

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Twenty-fourth session, Geneva and online, 11-12 April 2022

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the report of the twenty-third session

**Key outcomes of the 23rd session of the Working Group on
Environmental Monitoring & Assessment & status of
implementation of decisions & recommendations**



Objectives of the 23rd session of the Working Group



UNECE



- To discuss and adopt the revised annual timetable of activities for 2022
- To review the final progress report on SEIS establishment
- To discuss the next pan-European environmental assessment
- To inform the Working Group about international projects and initiatives of relevance
- To develop an inclusive platform to discuss integration of economic, social and environmental data
- To consult on streamlining of regular state-of-the-environment reporting



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



II. Adoption of the agenda

- The Working Group adopted the agenda (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/1/Rev.1)

III. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

- The Working Group elected Ms. Maia Javakhishvili (Georgia) as its Chair and Ms. Katerina Nikolovska (North Macedonia) and Mr. Johannes Mayer (Austria) as its Vice-chairs for a period of up to two years.

IV. Adoption of the report of the twenty-second session

- The Working Group adopted the report of its 22nd session (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2020/2) and noted the information provided by the secretariat on the status of implementation of the decisions and recommendations from its 22nd session



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



V. Implementing the mandate and terms of reference

The Working Group:

- a) Adopted the timetable of activities for 2022 (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/3)
- b) Took note of the financial resources available for the implementation of activities under the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme
- c) Expressed appreciation to those countries supporting financially the pan-European environmental assessment – Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland – and to the Russian Federation for its support of the current meeting
- d) Requested its members and the secretariat to continue their fundraising efforts to enable the full implementation of activities planned for 2021–2022, including the preparation of the pan-European environmental assessment and the holding of the next sessions of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators and the Working Group – **continuously**



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



VI. Reporting on the Shared Environmental Information System to support a regular process of environmental assessment

The Working Group:

- a) Adopted the final review report on the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System in Europe and Central Asia (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/6)
- b) Suggested the continued use of the Shared Environmental Information System reporting tool and assessment framework for upcoming reviews for selected indicators and in support of pan-European environmental assessments – **see agenda item 4**
- c) Requested the secretariat to inform the Committee on Environmental Policy of the outcomes of the agenda item – **done**



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



VII. Regular pan-European environmental assessment supported by the Shared Environmental Information System

The Working Group:

- a) Welcomed the draft elements of the next pan-European environmental assessment (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/5)
- b) Took note of the progress made, timeline and next steps for the assessment
- c) Welcomed the presentations of thematic sections of the assessment by the authors
- d) Requested the authors of the thematic sections of the assessment to take into account the comments made by members of the Working Group and to focus on policy-relevant conclusions – **done**
- e) Encouraged member States to support preparation of the assessment with further financial contributions – **largely achieved**



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



VII. Regular pan-European environmental assessment supported by the Shared Environmental Information System – continued

The Working Group:

- f) Requested the secretariat to inform the Committee on Environmental Policy and its Bureau of the outcomes of the agenda item – **done**
- g) Also requested 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 – **done**
- h) Further requested the secretariat to provide an update on the assessment at its next session, for final clearance – **see agenda item 5**



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



VIII. Sharing and integration of economic, social and environmental data with regard to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Working Group :

- a) Took note of the information provided on upcoming regional events and initiatives promoted in 2021 by international and regional organizations related to activities of the Working Group
- b) Invited representatives of regional and international organizations to provide regular updates to the Working Group on upcoming events and initiatives of relevance – [see agenda item 6](#)
- c) Took note of the suggestions related to how the work on environmental information, data and indicators could better support the development of the pan-European environmental assessment(s) and other activities related to the Working Group
- d) Took note of the suggestions on topics for the 24th session of the Working Group



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



IX. Progress in environmental monitoring and assessment, including institutional and regulatory mechanisms and infrastructure at the national level

- No decisions

X. Other business and closure of the meeting

- The Working Group approved the decisions made ad referendum regarding agenda items 1–6 during the hybrid part of its 23rd session and welcomed a summary of the conclusions, decisions and recommendations made during the entirety of its 23rd session.

Questions & Comments ?

Thank you!



Recommendations and Decisions taken by the Working Group and their status of implementation



Proposed Decision:

The Working Group:

Adopts the report of the 23rd session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment as set out in document ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/2