf>

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/documents/mp.pp.wg.1.2004.4.f.pdf>

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/documents/mp.pp.wg.1.2004.4.r.pdf>

The Task Force is invited to continue its discussion and, in particular,

give its attention to chapters III and IV of the draft recommendations.

Item 6 Clearing-house mechanism

The Task Force is invited to discuss progress in the designation of contact points and issues in the development of national nodes and the participation of organizations in the CHM. The website of the central node of the clearinghouse will be officially launched.

Item 7 Innovative use of electronic information tools in processes under the Convention, e.g., web-based reporting on implementation

The Task Force is invited to consider the innovative use of electronic information tools in processes under the Convention, e.g. web-based reporting on implementation, including methods of implementing such tools.

Item 8 Priority themes at the regional and subregional levels

At the Task Force's second meeting it was agreed that more time was needed to work on the issue of regional and subregional priorities. To facilitate discussion on this issue, experts are invited to consider the list of possible actions annexed to the report of the workshop which had taken place in Arendal (Norway) on 8-9 March 2001 (CEP/WG.5/2001/4), <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/electronictools.htm> and to submit comments to the secretariat in advance of the next meeting of the Task Force.

Item 9 Conclusions and next steps

Item 10 Any other business

Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible

Item 11 Adoption of the report and close of the meeting