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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 10-year Review  
of Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action  
(Geneva, 14-15 December 2004)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Regional overview of progress
5. Women and the economy:
  - a) Employability
  - b) Social security and pensions
6. Institutional Mechanisms to promote gender equality
7. Trafficking of women in the context of migration
8. Emerging issues
9. Chairperson's conclusions

## ANNOTATIONS

### **Item 1: Opening of the session**

The meeting will be opened by the UNECE Executive Secretary. Brief remarks will be also made by the Special Advisor to the Secretary General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Heads of partner agencies.

### **Item 2: Election of officers**

Members of the bureau will be elected. It is expected that there will be 5 members of the bureau representing the following sub-regions: North America, the European Union, CIS countries, Southern Europe, and countries, which do not belong to any of these groups.

### **Item 3: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

Following the adoption of the Agenda, the Chairperson will provide information on the organisation of work.

### **Item 4: Regional overview of progress**

After a brief presentation by the secretariat of the summary of national responses to the United Nations questionnaire, the high-level panel will introduce the general debate on achievements and challenges in the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special Session of the General Assembly.

**DOCUMENTATION:** A note by the secretariat, *Review of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional outcomes* (ECE/AC.28/2004/4) (based on national responses to the United Nations questionnaire to Governments)

*ECE/AC.28/2004/4/Add.1 Achievements and challenges in promoting gender equality in the UNECE region by country and ECE/AC.28/2004/4/Add.2: The status of Institutional Mechanisms for Gender Equality in the UNECE region by country.*

A conference room paper by the secretariat, *Engendering statistics: progress and challenges*. (CRP.1)

### **Item 5: Women and the economy**

### **Item 6: Institutional Mechanism to promote gender equality**

### **Item 7: Trafficking of women in the context of migration**

### **Item 8: Emerging issues**

Under the above-mentioned agenda items, introductions to the discussion will be made by panels composed of 3-4 representatives of Governments, Parliamentarians, NGOs and academia. The introduction will be limited to 5-8 minutes for each panellist to allow for interventions from the floor. Each national delegation is thus encouraged to prepare for an interactive discussion.

The following issues will be discussed under the respective agenda items.

**Item 5: Women and the economy**

- a. Employability (measures for ensuring compatibility of work with family responsibilities; women's access to education and training, including the use of ICT; women's self-employment and entrepreneurship);
- b. Social security and pensions (social security benefits; gender implications of social security and pension reforms; coverage for part-time and flexible work arrangements; good practices in compensating for women in unpaid care work).

**DOCUMENTATION:** Three notes by the secretariat, *Women's Employability in North America and Western Europe: progress and challenges* ECE/AC.28/2004/5; *Women's Employability in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: progress and challenges*, ECE/AC.28/2004/6 and *Gender aspect of social security and pensions in the UNECE region: progress and challenges*, ECE/AC.28/2004/8.

A conference room paper by the secretariat, *Women's self-employment in the UNECE region: progress and challenges* (CRP.2)

Documents from partner agencies will also be available for this item

**Item 6: Institutional Mechanisms to promote gender equality**

Progress and challenges in building national mechanisms to promote gender equality.

**DOCUMENTATION:** A note prepared jointly by the secretariat and other partner organizations, *Gender Mechanisms in Central Asia and the Caucasus: progress and challenges*, ECE/AC.28/2004/9.

Document from the Council of Europe: National Machinery, action plans and gender mainstreaming in the Council of Europe member states since the 4<sup>th</sup> world conference on women (Beijing 1995).

**Item 7: Trafficking of women in the context of migration**

Patterns and causes of trafficking; national, regional and international responses; economic roots of trafficking.

**DOCUMENTATION:** A note by the secretariat, *Economic roots of trafficking of women in the UNECE region*, ECE/AC.28/2004/10.

Documents from partner organizations will also be available for this item.

**Item 8: Emerging issues**

The discussion on emerging issues will include among others such issues as gender budget initiatives and gender aspect of ICT.

**DOCUMENTATION:** A note by the secretariat, *Gender budget initiatives: progress and challenges*, ECE/AC.28/2004/7, and a conference room paper by the secretariat, *Emerging issues note* (CRP.3)

**Item 9: Chairperson's conclusion**

The chairperson will present conclusions from the meeting.