



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

17th meeting, 25 and 26 May 2023

Information Paper No. 2

Concept note and programme of the side event “The future of regulation in the pan-European region: horizon-scanning for a sustainable and equitable future” (5 April 2023)”¹

Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda:

Implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development:
Participation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development in the online side event “The future of regulation in the pan-European region: horizon-scanning for a sustainable and equitable future” (5 April 2023) leading up to the seventieth session of the Commission: Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe (18–19 April 2023)

Prepared by the UNECE Secretariat

¹ This information document was not formally edited

1. The secretariat will inform the meeting about participation in the online side event “The future of regulation in the pan-European region: horizon-scanning for a sustainable and equitable future”, organized on 5 April 2023 leading up to the seventieth session of the Commission: Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, 18–19 April 2023) (information paper No. 2)..
2. The concept note and the programme of the side event are provided below.



70th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

DIGITAL AND GREEN TRANSFORMATIONS
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VIRTUAL SIDE EVENTS | 3 - 5 APRIL 2023



Provisional Programme

3 – 5 April 2023

Convened via the Zoom platform



3 April 2023

HIGH LEVEL OPENING

9:15 – 09:30
(CEST)

Welcome remarks delivered by the UNECE Executive Secretary and the Chair of the Commission

Moderator: Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

- **Olga Algayerova**, Executive Secretary, UNECE
- **H. E. Désirée Schweitzer**, Chair of the Commission and Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in Geneva

Showcasing results of UNECE Youth Visual Call.

THEME 1: PROMOTING CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

9:30 – 10:00
(CEST)

SETTING THE STAGE

Moderator: Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

- **Expectations from UNECE Member States:** Interventions from Member States representatives
- **Keynote:** Jocelyn Blériot, Executive Lead, Ellen MacArthur Foundation



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10:00 – 11:00
(CEST)

SESSION 1: SHAPING POLICIES FOR THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

This session will look at policy and institutional-related questions for the circular economy transition.

Moderator: Elisabeth Türk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Panelists:

- **Mirza Hujic**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **William Neale**, Advisor to the European Commission on Circular Economy and Green Growth
- **Ella Jamsin**, Co-director, Belgian Climate Centre
- **Tim Forslund**, Specialist for Sustainability Solutions for the Economy, Finnish Innovation Fund (Sitra)
- **Fiona Charnley**, Professor of Circular Innovation and Co-Director of the National Interdisciplinary Circular Economy Research Hub

Discussion and Q&A

11:00 – 12:00
(CEST)

SESSION 2: FOSTERING CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS THROUGH INNOVATION

This session will look at the ways to unleash the power of innovation and private sector engagement for the circular economy transition.

Moderator: Elisabeth Türk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Panelists:

- **Aisuluu Mustapakulova**, Head of the Innovation and Strategic Development Department, State Service of Intellectual Property and Innovation, Kyrgyz Republic
- **Raphaël Masvigner**, Co-Founder and Sustainability Board Member, Circul'R
- **Ljupka Mitrinowska**, Co-founder and Global Program Director, Accelerate2030
- **Irakli Kashbadze**, CEO, Future Laboratory and Startup Central Eurasia Coordinator
- **Zhongyun Fan**, Professor of Metallurgy and Founder and Director, BCAST at Brunel University

Discussion and Q&A

14:00 – 15:00
(CEST)

SESSION 3: ACCELERATING DECARBONIZATION AND PROMOTING CIRCULARITY THROUGH TRANSPARENCY IN VALUE CHAINS

This session will look at how to foster circular economy through increased transparency in value chains.



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Moderator: Jack Barrie, Research Fellow on Circular Economy, Chatham House

Panelists:

- **Anil Arora**, Chief Statistician, Canada
- **Agnes Gkoutziamani**, Advocacy Manager, Youth and Environment Europe
- **Seyhan Aktemur**, Chief Commercial Officer, SÖKTAS
- **Johan Mulder**, Chief International Trade Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC)
- **Nada Bougouss**, Senior Fish Value Chain Expert, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Daniella Savic**, Head of International ESG Compliance, Eurasian Resources Group (ERG)

Discussion and Q&A

15:00 – 16:00
(CEST)

SESSION 4: DRIVING THE GREEN TRANSITION THROUGH THE UNECE NETWORK: CIRCULAR STEP

This session will look at the role of partnerships in circular economy transition, zooming into the UNECE's Circular STEP network.

