

Decisions submitted to silence procedure following formal meeting with remote participation of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Environmental Policy, 3-5 November 2021

Agenda item	Document No (link)	Decision
1	<p>Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-seventh session (ECE/CEP/2021/1) https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/ece.cep_.2021.1.e.pdf</p> <p>Provisional time schedule of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Environmental Policy Information paper No. 1/Rev.2 https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEP-27_TimeSchedule.IP_.1_Rev_.2.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopts the agenda for its twenty-seventh session (ECE/CEP/2021/1), taking into account the proposed timetable as presented in information paper No. 1/Rev.2
2	<p>Outcomes of the work of the Bureau for the period January–June 2021 (ECE/CEP/2021/3) https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/ece.cep_.2021.3.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses appreciation to the Bureau for its good work in fulfilling the mandates assigned to it by the Committee, especially for the excellent work undertaken with regard to preparation of draft background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes note of the information on developments in the ECE region linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Calls for active participation in the preparation and conduct of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region (April 2022) Takes note of the information on the outcomes of the sixty-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe (held in a hybrid format, Geneva, 20 and 21 April 2021)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decides to include a standing agenda item on the follow up to the sessions of the Economic Commission for Europe in future regular sessions of the Committee and requests the secretariat to include relevant information on the annotated provisional agenda of Committee's sessions • Notes with interest the information provided by the secretariat on the ECE activities to advance sustainability and circularity and to achieve climate neutrality in the garment and footwear industry, through traceability and transparency of value chains • Notes with interest the information provided by the secretariat on the ECE capacity building activities to improve the management of dams in Central Asia, including the findings of the evaluation report
4 (a)	<p>Draft annotated provisional agenda for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (ECE/CEP/2021/6) https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.6.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopts the draft agenda for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference as contained in the document ECE/CEP/2021/6 • Invites its Bureau, with support from the secretariat and in cooperation with relevant partners, to further develop the annotated agenda for the Conference and to submit it to the Committee for consideration at its special session in May 2022.
4 (b)	<p>Draft thematic document for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference: Greening the economy in the pan-European region: working towards sustainable infrastructure Information paper No. 2 https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/Sustainable_infrastructure.IP_2.e_0.pdf</p> <p>Draft thematic document for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference: Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism Information paper No. 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expresses appreciation to the UNEP for financially supporting development of an information note on the current key principles, policies and approaches of green and circular economy in the areas of sustainable infrastructure and sustainable tourism, which served to prepare first drafts of two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference • Expresses appreciation for the work undertaken by the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, OECD and UNEP, to prepare first drafts of two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference • Asks the Committee to make concrete suggestions and proposals on the first drafts of the two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference and send them to the secretariat preferably by the end of November but not later than 31 December 2021 • Asks the Bureau, with support from the secretariat and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to further develop the two drafts and submit them as official documents for the special session of the Committee in May 2022

	https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/Sustainable_tourism.IP_3.e.pdf	
4 (c)	<p>Pan-European environmental assessment: draft summary of its key findings and policy messages (summary for policymakers) Information paper No. 4</p> <p>https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEP-27_IP.4.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expresses its appreciation to those member States that have provided financial contributions to support preparation of the next pan-European assessment, namely Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland • Expresses its appreciation also to the individual authors for their drafts and to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP, OECD, UNWTO, UNCCD, Conservation International and ISRIC–World Soil Information • members of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment and the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, and the UNECE secretariat • Welcomes the draft elements of the assessment and takes note of the progress made, timeline and next steps for its completion, and decides to provide comments on the draft elements provided, in particular the draft summary for policymakers, by 30 November 2021 • Requests the secretariat to make available to it the remaining and updated elements, at the latest by 15 February 2022, and decides to provide comments to the secretariat on remaining and updated elements within one month of receipt • Requests the secretariat also to continue to inform the Bureau of progress made
4 (d)	<p>List of documents and materials for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference Information paper No. 5</p> <p>https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/CEP-27_List_of_documents_for_EfE-9.IP_5.e.pdf</p> <p>Draft Ministerial Declaration Information paper No. 12</p> <p>https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/Draft_Nicosia_Declaration.IP_12.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the general framework and structure of the proposed elements for the draft ministerial declaration, as contained in information paper No.12 • Invites the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to further develop the draft of the ministerial declaration, based on comments and revisions to the draft in track changes received by 31 December 2021 from Committee members and observers, and to submit it as an official document to the Committee at its special session in May 2022 • Takes note of the draft list of documents to be prepared for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference as contained in information paper No. 5 • Welcomes the continuation of activities by the countries under the Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy and the Batumi Initiative on Green Economy • Welcomes the proposal by Switzerland to advance the development of the catalogue of actions/measures on possible voluntary actions/commitments under the Batumi Initiative on Green Economy on the two themes of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, entrusts Switzerland to form and convene an ad hoc group to prepare the catalogue and invites Committee members and other stakeholders to express their interest if they wish to join the group

