



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Conference of European Statisticians

### Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators

#### Third session

Geneva, 11–13 July 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the third session

To be held at the International Conference Centre Geneva, starting at  
10 a.m. on Monday, 11 July 2011\*

## I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the report of the second session.
4. Review of the Guidelines on the Application of Environmental Indicators:
  - (a) Biological oxygen demand (BOD) and concentration of ammonium in rivers;
  - (b) Nutrients in freshwater;
  - (c) Nutrients in coastal seawaters;
  - (d) Area affected by soil erosion;
  - (e) Pesticide consumption;
  - (f) Consumption of ozone-depleting substances.

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\* The International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG) is located at rue de Varembe 17, 1211 Genève (www.cicg.ch). 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*, either by fax (+41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (ludmila.boichuk@unece.org). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat at +41 22 917 6307.

5. Consideration of indicators of inland and sea water not covered by the Guidelines.
  - (a) Total water use;
  - (b) Water supply industry;
  - (c) Wastewater treatment facilities;
  - (d) Population connected to wastewater treatment;
  - (e) Concentrations of pollutants in seawater and sediments (except nutrients).
6. Discussion of developments and plans for future work on indicators under a project for countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and the Russian Federation.
7. Other business.

## **II. Annotations**

Following the recommendation by the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) and the Bureau of the Conference of the European Statisticians (CES), the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), at its meeting of 4 March 2011, approved the extension of the mandate of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators for the period 2011–2012. According to its revised terms of reference, the Joint Task Force should assist national statistical agencies and institutions responsible for the production of national state-of-the-environment reports in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe (SEE). Its objectives are to further improve environmental statistics, strengthen environmental reporting and promote comparability of environmental statistics and indicators in the region. (see ECE/CEP/161, annex II).

Country members of the Joint Task Force include both environmental experts and statisticians from all UNECE countries. The European Environmental Agency (EEA), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the United Nations Statistics Division, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the International Energy Agency, the World Health Organization European Centre for Environment and Health, the Inter-State Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other institutions are 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/archive/03.01.e.htm>.

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the agenda for its third session as contained in the present document.

### **2. Election of officers**

The Joint Task Force will be expected to elect its Chair and Vice-Chair(s).

### 3. Adoption of the report of the second session

The Joint Task Force will be invited to adopt the report of its second session, contained in document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2010/7.

### 4. Review of the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators

- (a) **Biological oxygen demand (BOD) and concentration of ammonium in rivers**
- (b) **Nutrients in freshwater**
- (c) **Nutrients in coastal seawaters**
- (d) **Area affected by soil erosion**
- (e) **Pesticide consumption**
- (f) **Consumption of ozone-depleting substances**

The Joint Task Force will review selected indicators (sub-items (a)–(f) above) covered by the Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia<sup>1</sup> (the Guidelines). The discussion will focus on the use of statistical classifications, data-collection methods and procedures for the production of these indicators.

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:

- (i) Effective inter-agency cooperation mechanisms to produce indicators;
- (ii) Evidence of the publication of indicators in statistical compendiums and state-of-the-environment reports;
- (iii) Procedures applied to ensure data quality assurance and control;
- (iv) Time-series data on the indicators for 1990, 1995 and 2000–2010.

Country submissions (in English and/or Russian) should be provided to the secretariat **before 17 June 2011** so as to ensure their distribution to all registered participants before the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> 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>.

## 5. Consideration of indicators of inland and sea water not covered by the Guidelines

- (a) Total water use
- (b) Water supply industry
- (c) Wastewater treatment facilities
- (d) Population connected to wastewater treatment
- (e) Concentrations of pollutants in seawater and sediments (except nutrients)

The Joint Task Force will be invited to consider indicators (sub-items (a)–(e) above) that are not included in the Guidelines.

The discussion will be based on a presentation by a consultant to the secretariat on the experience on these indicators (or some of these indicators) gained by the United Nations Statistics Division, the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development and other international institutions.

## 6. Discussion of developments and plans for future work on indicators under a project for countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and the Russian Federation

This session, to be co-chaired by a representative of EEA, is intended for members of the Joint Task Force from countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and invited international institutions. Other members of the Joint Task Force may also wish to attend. EEA will prepare discussion points for circulation among the session participants.

## 7. Other business

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

## III. Organization of work

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| <i>Date</i> | <i>Item(s) of the agenda</i> |
|-------------|------------------------------|
|-------------|------------------------------|

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### Monday, 11 July 2011

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| 10–10.15 a.m.     | 1, 2 and 3 |
| 10.15–11.30 a.m.  | 4 (a)      |
| 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m. | 4 (b)      |
| 2.30–4 p.m.       | 4 (c)      |
| 4–5.30 p.m.       | 4 (d)      |

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| <i>Date</i>                    | <i>Item(s) of the agenda</i> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday, 12 July 2011</b>   |                              |
| 9.30–11 a.m.                   | 4 (e)                        |
| 11–12.30 p.m.                  | 4 (f)                        |
| 2.30–4.30 p.m.                 | 5 (a)–(d)                    |
| 4.30–5.30 p.m.                 | 5 (e)                        |
| <b>Wednesday, 13 July 2011</b> |                              |
| 9.30–12.30 p.m.                | 6 and 7                      |

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