



## **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development**

17<sup>th</sup> meeting, 30 and 31 May 2022

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### **Information Paper No. 2**

#### **Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries**

##### **Item 3 ((a) and (b)) of the provisional agenda:**

Update on the preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (Nicosia, 5–7 October 2022):

- (a) Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Nicosia, 5–7 October 2022)
- (b) Decisions of the Special Session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Environmental Policy (Geneva (hybrid), 9–12 May 2022) of relevance to the Steering Committee

Prepared by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This information document was not formally edited

1. The Steering Committee will be updated on the relevant decisions of the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy, including regarding organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Nicosia, 5–7 October 2022), the proposed framework for preparing the Conference, and the requirements for hosting that event.
2. The Steering Committee will be updated about the decisions of the Special Session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (Geneva (hybrid), 9–12 May 2022) of relevance to the Steering Committee on ESD.
3. The referred information is provided below.

# Information on decisions of the Special Session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Environmental Policy (Geneva (hybrid), 9–12 May 2022) of relevance to the Steering Committee

## Note by the secretariat

Since the last 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development, the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) held its 27<sup>th</sup> annual Session<sup>2</sup> (Geneva, 3-5 November 2021) and its Special Session<sup>3</sup> (Geneva, 9-12 May 2022).

The CEP-27 and the CEP SS took important decisions regarding the preparation and conduct of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, as follows:

### A. Organizational issues

The CEP-27 adopted the document "Organizational Issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference" (ECE/CEP/2021/7, [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep\\_2021.7.e.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.7.e.pdf)), which establishes the guidance on such practical matters as the participation, documents, side events and exhibitions, accommodation, etc, and summarizes major deadlines for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference as follows:

#### Registration

<i>Participants</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Deadline for submission</i>
Government delegations	Via email to the ECE secretariat	30 June 2022
Intergovernmental organizations	Via email to the ECE secretariat	30 June 2022
NGOs	European ECO-Forum will submit the list of NGO delegation to the ECE secretariat <i>[Note from the secretariat: this provision is related to environmental NGOs. Educational NGOs should directly register with the secretariat]</i>	30 June 2022
Major international NGOs	Via email to the ECE secretariat	30 June 2022
Business	Via email to the ECE secretariat	30 June 2022
Other civil society representatives	Via email to the ECE secretariat	30 June 2022
Mass media	Via email (or other means to be determined) to the host country secretariat	31 July 2022

#### Documentation

<i>Languages, format and purpose of submission</i>	<i>Type of processing or reproduction to be carried out</i>	<i>Deadlines for submission</i>
<b>Substantive documents</b>		
In English, <sup>2</sup> for the Committee on Environmental Policy special session (10–12 May 2022)	For processing by United Nations Division of Conference Management	1 March 2022
In English, French and Russian, for the Committee on Environmental Policy special session (10–12 May 2022)	For reproduction in electronic format by United Nations Division of Conference Management	29 March 2022

<sup>2</sup> The webpage of the CEP-27 can be accessed at <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Committee-on-Environmental-Policy/events/357297>

<sup>3</sup> The webpage of the CEP SS can be accessed at <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Committee-on-Environmental-Policy/events/364855>

In English, French and Russian, for the Committee on Environmental Policy special session (10–12 May 2022)	For posting on the Committee on Environmental Policy website	29 March 2022
In English, <sup>b</sup> for the Conference	For processing by United Nations Division of Conference Management	26 July 2022
In English, French and Russian, for the Conference	For reproduction in electronic format by United Nations Division of Conference Management	23 August 2022
In English, French and Russian for the Conference	For posting on the Conference website	23 August 2022
<b>Information documents</b>		
In English, <sup>c</sup> final titles and electronic versions, for the Committee on Environmental Policy special session (10–12 May 2022)	For compiling the list of information documents and posting on the Committee on Environmental Policy website	1 March 2022
In English, <sup>d</sup> final versions for the Conference	For posting on the Conference website	23 August 2022
<b>Conference outcomes</b>		
In English, <sup>e</sup> draft electronic versions, for the Committee on Environmental Policy special session (10–12 May 2022)	For posting on the Committee on Environmental Policy website	29 March 2022
In English, <sup>f</sup> draft electronic versions approved by Committee on Environmental Policy for the Conference	For posting on the Conference website	23 August 2022

<sup>a</sup> Submission in French or Russian as the original language is also possible. An adequate quality and editing should be ensured by the author for such documents to enable their translation into the other two official languages of ECE by the United Nations Division of Conference Management.