Moderator: Elisabeth Türk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Panelists:

- **Elizabeth Nichols**, Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Environmental Quality, Department of State, United States
- **Mike Werner**, Head of Circular Economy and Global Sustainability, Google
- **Jorge Laguna Celis**, Director, One Planet Network, UN Environment Programme
- **Claire Thiebault**, Programme Management Officer, Consumption and Production Unit - Resources and Markets Branch (GACERE)
- **Zulfira Zikrina**, Expert, Sustainable Consumption and Production in Central Asia

Discussion and Q&A

16:00 – 16:30
(CEST)

WRAP UP AND REFLECTIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF UNECE MEMBER STATES

Moderator: Elisabeth Türk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

- **Wrap up for the day:**
 - Reflections from representatives of UNECE Member States on the day's sessions



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THEME 2: DIGITAL AND GREEN TRANSFORMATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

9:30 – 10:00
(CEST)

SETTING THE STAGE

Moderator: Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

- **Expectations from UNECE Member States:** Interventions from Member States representatives
- **Keynote:**
 - **Khaled Soufani**, Director of the Circular Economy Centre, Cambridge Judge Business School
 - **Seizo Onoe-san**, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, ITU

10:00 – 11:00
(CEST)

SESSION 1: LEVERAGING DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

This session will look at opportunities that digital solutions offer for the transition to a circular and more sustainable economy (improving resource efficiency, driving innovation, building circular supply chains, etc).

Moderator: Moderator: Mikael Román, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Panelists:

- **Steve O'Reilly**, National Centre for the Circular Economy, Ireland
- **Yanina Liubyva**, Expert, Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine
- **Tamara Stojkovic**, Youth Delegate of Serbia to the UN and Co-Founder, Zajednički frižider
- **Inga Petersen**, Executive Director, Global Battery Alliance
- **Stefan Šipka**, Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre

Discussion and Q&A



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11:00 – 12:00
(CEST)

SESSION 2: DIGITALIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS: A PATH FOR THE LOW-CARBON ENERGY TRANSITION

This session will look at the ways for strengthening regional cooperation on sustainable CRM management for low-carbon transition and sustainable resource management in the digital age.

Moderator: **Dario Liguti**, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

Panelists:

- **Rahmonbek Bakhtdavlatov**, Chairman, State Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan on Mineral Reserves
- **Felicitas Riedl**, Director Innovation and Competitiveness, European Investment Bank
- **Elisa Tonda**, Director, Resources and Markets Branch, UN Environment Programme
- **Frances Wall**, University of Exeter, United Kingdom
- **Bianca Derya Neumann**, Working Student, EIT Rawmaterials

Discussion and Q&A



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14:00 – 15:00
(CEST)

SESSION 3: UN STANDARDS AND REFERENCE DATA MODELS: CONNECTING THE DOTS FOR THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

This session will look at the standards for the digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange as the semantic foundation for data and document exchange of a crucial part of the global supply chain (<https://unece.org/trade/uncefact/mainstandards> and <https://unttc.org/stream/electronic-trade-and-transport-documents-and-data>).

Moderator: Sue Probert, Chair, United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

Panelists:

- **Annika Kroon**, Head of Unit, DG MOVE, European Commission
- **Shahin Ismayilov**, Head, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Digital Development and Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Oleksandr Moskalenko**, Director, Customs Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, Ukraine
- **Ivan Petrov**, President, International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA)
- **Sandra Gehenot**, Director Freight, Coordinator European Region, International Union of Railways (UIC)
- **Inga Ablingiene**, Development and Project Implementation Partner of the Transport Innovations Association, Lithuania, and Representative of Lithuanian Railways

Discussion and Q&A

15:00 – 15:30
(CEST)

WRAP UP AND REFLECTIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF UNECE MEMBER STATES

Moderator: Dario Liguti, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

- **Wrap up for the day:**
 - Reflections from representatives of UNECE Member States on the day's sessions



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5 April 2023

THEME 3: THE FUTURE OF REGULATION IN THE PAN-EUROPEAN REGION: HORIZON-SCANNING FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE

09:30 - 10:00
(CEST)

SETTING THE STAGE

This session will look at the macro picture of the future. How and what should the region be looking at the next 25 years? What mega-trends should we be factoring in? Is there anything constant in discussing such a time-horizon? This session is meant as a conceptual, big-picture scene-setter to help provoke participants and stimulate a vibrant discussion.

