

# Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Twenty-third session, Geneva and online, 4-5 May 2021

Agenda Item 6: Regular pan-European environmental assessment supported by the Shared Environmental Information System

**Presentation of the status, latest developments and next steps related to the pan-European environmental assessment**



# Committee on Environmental Policy



## Committee on Environmental Policy, 26<sup>th</sup> session (9-10 Nov. 2020)

- Rescheduled the next Ministerial Conference, to be held in Nicosia, for 5–7 October 2022 – *as expected*
- Expressed its appreciation to those member States that have provided financial contributions to support preparation of the next pan-European environmental assessment
- Encouraged member States to provide further support in terms of expertise and funding
- Requested the secretariat to continue to inform the Bureau of progress made.

# Resources



Contributions	Approx. (\$)		Expenditures	Approx. (\$)
Austria, part of €10,000	7,020		<b>Consultants &amp; procurement (substance)</b>	
Germany, €10,000	11,737		Disbursed, committed or being prepared	51,900
Netherlands, approx. €20,000	23,400		Anticipated ( <i>minimum</i> )	15,100
Norway, approx. \$4,800	4,800		Programme support costs	13%
Serbia, €5,000	5,869			
Switzerland, \$30,000	30,000		Editing, layout/graphics, minor translation, video? etc.	???
	82,826			

# Final outline of the pan-European environmental assessment



**Foreword, acknowledgements, and key findings and policy messages**

**Chapter I – Setting the scene** – drivers being identified by theme assessment authors

**Chapter II - State of knowledge and the Shared Environmental Information System** – map state-of-the-environment reports, status of the Shared Environmental Information System; gaps being identified by theme assessment authors

**Chapter III – Environmental state and trends** (next slide)

**Chapter IV – Themes for 9<sup>th</sup> Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference** (next slide)  
– being coordinated with background papers for the two themes

**Chapter V - Strengthening environmental governance** – will look at education for sustainable development, perhaps digitalization; input from Aarhus Convention

**Chapter VI – Way forward**

# Progress in assessing themes



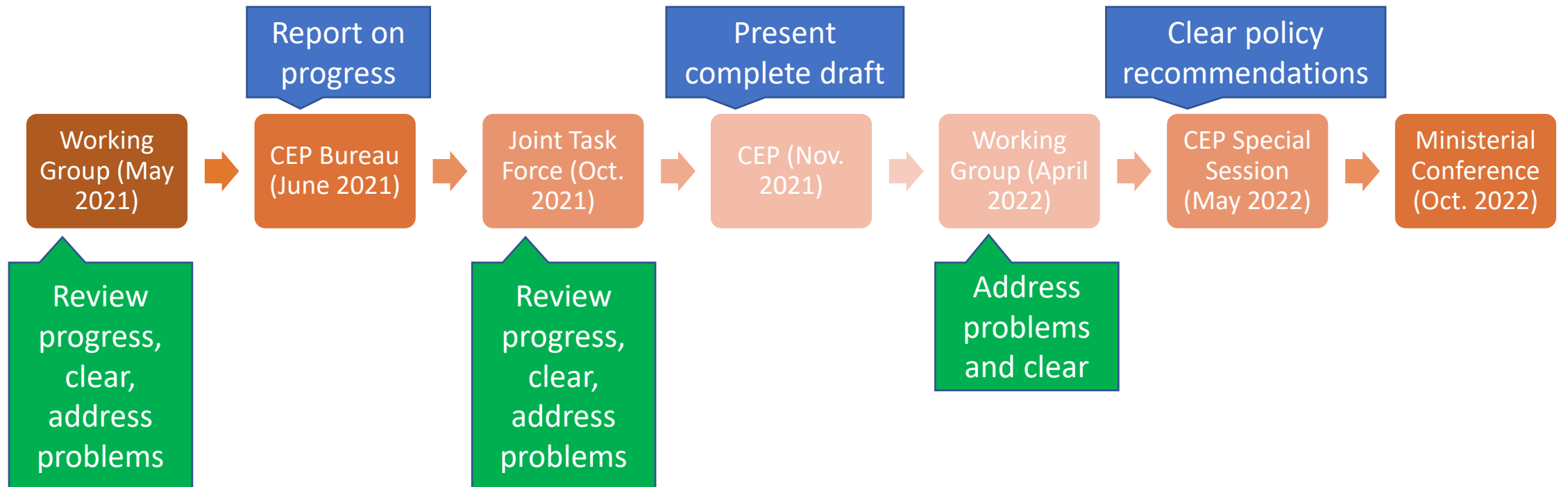
Theme	Consultant	Indicators	Draft section	Completed
III.A. Air pollution and ozone depletion	Contracted	Agreed	Yes	
III.B. Climate change	Contracted	Agreed	Yes	
III.C. Fresh water	-			
III.D. Coastal waters, marine ecosystems and oceans	Contracted			
III.E. Biodiversity and ecosystems	Contracted	Agreed	Yes	Yes
III.F. Land and soil	Contracted			
III.G. Chemicals and waste	Contracted			
H. Environmental financing	Preparing			
IV. A. Greening the economy in the pan-European region: working towards sustainable infrastructure	Preparing			
IV.B. Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism	Contracted (major part)			

# Review process



- What to review
  - Indicator selection
  - Draft sections and other elements
- How to review?
  - In Working Group meeting(s), or Joint Task Force
  - Direct issue of by email to broad mailing list
  - Posting on the UNECE Statistical Division wiki website
  - Direct approach to expert institutions ...
- How to improve?

# Timeline



# Next Steps



- Identify final consultant and issue pending contracts
- Raise additional funds
- Clear indicator selections and then draft sections – widen consultation
- Compile thematic sections into the complete assessment
- Draft description of drivers, gaps and other common elements
- Integrate elements, considering also the Conference themes and COVID-19
- Draft “way forward”
- Harmonize design and layout
- Consider promotional materials for Ministerial Conference



**Thank you!**



# Proposed Decisions



## The Working Group:

- a) Welcomes the draft elements of the next pan-European environmental assessment set out in document ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/5
- b) Takes note of the progress made, timeline and next steps for the assessment
- c) Welcomes the presentations of thematic sections of the assessment by the authors
- d) Suggests ...
- e) Encourages member States to support preparation of the assessment with further financial contributions
- f) Requests the secretariat to inform the Committee on Environmental Policy and its Bureau on the outcomes of this agenda item
- g) Requests the secretariat to engage the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators in the review of progress and clearance of draft elements of the assessment
- h) Requests an update on the assessment at its next session, for final clearance