4 (e)	<p>Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (ECE/CEP/2021/7)</p> <p>https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.7.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the document regarding organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (ECE/CEP/2021/7) with revisions made in paras 10 (a) and 10 (c)
4 (f)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the contribution made by Cyprus as the host country and pledges by Cyprus, Germany, and Serbia for preparing of the Conference • Invites interested countries and organizations to make contributions (in cash and in kind) for the preparation of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
4 (g)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expresses appreciation to the Republic of Cyprus as the host the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, for the information provided
5	<p>Informal record of decisions taken by the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators at its eighteenth sessions Information paper No. 6</p> <p>https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEP-27_IP.6.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes note of the information provided and welcomes the activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, especially in support of the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System • Invites member States and organizations to provide in-kind and financial support to the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme • Thanks Austria, the Russian Federation and Switzerland for their financial support not related directly to the pan-European environmental assessment, as well as UNEP and the European Environment Agency, together with the United Nations Statistics Division, WHO and OECD, for their substantive support to the Programme • Takes note of the timetable of activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment in 2022 as set out in document ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/3 • Welcomes the “Final review report on the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System” (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/6), prepared by the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment with the support of the secretariat and UNEP • Appreciates that, overall, a Shared Environmental Information System has been successfully established in Europe and Central Asia but notes that countries still needed assistance in fully implementing the pillars and principles of the Shared Environmental Information System and in the regular production and sharing of relevant data flows associated with the UNECE environmental indicators • Forwards the final review report to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference • Takes note of the information provided and welcomes the activities of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, especially regarding the review of the ECE set of environmental indicators • Decides to extend mandate and terms of reference of the Joint Task Force until mid-2023 to allow the Joint Task Force to prepare a new draft mandate and terms of reference after the next Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, and request the secretariat to submit this decision on extension to the ECE Executive Committee for approval

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the revision of the guidelines on the application of environmental indicators and on biodiversity monitoring
6	<p>Second Environmental Performance Review of Morocco: recommendations Information paper No. 7 https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEP-27_InfoPaperNo.7_e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopts the recommendations contained in the Second Environmental Performance Review (EPR) of Morocco (Information paper No. 7) • Expresses appreciation to the ECE EPR Programme and recognises its contribution to supporting countries in achieving national and environmental policy commitments • Appreciates the work of the ECE Expert Group on EPRs in 2021 • Invites members of the Committee to nominate their representatives to the Expert Group on EPRs • Welcomes the information provided on the activities of the EPR Programme, and expresses its appreciation to the secretariat for the excellent work in support of the Programme • Also, welcomes the national launch of the 3rd EPR of Uzbekistan • Takes note of the continuation of a third EPR of Azerbaijan • Also, takes note of the next EPRs to be conducted, namely a second EPR of Armenia and a third EPR of Kyrgyzstan • Further, takes note of the pending request made by Ukraine to undertake its next EPR • Welcomes progress achieved in the implementation of the project “Evidence-based environmental governance and sustainable environmental policies in support of the 2030 Agenda in South-East Europe” funded by the United Nations Development Account • Requests the ECE secretariat to continue activities with a regional approach as follow up to national EPRs • Welcomes the activity to support the implementation of recommendations made in the EPRs of North Macedonia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan through the development of roadmaps by the three governments, initiated with funds from the ECE Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation • Takes note of the information provided by the secretariat on resource mobilization for the ECE EPR Programme in 2020–2021 and, in particular, thanks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austria, Germany and Switzerland for their financial support • France, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg and the European Investment Bank for providing expertise • Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Romania, Switzerland and UNEP for having delegated their experts to serve in and support to the Expert Group on EPRs • United Nations Economic Commission for Africa for political support • The United Nations Development Programme for logistical support • Encourages delegations to provide in-kind (expert) and financial support to the ECE EPR Programme • Appreciates the close cooperation of the ECE Environment, Statistical and Sustainable Energy Divisions, and Sustainable Development and Gender Unit, and United Nations Country Teams, with the EPR Programme
7	<p>Cross-sectoral activities under the auspices of the ECE Environment subprogramme (ECE/CEP/2021/4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes note of the information provided in the document on Cross-sectoral activities under the auspices of the UNECE Environment subprogramme (ECE/CEP/2021/4) • Takes note of the information provided on the work of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development and encourages its members from the countries participating in the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development to remain informed of the process at the national level by establishing and maintaining