Moderator: Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

- **Expectations from UNECE Member States:** Interventions from Member States representatives
- **Keynote:**
 - **Catarina Zuzarte Tully**, Co-Founder and Director, School of International Futures, United Kingdom and Environment Project, Stanford University

10:00 – 11:00
(CEST)

SESSION 1A: HORIZON-SCANNING FOR UNECE – STRATEGIC FORESIGHT IN THE AGE OF THE POLYCRISIS

Sessions 1A and 1B will look at the horizon for UNECE region with a medium- to long-term perspective, in the context of the polycrisis. It will focus on some of the experiences of UNECE Member States that have made thinking about the future part of their government's strategy. It will also feature expert voices in fields of direct relevance to UNECE mandate (specifically focusing on the evolution of the underlying economic model, the future trends in the resource base and the effects of climate change on planning mobility, among others).

Moderator: Mariagrazia Squicciarini, Chief, Executive Office of the Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO

Panelists:

- **Katri Vataja**, Director, Foresight, Insight and Strategy, Finnish Innovation Fund
- **Gevorg Mantashyan**, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of High-Tech Industry, Armenia
- **Marcus Scheiblecker**, Senior Economist, Austrian Institute of Economic Research
- **Thomas Hemmelgarn**, Head of Unit, EU Policy Lab: Foresight, Design & Behavioural Insights, Joint Research Centre European Commission
- **Rafal Kierzenkowski**, Senior Counsellor for Strategic Foresight, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Discussion and Q&A



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11:00 – 12:00
(CEST)

SESSION 1B: HORIZON-SCANNING FOR UNECE – THE FUTURE OF GREEN TRANSITION

Moderator: Hitomi Rankine, Environmental Affairs Officer, UN ESCAP

Panelists:

- **Stephanie Hänsel**, Head of Precipitation Monitoring Unit, Deutscher Wetterdienst, Germany
- **Tatiana Vedeneva**, President at Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development, Kyrgyz Republic
- **Ania Sauku**, Youth Delegate, Albania
- **Paul Ekins**, Professor of Resources and Environment Policy, UCL Institute for Sustainable Resources

Discussion and Q&A

14:00 – 15:00
(CEST)

SESSION 2A: FUTURE-READY COMPETENCIES FOR SHIFTING ECONOMIC PARADIGMS - IDENTIFYING COMPETENCIES TO PREPARE FOR THE WORLD AHEAD

Sessions 2A and 2B focus on identifying which competencies are needed to prepare for future challenges in the Pan-European region in the areas of UNECE's mandate, including improving resilience to climate change, addressing the human cost of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and ensuring faster, accountable and flexible decision making on policies and regulations, among others, and how to go about building these competencies.

Moderator: Lejla Sadiku, Team Leader, Innovation, UNDP Europe and Central Asia

Panelists:

- **Anders Wijkman**, Club of Rom
- **Sophie Howe**, Former Future Generations Commissioner, Wales, UK
- **Marijeta Barjaktarovic Lanzardi**, Acting General Director for Innovation and Technological Development, Ministry of Science and Technological Development and National Coordinator for Smart Specialization, Montenegro
- **Marcus Scheiblecker**, Senior Economist, Austrian Institute of Economic Research
- **Peter C. Evans**, Chief Strategy Officer McFadyen Digital, Co-Chair MIT Platform Strategy Summit
- **Christa Gyori**, CEO, Leaders on Purpose

Discussion and Q&A



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15:00 – 16:00
(CEST)

SESSION 2B: FUTURE-READY COMPETENCIES FOR SHIFTING ECONOMIC PARADIGMS – HOW TO BUILD COMPETENCIES FOR THE REGULATIONS OF THE FUTURE

Moderator: **Jakub Samochowiec**, Senior Researcher, Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute, Switzerland

Panelists:

- **Londa Schiebinger**, Director, Gendered Innovations in Science, Health & Medicine, Engineering (*Pre-recorded intervention*) and Environment Project, Stanford University
- **Sasha Lucionni**, Ethical Artificial Intelligence Expert
- **Ekkehard Ernst**, Chief, Macroeconomic Policy Unit, International Labour Organization
- **Manana Ratiani**, Academic Expert, Georgia, and observer to UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development
- **Simon Herteleer**, Youth Focal Point, Education for Sustainable Development

Discussion and Q&A

16:00 – 16:30
(CEST)

CLOSING SESSION: REFLECTIONS AND MOVING FORWARD

Moderator: **Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

- **Wrap up for the day:**
 - Reflections from representatives of UNECE Member States on the day's sessions
- **Closing session for the virtual side events**
 - **Olga Algayerova**, Executive Secretary, UNECE

Kindly register to participate in the side events by completing this [registration form](#) by 31 March 2023. More information will be shared with registered participants in the coming days and also made available on the following [link](#).



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