

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Twenty-third session

Geneva, 4-5 May 2021

Palais des Nations, Geneva and online (4 May 2021 hybrid format and 5 May 2021 online)

Provisional timetable

Time (CET/Geneva time)	Tuesday, 4 May 2021
09:00-09:15	1. Adoption of the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Opening statements.- Adoption of the agenda (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/1/Rev.1).
09:15-09:30	2. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Election of the new Chair and two Vice-Chairs.
09:30-09:45	3. Adoption of the report of the twenty-second session <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation of the outcomes of the 22nd session, Christine Kitzler, UNECE- Adoption of the report of the 22nd session- Presentation of the status of implementation of the decisions and recommendations, Christine Kitzler, UNECE.
9:45-10:15	4. Implementing the mandate and terms of reference <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Report on the noting of the modified timetable of activities for 2021 by the Committee on Environmental Policy at its 26th session, Nick Bonvoisin, UNECE- Presentation of the draft timetable of activities for 2022 (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/3), Christine Kitzler, UNECE- Approval of the draft timetable of activities for 2022- Report on the decision by the Committee on Environmental Policy to extend the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group until mid-2023 (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/4), Nick Bonvoisin, UNECE- Presentation of the financial resources available, Nick Bonvoisin, UNECE- Discussion, questions and answers.

10:15-11:00	<p>5. Reporting on the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) to support a regular process of environmental assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the final review report on the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System in Europe and Central Asia (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/6), Christine Kitzler, UNECE. - Reflections and sharing of experiences of the reporting exercise by Member States. - Discussion, questions and answers.
11:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-13:15	<p>5. Reporting on the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) to support a regular process of environmental assessment (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on the use of the System in the future. - Discussion, questions and answers. - Approval of the final report.
13:15-14:30	<p>6. Regular pan-European environmental assessment supported by the Shared Environmental Information System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the status, latest developments and next steps related to the pan-European environmental assessment (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/5), Nick Bonvoisin, UNECE - Presentation of preliminary findings by UNECE consultants on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter III – Environmental state and trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A. Air pollution and ozone depletion, by Mr. Cornelis Braams - B. Climate change, by Ms. Olivera Kujundzic - D. Coastal waters, marine ecosystems and oceans, by Ms. Claudette Spiteri, MCL Environmental Consulting - F. Land and soil, by Mr. Nicolai Dronin Chapter IV – Themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - B. Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism, by Mr. Jos van der Sterren, Breda University of Applied Sciences - Discussion, questions and answers. - Discussion and identification of partners, institutions and experts who could contribute to the development and review of specific chapters of the assessment, and discussion on the next steps, including how to mobilize further financial and in-kind support, for the seventh pan-European environmental assessment, by member States and international organizations.
14:30-14:45	<p>9(a). Other business (hybrid meeting)</p> <p><i>Please inform the secretariat of items of other business as soon as possible.</i></p>

14:45-15:00	<p>10(a). Closure of the hybrid meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oral summary of conclusions and decisions of the Working Group, by the Chair of the meeting.
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Time (CET/Geneva time)	Wednesday, 5 May 2021
09:00-11:00	<p>7. Sharing and integration of economic, social and environmental data with regard to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of feedback received from member States and recent developments on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How environmental information, data, indicators and national reports on green growth could support the development of the pan-European environmental assessment - How the Working group could continue its work on integrating economic, social and environmental data into the Shared Environmental Information System - Discussion, questions and answers - Presentation of upcoming and ongoing regional environmental events and initiatives promoted in 2021 by regional and international organizations. (UNECE, UNEP, EEA, OECD etc.) - Report by international organizations on initiatives and extrabudgetary projects related to the Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation by the European Environment Agency of its strategy for the period until 2030, by Adriana Gheorghe, European Environment Agency - Presentation of the outcomes of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP, by Matthew Billot, UNEP - EU4Environment project, by Irina Belkahia, OECD - UNDA project "Improved environmental monitoring and assessment in support of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in South-Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus", by Tomas Marques, UNEP, Johannes Mayer, Environment Agency Austria and Christine Kitzler, UNECE - Revision of UNECE Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators, by Michael Nagy, Statistical Division, UNECE - Presentation on new technologies, big data, artificial intelligence and Earth observation and the full use of data, technology and digitalization

	<p>to complement and potentially replace established monitoring practices and information sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the Mainstreaming GEOSS data sharing and management principles in support of Europe's environment project, by Jose Rubio Iglesias, European Environment Agency. - UNEP project in Central Asia on the use of geospatial data for reporting on SDG 6 and 15, by Matthew Billot, UNEP - Discussion on how the work on environmental information, data and indicators, including related to a green and circular economy, can support the development of the pan-European environmental assessment(s) and other activities related to the Working Group. - Discussion on relevant topics for the 24th session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment - Discussion, questions and answers.
11:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-14:30	<p>8. Progress in environmental monitoring and assessment, including institutional and regulatory mechanisms and infrastructure at the national level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on major actions taken since the previous meeting, by countries (tbc), especially those in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The production of environmental reports, analyses and assessments based on environmental information and indicators, including through the use of the Shared Environmental Information System. - The modernization and upgrading of national monitoring networks, in particular, those on air, water and soil. - Improvements in data quality assurance and control, as well as the management of data. - Improvements in data policy and institutional and regulatory mechanisms and technical solutions for data exchange between various ministries and agencies (ministries of environment, environment agencies and ministries of agriculture, energy, health, industry, transport and water) and with other users, including the public. - The implementation of recommendations regarding environmental monitoring and assessment made in national environmental performance reviews. - Development at country level to enhance digitalization and digital transformation related to environmental information including through the use of new technologies, big data, artificial intelligence and Earth observation for environmental monitoring. - Discussion, questions and answers.

14:30-14:45	9(b). Other business <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Please inform the secretariat of items of other business as soon as possible.</i>
14:45- 15:00	10(b). Closure of the online meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Oral summary of conclusions and notes taken by the Working Group, by the Chair of the meeting.- Date of next meeting.- Closing of the meeting.
