Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

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

Agenda Item 3: Implementing the mandate and terms of reference

Summary of decisions from the 27th session of CEP
Committee on Environmental Policy, 27th session (3-5 Nov. 2021)

Agenda item 4: Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (c) Pan-European Environmental Assessment

The Committee on Environmental Policy:

• Expressed appreciation to member States that have provided financial contributions to support preparation of the assessment, namely Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland & to individual authors for their drafts and to: UNEP, OECD, UNWTO, UNCCD, Conservation International and ISRIC–World Soil Information, members of the Working Group and the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, & the UNECE secretariat for further development of the draft assessment

• Welcomed the draft elements of the assessment and took note of the progress made, timeline and next steps for its completion, and decided to provide comments on the draft elements provided, in particular the draft summary for policymakers, by 30 November 2021

• Requested the secretariat to make available to it the remaining and updated elements, at the latest by 15 February 2022, and decided to provide comments to the secretariat on remaining and updated elements within one month of receipt

• Requested the secretariat also to continue to inform the Bureau of progress made

Summary of decisions
Committee on Environmental Policy, 27th session
Agenda item 5: Environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting

• Took note of the information provided and welcomed the activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, especially in support of the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System

• Invited member States and organizations to provide in-kind and financial support to the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme

• Thanked 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

• Took note of the timetable of activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment in 2022 (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/3)
Committee on Environmental Policy, 27th session
Agenda item 5: Environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting

• Welcomed the “Final review report on the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System” (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/6), prepared by the Working Group with the support of the secretariat and UNEP

• Appreciated that, overall, a Shared Environmental Information System has been successfully established in Europe and Central Asia but noted that countries still need assistance in fully implementing the pillars and principles of the System and in the regular production and sharing of relevant data flows associated with the UNECE environmental indicators

• Forwarded the final review report to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

• Took note of the information provided and welcomed the activities of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, especially regarding the review of the UNECE set of environmental indicators
Committee on Environmental Policy, 27th session

Agenda item 5: Environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting

• Decided to extend mandate and terms of reference of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators 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 requested the secretariat to submit this decision on extension to the UNECE Executive Committee for approval

• The UNECE Executive Committee subsequently approved the extension of the mandate and terms of reference of the Joint Task Force, as contained in the annex to document ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2021/3, until 30 June 2023
Questions & Comments?

Thank you!
Proposed Decision:

The Working Group:

• Takes note of the decisions made by the Committee on Environmental Policy at its 27th session
• Requests the secretariat to continue to inform the Committee on Environmental Policy on the activities on environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting