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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Sixty-seventh session
Geneva, 18-20 September 2006

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
FOR THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

(including the High-level Meeting)

To be held at the Palais des Nations,
starting on Monday, 18 September 2006, at 10 am*

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management (<http://www.unece.org/hlm/welcome.html>), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, no later than two weeks before the meeting, namely, by **4 September 2006**, either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by 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 UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the Committee's website). If you have any difficulties, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1499/2374.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Implementation of the UNECE reform and follow-up to the sixty-first session of UNECE
3. Programme of Work for 2007–2008
 - (a) Exchange of views on current trends and policies
 - (b) Country profiles of the housing sector
 - (c) Improvement of urban environmental performance
 - (d) Land registration and land markets
 - (e) Housing modernization and management
4. High-level Meeting
 - (a) Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the agenda
 - (b) Election of officers
 - (c) Panel discussions
 - (d) Declaration of the High-level Meeting
 - (e) Closing of the Meeting
5. Implementation of the Declaration of the High-level Meeting
6. Adoption of the Programme of Work and the Terms of Reference
7. Work of the Bureau and report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network (HUMAN)
8. Other business
9. Election of the Bureau
10. Closing of the sixty-seventh session

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Monday, 18 September (full day, starting at 10 a.m.)

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

1. The provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session (ECE/HBP/136) and on progress made in the Programme of Work since then. The proposed agenda and timetable were agreed upon by the Committee's Bureau at its May meeting and are presented for approval to the Committee.
2. The Committee is expected to adopt the agenda.

Item 2: Implementation of the UNECE reform and follow-up to the sixty-first session of UNECE

3. The Committee will be informed about the provisions of the Work Plan on UNECE Reform (E/ECE/1434/Rev.1) and decisions adopted thereafter by the Commission at its sixty-first session (21–23 February 2006) which have a bearing on the work of the Committee (ECE/HBP/2006/1). Particular attention will be given to the implications of the Work Plan on UNECE Reform as they relate to the Committee.
4. The Committee may wish to:
 - (a) Discuss the provisions of the Work Plan on UNECE Reform and related decisions addressed to the Committee by the Commission, including the decision on integration of real estate activities into the Committee's Programme of Work;
 - (b) Approve the revised Terms of Reference of the Committee and its Working Party on Land Administration, under agenda item 5, on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat following consultation with the Bureau; and
 - (c) Review its subsidiary intergovernmental bodies and conference-servicing needs based on information provided by the secretariat.

Item 3: Programme of Work for 2007-2008

5. The Committee will consider the evaluation of the implementation of its Programme of Work for the biennium 2004–2005 (ECE/HBP/2006/2/Add.1). The Committee will take into account, as appropriate, the results of this biennial evaluation when deciding on its future work.
6. The Committee will review its draft Programme of Work for 2007–2008 (ECE/HBP/2006/2) and take decisions on each item of the programme.

(a) Exchange of views on current trends and policies

7. The Committee will be informed about the outcome of the World Urban Forum (Vancouver, 19–23 June 2006) and the related UNECE Networking Event on Housing Finance (22 June 2006).

8. The delegation will be invited to exchange views on current trends and policies in the area of housing, land administration and spatial planning in the context of the implementation of the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the Twenty-First Century (ECE/HBP/120). The discussion will be based on the outline of and the answers to the questionnaire in the annex to the present document.

9. The Committee will take into account the results of the discussion when it decides on particular issues and priorities relating to its Programme of Work.

(b) Country profiles of the housing sector

10. The secretariat will provide information on the latest study (on Georgia) and new approaches used in the preparation of this study, as well as on the preliminary results of the research mission, based on a note (ECE/HBP/2006/9). The delegation of Georgia will be invited to report on the preparation of the country profile of Georgia's housing sector.

11. The study on the housing sector of Serbia and Montenegro will be presented to the Committee (ECE/HBP/139). The delegation of Serbia will be invited to inform the Committee of the results of the housing conference held in Belgrade in July 2006.

12. The preparation of the study on the housing sector of Azerbaijan was postponed in view of an institutional reorganization there which took place in spring 2006.

13. The Committee may wish to:

(a) Agree on the new approaches used in the preparation and implementation of the country profile of Georgia with a view to applying them in future studies;

(b) Initiate the next country profile study on the housing sector.

(c) Improvement of urban environmental performance

14. The secretariat will report on the preparation of the UNECE study on spatial planning.

15. The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided.

16. The delegation of Slovakia will be invited to report on the results of the Tenth UNECE Conference on Urban and Regional Research, which was held in Bratislava on 22–23 May 2006 (ECE/HBP/SEM.54/4).

