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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Conference of European Statisticians

Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators

Second session

Geneva, 1–2 September 2010

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda of the second session¹

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday,
1 September 2010²

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the first session.
3. Review of the Guidelines on the Application of Environmental Indicators:
 - (a) Approval of amendments to indicators that were discussed at two previous joint meetings on environmental indicators;
 - (b) Review of further indicators from the Guidelines.
4. Second reading of energy and environment indicators not covered by the Guidelines.

¹ The present document is issued on the above date for technical reasons.

² According to the accreditation procedures for meetings at the Palais des Nations, delegates are requested to complete the registration form available from the website of the Committee on Environmental Policy (www.unece.org/meetings/practical_information/confpart.pdf) and to transmit it to the secretariat **no later than two weeks prior to the meeting**, by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (elizabeth.james@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix. A map is available on the UNECE website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat on +41 22 917 6307.

5. Discussion of general principles related to the production of environmental indicators.
6. Reporting to the Committee on Environmental Policy and the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians.
7. Other business.

II. Annotations

The Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators was established by a decision of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) taken at its meeting of 27 February 2009, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) and the Bureau of the Conference of the European Statisticians (CES). According to its terms of reference, the Joint Task Force should assist national statistical agencies and institutions responsible for the production of national reports on the state of the environment in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe (SEE). Its objectives are to improve environmental data collection, further strengthen environmental reporting and promote comparability of environmental statistics and indicators in the region (see ECE/EX/2009/L.6, annex).

Country members of the Joint Task Force include both environmental experts and statisticians. The United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Statistics Division, Eurostat, the European Environmental Agency, the World Health Organization, the European Centre for Environment and Health, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Inter-State Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States were also invited to designate representatives to the Joint Task Force.

In addition to circulation through the normal channels, meeting documentation, including country contributions, will be posted online at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.09.environ.htm>. Documentation of the previous joint meetings on environmental indicators is available online through: <http://www.unece.org/stats/archive/03.01.e.htm>.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the agenda for its second session.

2. Adoption of the report of the first session

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the report of its first session, contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2010/2.

3. Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators

The Joint Task Force will review selected indicators covered by the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia³ (Guidelines).

(a) Approval of amendments to indicators that were discussed at two previous joint meetings on environmental indicators

The Joint Task Force is expected to review and agree on the revised texts for five indicators that were prepared in the light of the discussions held at two previous joint meetings on environmental indicators. The five indicators are:

- (a) Emissions of pollutants into the atmospheric air;
- (b) Greenhouse gas emissions;
- (c) Household water use per capita;
- (d) Land uptake;
- (e) Waste reuse and recycling.

The revised texts will be circulated among the members of the Joint Task Force.

(b) Review of further indicators from the Guidelines

The Joint Task Force will discuss five further indicators that were selected at its previous meeting. The discussion will focus on the use of statistical classifications, data-collection methods and procedures for the production of the following indicators:

- (a) Reuse and recycling of freshwater;
- (b) Polluted (non-treated) wastewaters;
- (c) Forest and other wooded land;
- (d) Energy intensity;
- (e) Composition of road motor vehicle fleet by fuel type.

The indicator evaluation will be supported by written communications by members of the Joint Task Force on their countries' experiences with the production of these indicators covering the points (indicator-by-indicator) as follows:

- (a) Effective inter-agency cooperation mechanisms to produce indicators;
- (b) Evidence of the publication of indicators in statistical compendiums and state-of-the-environment reports;
- (c) Procedures applied to ensure data quality assurance and control;
- (d) Time-series data on the indicators for 2003–2009.

³ Contained in *Environmental Indicators and Indicator-based Assessment Reports: Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 07.II.E.9), available online at: <http://www.unece.org/env/documents/2007/ece/ece.belgrade.conf.2007.inf.6.e.pdf>.

Country submissions (in English and/or Russian) should be provided to the secretariat before **10 August 2009** so as to ensure their distribution to all registered participants before the meeting.

4. Second reading of energy and environment indicators not covered by the Guidelines

The Joint Task Force, at its previous session, held a preliminary discussion of a secretariat paper on energy and environment indicators (ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2010/5) and invited members of the Joint Task Force to consult, in their preparations for the next session, their countries' energy experts with regard to the proposed thereof three additional indicators. Accordingly, the Joint Task Force, at its second meeting, will continue consideration of the indicators that are not included in the Guidelines, as follows:

- (a) Final electricity consumption;
- (b) Gross electricity production;
- (c) Efficiency of conventional electricity and heat production.

5. Discussion of general principles related to the production of environmental indicators

Pursuant to a decision taken by the first joint meeting on environmental indicators (ECE/CEP/2009/9, para. 53 (e)), the members of the Joint Task Force will exchange views on general issues such as professionalism; independence and confidentiality in producing environmental indicators; indicator reporting to the international community; financing of indicator production; and training experiences and needs.

6. Reporting to the Committee on Environmental Policy and the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians

The Joint Task Force will discuss results of its activities in 2009–2010, including accomplishments and difficulties met in the implementation of its mandate. Members of the Joint Task Force are expected to share examples of impacts, if any, that the Joint Task Force has made on country situations with the production of environmental indicators. The Joint Task Force may also consider possible follow-up to its activities and proposing, for this purpose, amendments to its current terms of reference for consideration by its parent bodies, the CEP and the CES Bureau.

The Joint Task Force may invite its Bureau to report the results of the discussions on this agenda item to CEP and the CES Bureau, at their next sessions.

7. Other business

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item.

III. Organization of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Item of the agenda</i>
Wednesday, 1 September 2010	
10–10.15 a.m.	1, 2
10.15–11 a.m.	3 (a)
11 a.m.–12.30 p.m.	3.(b)
2.30–6 p.m.	3 (b) (continued)
Thursday, 2 September 2010	
9.30–10.30 a.m.	4
10.30–11.30 a.m.	5
11.30 a.m.–12.20 p.m.	6
12.20–12.30 p.m.	7
