

UNECE Steering Committee on ESD, 16th meeting (hybrid format)

List of decisions

(unedited, as read out at the meeting)

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda	The Committee:  - agrees to adopt the agenda for the meeting (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2021/1)
2 (a) Fourth evaluation report of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development	The Committee:  - Welcomes the work undertaken by the countries by submitting NIRs for the 4 <sup>th</sup> mandatory reporting cycle and expresses gratitude to the Cyprus government for the additional in-kind contribution for preparing the synthesis report.  - Approves the final report (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2021/3), which was officially submitted and translated for the present meeting.
2 (b) Progress in implementing the Strategy	The Committee:  - Takes note of the reported outstanding good practices and expresses appreciation to those countries who have submitted informal reports.
2 (c) Regional framework of cooperation for SD: participation in the 2021 Regional Forum on SD and outcomes of the side event organized by the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD in the framework of the Forum	The Committee:  - takes note of the information provided and appreciates involvement of the Steering Committee and its members in the side event, following the decision of the previous Steering Committee meetings.
2 (d) Outcomes of capacity-building activities	The Committee:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information about the implemented capacity building activity in Azerbaijan, welcomes the cooperation with Azerbaijan and Swiss Governments, invites Member States to contribute further to capacity-building activities and asks the secretariat to continue cooperation with interested Member States in this direction;</li> <li>- Underlines the importance of conducting capacity-building activities in the framework of implementing the Strategy at the national level.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Status of the trust fund, resource requirements and fundraising efforts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Committee takes note of the information provided and thanked the member States who made contributions to the Trust Fund (direct transfers and in-kind);</li> <li>- Takes note of, and thanks the member States for, the pledges made;</li> <li>- Asks the Secretariat to coordinate with the Chair and the Bureau in the process of elaborating the brief survey (before September 2021) on identifying the interest-based focus of the future capacity building activities, as well as potential interest of the member States to be donors for these activities;</li> <li>- Asks the Secretariat to send out its regular annual letters to MS Governments (Education and Environment Ministries) asking for financial contributions in support of the UNECE Strategy for ESD.</li> </ul>
<p>4 (a) Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference and 4 (d) Resource requirements</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information.</li> </ul>
<p>4 (b) Host country preparations</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information about the developments regarding the preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2022.</li> </ul>

<p>4 (c) Official documents for consideration at the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries – outline of the draft Ministerial Statement</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information about the official documents required to be prepared for the HL Ministerial Meeting.</li> <li>- asks the Secretariat to assist the Committee members who express their interest to participate in the drafting group, and the Committee in their work on the draft document (Ministerial statement).</li> </ul>
<p>4 (d) Resource requirements (considered under item 4 (a))</p>	
<p>5 (a) Draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of presentation of this agenda item, i.e. the draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework (including the preamble and the four priority strands), which will be included in the “Framework for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD up to 2030”;</li> <li>- agrees to provide last comments, if any, on the present draft till June 10, 2021, to let the Ad Hoc Group on Strategic Planning to start its work on the final draft.</li> <li>- asks the secretariat to inform the Ad Hoc Group on the existing deadlines for preparing the final draft of the document for the official submission, and to facilitate its submission to the 17<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting for approval.</li> </ul>
<p>5 (b) Draft workplan for the post-2019 implementation framework</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of information regarding the status of the process of drafting the workplan.</li> <li>- takes note of information that the work plan will be finalized by the Ad Hoc Group on Strategic Planning in parallel with the finalization of the draft of the concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- asks the secretariat to inform the Ad Hoc Group on the existing deadlines for preparing the final draft of the document for the official submission, and to facilitate its submission to the 17<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting for approval.</li> </ul>
<p>6. Update on the outcomes of the work of the Ad Hoc Group on Indicators: the draft template for reporting on the future implementation of the Strategy (2021–2030)</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- took note of the presentation of this agenda item, i.e. the status of work of AHG on Indicators on the Draft Format for reporting.</li> <li>- agrees that, following the progress in drafting the concept note, the AHG on Indicators will meet to discuss and proceed with the finalization of the draft template for reporting to present it to the Steering Committee.</li> <li>- asks the secretariat to inform the Ad Hoc Group on the existing deadlines for preparing the final draft of the document for the official submission, and to facilitate its submission to the 17<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting for approval.</li> </ul>
<p>7 (a) Terms of reference of the established United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development Youth Network</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information about nominations to the ECE Steering Committee on UNECE ESD Youth Platform.</li> <li>- approves the terms of reference of the UNECE ESD Youth Platform.</li> </ul>
<p>7 (b) ESD and youth: Learning from each other - sharing experiences and good examples of national initiatives and actions on ESD and youth</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information about the reported youth initiatives and actions integrated into their national and regional context, as well as on the role of ESD in empowering youth to participate in mitigating the impact of the pandemic crisis.</li> <li>- takes note of the views and opinions expressed by Youth Focal Points on their role in the Steering Committee and on actions or initiatives to be undertaken by the Committee for youth;</li> <li>- Suggests to the Platform to consider preparing:</li> </ul>

	<p>(a) activity plan for the Youth Platform in the region for the period 2021–2025; and</p> <p>(b) suggested activities and side events on “Youth and ESD” to be organized during the forthcoming 9<sup>th</sup> EFE Ministerial Conference.</p>
8. Recent activities to promote ESD in other international forums	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information provided by the European Commission, UNESCO, MED Committee, and GENE network representatives.</li> <li>- Agrees to work closely with the above organisations, as well as with other regional and global partners, to promote ESD in the region.</li> <li>- Agrees to invite the representatives of relevant organisations (including the EU) as observers to the Steering Committee.</li> </ul>
9. Participation of the Steering Committee in upcoming regional and international forums	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information provided [NL, UK, CAREC, the chair, the secretariat...];</li> <li>- asks the members of the Committee to inform the secretariat about the planned participation in the upcoming regional and international forums as relevant, and to consult with the Bureau and the Chair in case the interventions are planned on behalf of the Steering Committee.</li> </ul>
10. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the presented information about the synergies with other organizations and processes.</li> </ul>
11. Publications on education for sustainable development from the Economic Commission for Europe region	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- takes note of the information provided.</li> <li>- agrees to continue working on the publications, in view to be published in 2022.</li> </ul>

12. Mainstreaming gender issues in education for sustainable development	The Committee: - takes note of the information provided [Frederick University, Cyprus; CAREC] about the actions and measures taken on integrating gender issues in ESD.
13. Calendar of meetings	The Committee: - agrees on the date of its next meeting (30-31 May 2022, Geneva).
14. Other business	
15. Closure of the meeting	