17. The secretariat will inform the Committee about the workshop on sustainable urban transport and land-use planning to be held on 6 October 2006 in Tbilisi within the framework of the UNECE/WHO Pan-European Programme on Environment, Health and Transport (PEP).

18. The Committee may wish to discuss the main results and conclusions of the Conference, with particular attention to practical aspects related to the recommendations of the Conference, including capacity-building and coordinated actions needed by the research community, practitioners and policy-makers.

(d) Land registration and land markets

19. The Chairperson of the Working Party on Land Administration will present the report of the fourth session of the Working Party (HBP/WP.7/2005/2), which was held in Geneva on 21–22 November 2005, and progress in work since November 2005. In particular, attention will be given to:

(a) The preparation of the Land Administration Review on Azerbaijan;

(b) The Workshop on Institutional Aspects of Land Administration held in Tbilisi on 11–12 May 2006;

(c) The workshop on land administration and e-society to be held in Prague on 26–27 October 2006;

(d) The workshop on sustainable land management to be held in Munich (Germany) on 24–25 May 2007.

20. The delegation of Greece will present to the Committee a proposal on the organization of a workshop (to be held in Athens on 28–30 March 2007) on land administration and informal settlements. The Bureau of the Working Party has agreed to initiate a study on this topic based on the results of the workshop.

21. The Committee's Bureau discussed this proposal at its meeting in May 2006 and agreed to recommend to the Committee to undertake these two activities with the participation of experts in the areas of land administration, housing and urban planning in order to strengthen synergies between these three areas of the Committee's work.

22. The Committee may wish to:

(a) Take note of the progress of work done by the Working Party;

(b) Agree on related organizational aspects of the workshop on informal settlements;

(c) Invite interested delegations to indicate their willingness to participate in the preparatory process and designate experts for the task force.

(e) Housing modernization and management

23. The delegation of Albania will inform the Committee on the organization of a workshop on social housing as a follow-up to the UNECE *Guidelines on Social Housing* (ECE/HBP/137).

24. The Chairperson of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network (HUMAN) will present to the Committee a project proposal on the management of multi-family housing stock.

25. The Committee may wish to:

(a) Discuss the programme and organizational aspects of the workshop on social housing;

(b) Consider and discuss the proposal by HUMAN on multi-family housing stock.

Tuesday, 19 September (full day, starting at 10 a.m.)

Item 4: High-level Meeting

(a) Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the agenda

26. Mr. M. Belka, UNECE Executive Secretary, will open the meeting.

27. The provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session (ECE/HBP/136, para. 14)

(b) Election of officers

28. The meeting is expected to elect a Chairperson and two Vice-Chairpersons and panellists for two panel discussions.

(c) Panel discussions

29. The discussion at the meeting will be organized through two panels on:

(a) Social and economic integration through human settlements development policies;

(b) Management of the multi-family housing sector (ECE/HBP/2006/3).

30. Each panel discussion will start with a short introduction by the chairperson and vice-chairpersons, followed by interventions by the panellists. After that, interventions from the floor will take place (maximum 5 minutes each), which will give each member country the opportunity to speak. Eventually the panellists will have the opportunity to make final remarks.

31. A rapporteur will be nominated to follow and summarize the discussion. After the discussions, the rapporteur will present a short summary of the session.

(d) Declaration of the High-level Meeting

32. The Meeting is expected to discuss and adopt the Ministerial Declaration (ECE/HBP/2006/4).

(e) Closing of the Meeting

33. The Chairperson will make concluding remarks and summarize the main elements of the discussion as well as of the main decisions stated in the Declaration. The Committee will discuss the outcome of the High-level Meeting the following day when deciding on its programme of work.

Wednesday, 20 September (morning session only, starting at 10 a.m.)

Item 5: Implementation of the Declaration of the High-level Meeting

34. The Committee will discuss the outcome of the in-depth discussion held at the High-level Meeting on 19 September, and how to reflect the main elements of the Declaration in its Programme of Work. The discussion should take full account of the need to strengthen programme planning, secretariat resources and programme monitoring and evaluation.

Item 6: Adoption of the Programme of Work and the Terms of Reference

35. The Committee will consider its draft Programme of Work for 2007–2008.

36. The Committee will be invited to consider its revised Terms of Reference and those of the Working Party on Land Administration (ECE/HBP/2006/1, annexes I and II).

37. The Committee is expected to adopt its Programme of Work for 2007–2008 (ECE/HBP/2006/2) and the Terms of Reference.

Item 7: Work of the Bureau and report of the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network (HUMAN)

38. The Chairperson of the Committee's Bureau will report on the work of the Bureau and the main decisions taken since the Committee's previous session. The Chairperson of the Advisory Network will report on its activities.

39. The Committee is expected to:

(a) Approve the work of the Bureau;

(b) Discuss cooperation with the Advisory Network as an instrument to increase efficiency in the implementation of the Committee's work.

Item 8: Other business

40. Information will be provided on the UNECE Trust Fund on Human Settlements. Delegations may wish to announce their contributions to the Trust Fund for particular programme activities.

41. Delegations may wish to discuss other issues under this item.

Item 9: Election of the Bureau

42. The Committee is expected to elect the Bureau for its sixty-eighth session.

Item 10: Closing of the sixty-seventh session

43. The Chairperson will sum up the major decisions taken by the Committee. After the session, the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, will prepare the report of the sixty-seventh session.

Annex**QUESTIONNAIRE****on the Implementation of the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the Twenty-First Century through the Programme Activities of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management**

COUNTRY:.....

Introduction

1. At the Ministerial Meeting on 19 September 2000, the Committee endorsed the ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the Twenty-First Century. It was envisaged that the Strategy would be a guide for the Committee to structure and continuously adapt its Programme of Work for the year 2010. To implement the Strategy, the Committee was expected to exert the leadership necessary to unite the different actors engaged in housing and land management to promote cooperation between central governments, local authorities, the business community and non-governmental organizations.

2. The main objective of this questionnaire is to assist the Committee in exchanging views on current trends in housing and land management in the UNECE region in the context of the implementation of the goals and challenges defined in the Strategy. UNECE countries are requested to provide information on new developments and policy implementation, and to present practical information on results achieved through pilot projects, case studies and national programmes, as well as on the application of various policy recommendations elaborated in various UNECE guidelines, country profiles of the housing sector and land administration reviews.

3. The results of the questionnaire will be presented by national delegations in the form of notes and slide shows and discussed by the Committee at its annual sessions. These discussions will help the Committee to evaluate its Programme of Work as well as to identify topics for future in-depth discussions.

4. The national delegations are invited to provide information (maximum length 3 pages) on the issues listed here. Answers should indicate to what extent, if any, the Committee's recommendations were used in a particular area of housing and land management.

5. Answers should be sent to the UNECE secretariat preferably *by 31 August 2006* and should be addressed to Mr. G. Vinogradov (fax: +4122 907 01 07; e-mail: guennadi.vinogradov@unece.org).

I. General trends and policies in the area of housing spatial planning and land administration

(a) Are housing, spatial planning and land administration high on the national agenda?

- (b) What major programmes (strategies) have been adopted, if any?
- (c) What major changes, if any, have occurred in the fields of legislation, institutional set-up and distribution of responsibilities between central, regional and local administrations?

II. Social housing

- (a) What are the major developments in the area of social and affordable housing in your country?
- (b) What changes in legal tools (assistance for construction, subsidies, protection of tenants' rights) have been introduced in your country?
- (c) Is the concept of social housing recognized in your country?
- (d) What are the main characteristics of the framework conditions for social housing (including housing finance)?
- (e) How does the government try to involve the private sector in programmes for developing affordable housing?

III. Housing modernization and management

- (a) What programmes are being implemented with regard to modernization and construction of multi-family residential buildings?
- (b) What progress has been made in the organization and management of housing condominiums?

IV. Land administration

- (a) What is your country's experience of public/private partnership (PPP) in land administration?
- (b) What areas of land administration are currently under reform?

V. Spatial planning

- (a) Has the system of spatial planning been revised in recent years? Does it meet current requirements (enablement and public participation, sustainable development, PPP arrangements, intergovernmental coordination and integration, etc.)?
- (b) To what extent do the problems of informal settlements and illegal construction exist in your country?

VI. Evaluation and new proposals

- (a) How many UNECE recommendations have been applied in your country, and in what areas?
- (b) What topics would you suggest for future activities and in-depth discussion by the Committee?
- (c) What aspects of the Committee's work are most useful? What areas require improvements in order to increase the effectiveness of the Committee's activities?
- (d) What is your experience, if any, with implementation of UNECE activities in the following areas:
 - (i) Country profiles of the housing sector?
 - (ii) Land administration reviews?