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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

(Sixth session, 20-24 September 1999)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTH SESSION**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 September 1999

The plenary session will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 September. An open-ended informal consultation with representatives from countries in transition will be held on Monday morning from 10.30 to 12.30. The representatives will share the experience gained in their countries on integrating environmental considerations into sectoral policies. A Ministerial Round Table on Environmental Policy and Management in Ukraine, with the participation of five Environment Ministers, is planned for Monday afternoon. Committee members are invited to attend it.

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Peer review of the environmental performance review (EPR) of Ukraine.
3. Adoption of the report on the fifth session.
4. Matters arising from the fifty-fourth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee.
5. Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the ECE Trust Funds.

6. Regional environmental conventions and protocols:
  - (a) Support of ECE multilateral environmental agreements;
  - (b) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters;
  - (c) Other ECE multilateral environmental agreements.
7. Peer review of the environmental performance review (EPR) of Croatia.
8. Report of the EPR Expert Group.
9. "Environment for Europe" process:
  - (a) Energy and the environment;
  - (b) Follow-up to the Strategy to Phase Out Leaded Petrol;
  - (c) Local initiatives towards sustainable consumption patterns;
  - (d) Integrating environmental considerations into sectoral policies;
  - (e) Establishment of the ad hoc working group of senior officials for the preparation of the fifth Ministerial Conference.
10. Major cross-sectoral cooperation:
  - (a) Transport and the environment;
  - (b) Environment and health.
11. Other business.
12. Election of officers for the seventh session.
13. Closing of the sixth session.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Time	Item	Introduction	Explanatory notes	Documentation
<b>Tuesday, 21 September</b>				
10-10.15 a.m.	Item 1 Adoption of the agenda	Mr. U. Svidén, Chairman	The Committee is expected to adopt the agenda for its sixth session.  International and other United Nations bodies can take the floor when they have relevant information related to any of the items of the agenda.	Provisional agenda for the sixth session (ECE/CEP/68)
10.15-1 p.m.	Item 2 Peer review of the environmental performance review (EPR) of Ukraine	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee is expected to consider, amend where necessary, and adopt the EPR recommendations to Ukraine, taking into account, as appropriate, the results of the Ministerial Round Table on Environmental Policy and Management in Ukraine, held on Monday, 20 September.	Draft EPR report of Ukraine in English only (CEP/1999/7)
3-3.15 p.m.	Item 3 Adoption of the report on the fifth session	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee is expected to adopt the report of its fifth session, which includes its long-term programme of work.	Report on the fifth session (ECE/CEP/63)
3.15-3.45 p.m.	Item 4 Matters arising from the fifty-fourth session of the Commission of concern to the Committee	Mr. Y. Berthelot, Executive Secretary, ECE  Mr. K. Bärlund, Director, ENHS	The Committee will be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its fifty-fourth session, and in particular those which are relevant to the Committee on Environmental Policy. The Committee is invited to review all activities related to sustainable development and make suggestions to each principal subsidiary body and to the Commission itself on a more systematic approach at the ECE level.	Report on the fifty-fourth session of ECE (E/1999/37 - E/ECE/1374)  Note by the secretariat on activities of the Commission related to sustainable development (CEP/1999/1)

Time	Item	Introduction	Explanatory notes	Documentation
3.45-4.45 p.m.	Item 5 Financial assistance to countries with economies in transition and countries' contributions to the ECE Trust Funds	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee may wish to take note of the criteria for providing financial assistance to experts from countries with economies in transition to participate in meetings and consultations. Information will be provided on the ECE Trust Funds. Delegations may wish to announce their contributions to the Trust Funds.	Note by the Bureau
4.45-6 p.m. and continued on Thursday, 23 September	Item 6 Regional environmental conventions and protocols  (a) Support of ECE multilateral environmental agreements  (b) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	Mr. U. Svidén          Mr. W. Kakabeeke, Chairman of the first Meeting of the Signatories, and Mr. K. Bärlund	Following the outcome of the first Meeting of the Signatories to the Aarhus Convention, who indicated the need to examine the links between the ECE Conventions, and given the interest expressed by other bodies of ECE Conventions in cooperating with one another, the Committee is expected to decide on further steps in supporting ECE multilateral environmental conventions.  The Committee will be informed about the results of the first meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. It is expected to adopt the report and the work plan, and decide on action to facilitate its ratification and implementation. The secretariat will report on its activities since the first meeting of the Signatories.	Conference room paper containing an extended draft outline for discussion paper on cooperation to make the ECE multilateral environmental agreements more effective.  report (CEP/WG.5/1999/2)