<sup>b</sup> Idem.

<sup>c</sup> Submission in French or Russian as the original language is also possible, provided that an English version of an adequate quality is provided by the author to enable all delegates to consider such documents.

<sup>d</sup> Idem.

<sup>e</sup> Idem.

<sup>f</sup> Idem.

## Side events and exhibitions

<i>Registration format</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Deadline for submission</i>
Completed registration forms for side events	Via email (or other means to be determined) to the host country secretariat	30 April 2022

*Abbreviations:* ECE, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; NGO, non-governmental organization.

## B. Annotated provisional agenda for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

The CEP SS considered the 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](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/ece.cep_2021.6.e.pdf)) and invited its Bureau with support from the secretariat to submit the document as an official document of the Nicosia Conference.

The “Annotated provisional agenda” (item 4) refers to the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries to be held on Wednesday, 5 October, 3-6 p.m. In particular:

- The Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries will open with introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs of this segment dedicated to education for sustainable development. Delegates will consider progress achieved in that field.
- Ministers of education and environment will decide on the next steps to be taken to advance education for sustainable development in the region. The segment will be organized in a plenary and interactive format.
- The segment will conclude with ministers of education and the environment being invited to adopt the Nicosia Ministerial Statement on Education for Sustainable Development.

The “Annotated provisional agenda” also stipulates the list of documentation under this agenda item:

- Official documents:
  - o Draft Nicosia Ministerial Statement on Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/L.2)
  - o Framework for the future implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/10)
- Information documents
  - o Fourth evaluation report of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/INF/6)

**C. Draft Ministerial Declaration of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference**

The CEP SS discussed the Draft Ministerial Declaration of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference ([https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/ECE\\_CEP\\_S\\_2022\\_4\\_E.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/ECE_CEP_S_2022_4_E.pdf)) and the Chair’s proposal for the text ([https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CEP-SS\\_Draft\\_Ministerial\\_Declaration.IP\\_12.e.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CEP-SS_Draft_Ministerial_Declaration.IP_12.e.pdf)) and invited the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to further develop the draft of the ministerial declaration, based on follow-up comments and revisions to the draft in track changes received by 30 June 2022 from Committee members and observers, and to submit it as an official document to the Committee at its special session in October 2022.

**D. Countries eligible for financial support to participate in meetings and events**

The CEP-27 discussed the scheme of financial support to the delegates from eligible countries for participating in meetings and events related to the work of the CEP and adopted the list of eligible countries ([https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/CEP-27\\_EligibilityCriteria\\_IP.8.e.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/CEP-27_EligibilityCriteria_IP.8.e.pdf)) effective immediately [Note from the secretariat: the Steering Committee usually uses the same list]:

**List of countries eligible for financial support**

Countries eligible for financial support, total: 9	
Eligible for travel expenses and DSA support, subtotal: 8	
Country	GDP per capita <sup>4</sup> , US
Tajikistan <sup>5</sup>	894
Kyrgyzstan	1228
Uzbekistan <sup>6</sup>	1756
Moldova, Republic of <sup>7</sup>	2957
Ukraine	3727

<sup>4</sup> 2020 data of UNECE, unless indicated otherwise. Source: Statistical Database of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Country GDP per capita in nominal US\$ has been calculated by dividing the 2020 figure for “GDP per capita at current prices, NCUs” onto the 2020 figure for “Exchange rate (XR), NCU per US\$”. Database was accessed on 20 October 2021.

<sup>5</sup> 2019 data. Source: UNdata by the United Nations Statistics Division. Database was accessed on 20 October 2021.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

Azerbaijan	4221
Armenia	4268
Georgia	4439
<b>Eligible for DSA support only, subtotal: 1</b>	
<i>Country</i>	<i>GDP per capita, US</i>
Albania <sup>8</sup>	5303

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.