	https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.4.e.pdf	<p>working contacts with the Steering Committee members and focal points from their national administrations and non-governmental organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms its willingness to continue close cooperation with the Steering Committee in the framework of the preparations for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference • Welcomes the work under THE PEP, supports THE PEP and encourages the participation of experts in the working groups that are to be established • Takes note of the progress report submitted by the WHO and reconfirms its commitment to contribute to the European Environment and Health Process • Takes note of the information provided with respect to gender mainstreaming across ECE activities and in environmental activities carried out by the Environment Division since the Committee's last session • Recognizes the importance of gender mainstreaming in environmental activities, particularly in the light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasize that gender equality is both a goal in itself and a means to contributing to achieving sustainable development • Agrees to continue to mainstream a gender perspective in its activities
8	<p>Countries eligible for financial support to participate in meetings and events</p> <p>Information paper No. 8</p> https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/CEP-27_EligibilityCriteria_IP.8.e.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the revised criteria for providing financial support for participation in meetings and events, as presented in information paper No. 8 • Requests the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to periodically verify the availability of data for 2021 and, if available, for all countries with economies in transition, to prepare revised criteria for financial support for subsequent approval by the Committee.
9	<p>Draft programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2022(ECE/CEP/2021/5)</p> https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.5e.pdf <p>Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2023</p> <p>Information paper No. 9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopts the draft annual programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2022 (ECE/CEP/2021/5) and recommends that it be approved by the Executive Committee • Takes note of the "Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2023" as contained in Information paper No. 9

	https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/CEP-27_PoW_Outline_for_2023.IP_9.pdf	
10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the information provided by UNEP on the outcomes of the online meeting of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP (Nairobi (online), 22 and 23 February 2021) and preparation of a resumed in-person meeting, to be held in February-March 2022 • Invites UNEP Regional Office for Europe to continue informing the Committee about relevant developments under the UNEA of the UNEP and in particular on the outcomes of its fifth session at the next session of the Committee
11	<p>Proposed schedule of meetings of the Committee on Environmental Policy and its Bureau for the period of 2022–2024</p> <p>Information paper No. 10 https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEPmtgs2022-2024.IP_10.e_0.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the proposed schedule of CEP and its Bureau meetings until 2024 (information paper No.10). • Decides to organize the Committee’s special session in Geneva, from 9 (p.m.) to 12 (a.m.) May 2022 • Takes note of the request to check the possibility of moving the dates of the Special session to avoid overlapping with other international meetings and asks the secretariat to inform the Bureau in this regard for future consideration by the Bureau • Agrees to the proposal by Portugal to organize additional Bureau meeting tentatively at the end of January 2022 and thanks Portugal for the offer to host it in Lisbon
12	<p>The Bureau of the Committee on Environmental Policy</p> <p>Information paper No. 11 https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/CEP-27%20Bureau.IP_11.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decides to elect the Bureau of the Committee, as stated in information paper No. 11 • Expresses condolences on the passing away of Mr. Yuri Tsaturov, a long-standing member of the Bureau representing the Russian Federation and former Chair of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment • Expresses appreciation to the outgoing member of the Bureau, Ms Biljana Filipovic Dusic, for her work • Takes note of the information provided on the upcoming changes in the position of the Belgium representative to the Bureau and agrees to include the agenda item on the election of officers in the agenda of the Special session in May 2022
16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests the Bureau and the secretariat to follow up on the Committee’s decisions, including by preparing the documents and reports necessary for the Committee’s work at its next session • Expresses appreciation for the work of the ECE secretariat in preparation of the present meeting • Expresses gratitude for the work of the Interprefy technical team in servicing the present meeting • Expresses appreciation for the work of the interpreters in servicing the present meeting