Time	Item	Introduction	Explanatory notes	Documentation
<b>Wednesday, 22 September</b>				
10 a.m.- 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.	Item 7 Peer review of the environmental performance review (EPR) of Croatia	Mr. A. Capcelea, Minister of the Environment, Republic of Moldova	<p>The discussion will be based on the draft EPR report of Croatia. Following established practice, two countries will assume the task of reviewing country, for the purpose of introducing the discussion on each of the chapters of the draft report. The delegations are invited to prepare the peer review in cooperation with their governmental experts, as appropriate.</p> <p>The Committee is expected to approve recommendations to Croatia's environmental management authorities, after discussion of the draft EPR report and on the basis of the draft recommendations included in it.</p>	Draft EPR report of Croatia in English only (CEP/1999/8)
<b>Thursday, 23 September</b>				
10-11 a.m.	Item 8  Report of the EPR Expert Group	Mr. H. Liiv, Chairman of the EPR Expert Group	The EPR Expert Group adopted its report at its fourth and final session in May 1999. The Group made recommendations regarding the future EPR programme, including a proposal to extend the Group's mandate for two years. The Committee is expected to consider the Group's report and take a decision on each of the recommendations.	Report (CEP/1999/6)

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11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued) Regional environmental conventions and protocols			
	(c) Other ECE multilateral environmental agreements	Mr. L. Nordberg, Mr. W. Schrage, Mr. R. Enderlein, Mr. S. Ludwiczak, secretariat	The Committee will also be informed about activities under other ECE Conventions and Protocols. It is expected to set a new date for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.	Agenda Working Group on EIA (MP.EIA/WG.1/1999/1)  Protocol on Water and Health
3-6 p.m.	Item 9 "Environment for Europe" process			
	(a) Energy and the environment	Delegation of Denmark	The Committee is expected to decide on a mechanism to review the implementation of the energy-related decisions taken at the Århus Conference, on the basis of a proposal to be presented by Denmark.	
		Mr. M. Kokine, secretariat	The Committee will be informed about preparations for the ECE/OECD Workshop on Enhancing the Environment by Reforming Energy Prices to be held in Průhonice (Czech Republic) on 14-16 June 2000.	Workshop programme (CEP/1999/5)
	(b) Follow-up to the Strategy to Phase Out Leaded Petrol	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee may wish to discuss the scope of the follow-up.	
	(c) Local initiatives towards sustainable consumption patterns	Mr. M. Kokine	The Committee is expected to decide on further action to encourage local initiatives towards sustainable consumption patterns, taking into account proposals for specific activities put forward in a secretariat note on the subject.	Project proposal (CEP/1999/2)

Time	Item	Introduction	Explanatory notes	Documentation
	<p>(d) Integrating environmental considerations into sectoral policies</p> <p>(e) Establishment of the ad hoc working group of senior officials for the preparation of the fifth Ministerial Conference</p>	<p>Mr. M. Kokine</p> <p>Mr. K. Bärlund</p> <p>Delegation of Ukraine</p>	<p>The Committee is expected to decide on the practical implementation of a programme to improve the integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies, taking into account proposals contained in a secretariat note on the subject.</p> <p>The Committee is expected to establish the Working Group and the Executive Committee which will act as its bureau. The Committee may also consider and adopt the draft mandate of the Working Group.</p> <p>The Delegation of Ukraine is invited to provide the Committee with preliminary indications on the organization of the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting to be held in Kiev in 2002.</p>	<p>Project proposal (CEP/1999/3)</p> <p>Draft mandate (CEP/1999/4)</p>
<b>Friday, 24 September</b>				
10 a.m.- 1 p.m. and 3-4.30 p.m.	Item 10 Major cross-sectoral cooperation			
	(a) Transport and the environment	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee may wish to take note of the report of the second session of the Joint Meeting on Transport and the Environment, held on 6 July. Delegations may wish to endorse its decisions and discuss further initiatives to implement the Programme of Joint Action adopted at the 1997 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment.	Report of the meeting (JTME/1999/6)

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	(b) Environment and health	<p>Delegation of the United Kingdom</p> <p>Mr. U. Svidén</p> <p>Mr. K. Bärlund</p>	The Committee will discuss the outcome of the third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (London, 16-18 June) and will decide on its participation in specific follow-up activities, in particular on transport, the environment and health. It is also expected to select four country officials to represent it in the European Environment and Health Committee over a two-year period. The Committee may also wish to take note of the establishment of joint secretarial support for servicing the Protocol on Water and Health.	Ministerial declaration
4.30-5 p.m.	Item 11 Other business		Delegations wishing to discuss other points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.	
5-5.30 p.m.	Item 12 Election of officers for the seventh session	Mr. U. Svidén	The Committee is expected to elect a chairperson and vice-chairpersons for its seventh session. The Bureau is at present composed of: Mr. C. Clini (Italy), Mr. S. Kuraev (Russian Federation), Mr. H. Liiv (Estonia), Mr. B. Muehling (United States) Mr. M. Slokar (Slovenia), Mr. U. Svidén (Sweden), Chairman, and Ms. S. Velisek (Switzerland).	
5.30-6 p.m.	Item 13 Closing of the sixth session	Mr. U. Svidén	The Chairman, with the assistance of the secretariat, will sum up the Committee's conclusions and decisions. The secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, will finalize the report on the sixth session, for circulation to the member States and adoption at its seventh session.	