



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/1
10 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE COMMITTEE ON TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Second session, 28-30 April 1999

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

for the second session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 28 April 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Matters arising from the second session of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development having a bearing on the work of the Group of Experts TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/2
TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/5
4. Exchange of views on policy-oriented issues currently facing the chemical industry: National statements TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/3
5. Promotion of Sustainable Development (CHEMISEED)
 - (a) Pilot Project Demonstrating the Environmental Clean-up of Selected Sites Polluted by Chemicals; Compendium of Soil Clean-up Technologies and Soil Remediation Companies TRADE/CHEM/AC.1/2
 - (b) Comparative databank on Chemical Legislation in the Countries of the UN/ECE Region (CHEMLEX) TRADE/CHEM/AC.4/4
 - (c) Seminar on Methods of Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Polluted Soils TRADE/CHEM/SEM.1/1
 - (d) Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry TRADE/CHEM/AC.7/1

6. Privatization, Restructuring and Enterprise Development
 - Study Tours in Areas Undergoing Restructuring of their Chemical Industry
 - Portugal TRADE/CHEM/AC.2/2
7. Information, Statistical Data and Market Prospects
 - (a) Task Force on Chemical Statistics TRADE/CHEM/AC.3/4
 - (b) The Chemical Industry - Annual Review ECE/TRADE/228
 - (c) Directory of Chemical Producers and Products TRADE/CHEM/AC.6/3
TRADE/CHEM/AC.6/4
8. Activities of other United Nations and International Bodies concerned with the Chemical Industry TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/4
9. Proposals for future activities
 - (a) Workshop on Applications of ISO 14000 Environmental Management Systems in the Chemical Industry
 - (b) Study on Development of Medium-sized Enterprises in the Chemical Industry TRADE/CHEM/AC.8/1
 - (c) Second Seminar on Ecological Industrial Applications of Membrane Operations and Processes
10. Any other business
11. Round Table on Engineering Thermoplastics
12. Adoption of the Report of the Second Session of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry

* * *

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE
for the second session of the
ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry

Wednesday, 28 April 1999

- 10 a.m. Opening of the session
- Adoption of the agenda (item 1)
- Election of officers (item 2)
- Matters arising from the second session of the Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development having a bearing on the work of the ad hoc Group of Experts (item 3)
- 10.30 a.m. Exchange of views on policy-oriented issues currently facing the chemical industry: National statements (item 4)
- 1 p.m. Lunch break
- 3 p.m. Promotion of Sustainable Development (CHEMISEED) (item 5)
- Pilot Project Demonstrating the Environmental Clean-up of Selected Sites Polluted by Chemicals; Compendium of Soil Clean-up Technologies and Soil Remediation Companies
 - Comparative databank on Chemical Legislation in the Countries of the UN/ECE Region (CHEMLEX)
 - Seminar on Methods of Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Polluted Soils
 - Regional Environmental Management Centre

Thursday, 29 April 1999

- 10 a.m. Privatization, Restructuring and Enterprise Development (item 6)
- Study Tours in Areas Undergoing Restructuring of their Chemical Industry - Portugal
- 10.30 a.m. Information, Statistical Data and Market Prospects (item 7)
- Task Force on Chemical Statistics
 - The Chemical Industry - Annual Review
 - Directory of Chemical Producers and Products

11.30 a.m. Activities of other United Nations and International Bodies concerned with the Chemical Industry (item 8)

12.30 p.m. Proposals for Future Activities (item 9)

- Workshop on Applications of ISO 14000 Environmental Management Systems in the Chemical Industry
- Study on Development of Medium-sized Enterprises in the Chemical Industry
- Second Seminar on Ecological Industrial Applications of Membrane Operations and Processes

12.45 p.m. Any other business (item 10)

1 p.m. Lunch break

3 p.m. Round Table Discussion on Engineering Thermoplastics (item 11)

Friday, 30 April 1999

9.30 a.m. Plant visit

1 p.m. Lunch break

3-6 p.m. Adoption of the Report of the second session of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry

6 p.m. Conclusion of the session

* * *

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This provisional agenda was prepared based on the recommendations made at the first session of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry (TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1998/6) and the relevant decisions taken by the second session of the Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (June 1998, ECE/TRADE/222).

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The first item on the agenda is the adoption of this provisional agenda.

Item 2: Election of officers

The ad hoc Group of Experts is expected to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. At the first session of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry Mr. J. Coupek (Czech Republic) was elected Chairman and Ms. J. Ory (France). Both of these officers have indicated that they are willing to be candidates for the same positions at the present second session of the Group of Experts.

Item 3: Matters arising from the second session of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development having a bearing on the work of the Group of Experts

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/2
TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/5

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a Note by the secretariat containing information on the discussions held and decisions adopted by the Committee at its first and second sessions which have a bearing on the work of the ad hoc Group of Experts. A second note will present some suggestions as to the contributions the Group may wish to consider toward the development of enterprises in member States of the ECE region.

