



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Executive Committee

#### 114th meeting

Geneva, 12 February 2021

Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

#### Matters relating to the Committee on Environmental Policy

decisions on matters relating to  
the Committee on Environmental Policy

### **Decision approving the extension of the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment**

#### *Background*

1. The Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment is a subsidiary body of the Committee on Environmental Policy, first established in 2000. The body serves all member States of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) as a platform to exchange good practice and information in the areas of environmental monitoring and assessment and related areas, as well as to develop action plans and strengthen initiatives. These activities support environmental decision-making and help to streamline international environmental reporting in the region. The Working Group's terms of reference are strongly linked to the Environment for Europe Ministerial process.
2. The Working Group's current mandate and terms of reference are for the period 2017–2021. It was approved by the Executive Committee at its ninety-first meeting (Geneva, 24 March 2017) (ECE/EX/2017/L.2).
3. The Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference was expected to be held in Nicosia in 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee on Environmental Policy decided at its twenty-sixth session (Geneva and online, 9–10 November 2020) to reschedule the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference for 5–7 October 2022. The Committee also decided to extend the current mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group until mid-2023, to allow the Working Group to prepare a new draft mandate and terms of reference after the next Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, and requested the secretariat to submit this decision on extension to the Executive Committee for approval as contained in document ECE/EX/2017/L.2.
4. The Executive Committee is invited to approve the extension.



***Draft Decision***

5. The Executive Committee hereby approves the extension of the current mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, as contained in document ECE/EX/2017/L.2, until 30 June 2023.
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