As this is the second meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry as established by the Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development, an updated review of all aspects - substance and form - of its present and future work, including an emphasis on enterprise development as a component of the elements in the programme of work, is proposed for discussion at the meeting. Delegations are requested to be prepared for such an in-depth review and to provide input as they see fit.

Item 4: Exchange of views on policy-oriented issues currently facing the chemical industry: National statements

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/3

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a Note by the secretariat prepared on the basis of submissions received from Governments in reply to the secretariat's request for written statements on developments in the chemical industry in individual countries.

Item 5: Promotion of Sustainable Development (CHEMISEED)

- (a) Pilot Project Demonstrating the Environmental Cleanup of Selected Sites Polluted by Chemicals

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.1/2

The ad hoc Group of Experts will hear an oral report of the sixth meeting for the Pilot Project which will have been held on 27 April 1999. The delegation of the Czech Republic, as project leader, might wish to comment on the implementation of this project. An oral report on the updating of the Compendium of Soil Clean-up Technologies and Soil Remediation Companies will be provided by the secretariat.

- (b) Comparative databank on Chemical Legislation in the Countries of the UN/ECE Region (CHEMLEX)

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.4/4

Heads of Delegations of the ad hoc Group of Experts or their assigned CHEMLEX representatives will have received a copy of the sales version of the CD-ROM containing the expanded CHEMLEX databank and comparative analysis. The ad hoc Group of Experts will also have before it a Note by the secretariat describing the plans and future of the project. As project leader, the representative of the European Commission may wish to comment on the progress of the project.

- (c) Seminar on Methods of Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Polluted Soils

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/SEM.1/1

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it Information Notice No. 2 of the Seminar, which was held in Paris on 13-15 April 1999. As project leader the delegation of France may wish to comment on the results of the Seminar. A written report of the Seminar is in preparation.

- (d) Regional Environmental Management Centre

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.7/1

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a statement from the Government of Poland on the progress and programmes of the Centre.

Item 6: Privatization, Restructuring and Enterprise Development

Study Tours in Areas Undergoing Restructuring of their Chemical Industry - Portugal

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.2/2

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a report on the study tour, which took place in July 1998. As project leader the delegation of Portugal may wish to comment on the results of the study tour.

Item 7: Information, Statistical Data and Market Prospects

(a) Task Force on Chemical Statistics

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.3/4

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a Note by the secretariat describing the modifications in the chemical statistics programme. The Group may wish to discuss the changes made and modify, delete, extend or otherwise comment on these changes. The changes were incorporated into the 1998 edition of the questionnaire issued and in the 1999 edition of the Annual Review.

(b) The Chemical Industry in 1998 - Annual Review

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/228 (Draft)

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a preliminary version of The Chemical Industry in 1998 - Annual Review for their comments. In accordance with the wishes of the ad hoc Group of Experts as expressed in the report of the first session, the Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products has been discontinued, as resources for its transformation into an electronic format could not be made available.

(c) Directory of Chemical Producers and Products

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/AC.6/4

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a Note by the secretariat on the progress and status of the Directory.

Item 8: Activities of other United Nations and International Bodies concerned with the Chemical Industry

Documentation: TRADE/CHEM/GE.1/1999/4

The ad hoc Group of Experts will have before it a Note giving information on the current work and plans for future activities of other United Nations bodies and other international organizations in the field of the chemical industry and on the contribution and participation of ECE in such activities. The same Note will also highlight the relevant activities of other subsidiary bodies of ECE.

Item 9: Proposals for Future Activities

(a) Workshop on Applications of ISO 14000 Environmental Management Systems in the Chemical Industry

The ad hoc Group of Experts will hear an oral presentation of a joint project to be held with another section of the Trade Division on the application of ISO 14000 standards in the chemical industry of countries in transition.

(b) Study on Development of Medium-sized Enterprises in the Chemical Industry

The ad hoc Group of Experts may wish to further discuss the proposal presented at the first session of the Group.

(c) Second Seminar on Ecological Industrial Applications of Membrane Operations and Processes

The Government of Italy is expected to propose a seminar on the above subject, as a follow-up to the successful seminar held in May 1996.

Item 10: Round Table on Engineering Plastics

A Round Table Discussion (RTD) on Engineering Thermoplastics will be held, with panelists from industry describing the latest developments in this area. Delegates will recall that this subject was raised during several recent meetings of the former Working Party and the first Group of Experts meeting as the subject for a study.

Item 11: Any other business

At the time of writing the secretariat has no further points of discussion to propose under this item.

Item 12: Adoption of the Report of the second session of the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry

The ad hoc Group of Experts is expected to adopt the Report of its second session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.
