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## **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

## COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

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Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials "Environment for Europe" (Fifth session, Geneva, 19-21 February 2003)

## LINKAGES AMONG MAJOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES: KIEV, JOHANNESBURG AND THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

This paper is prepared at the request of the fourth session of the Working Group of Senior Officials (November 2002). The document shows linkages between the possible Kiev Agenda the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the UNECE Regional Ministerial Statement to the Johannesburg Summit. It also indicates the relevance of the Kiev and Johannesburg's processes to the Long–term Programme of the Committee on Environmental Policy.

The paper is intended to contribute to the discussion of the Kiev Agenda and the future work of programme of the Committee on Environmental Policy.

Provisional	UNECE Ministerial Statement	Johannesburg Plan of Implementation	Long-term programme of CEP
Kiev Agenda	to Johannesburg		
Kiev Report; Environmental Monitoring		Calls to promote the development and use of earth observation technologies, satellite remote sensing and to collect quality data on environmental impacts, land use and land-use changes. To support the efforts of countries with economies in transition to monitor and assess the quality and quantity of water resources; establish national monitoring systems for water; call to improve monitoring aimed at the assessment of climate change.	Improving mechanisms, the state of environmental information, to support decision-making; to improve the availability of reliable environmental information to the public.
EPRs <sup>1</sup>	Among other initiatives the EPRs should continue to play a significant role in developing the region in a sustainable way.	Consideration could be given to more effective use of national and regional reports; States should take steps to make progress in formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development and begin their implementation by 2005.	Carry out Environmental Policy Reviews and organizing discussions of general problems and experiences facing national environmental administrations in transition
Education for Sustainable Development <sup>1</sup>	This subject is identified as a priority for ECE region and for global change; it was agreed to improve education systems and to design learning programmes accordingly.	Strong support for education on sustainable development and calls to ensure financial resources for its purpose.	Proposed in the draft decisions
Energy <sup>1</sup>	Support to sustainable management and conservation of natural resources and development of initiatives in different areas, including energy	Strong call to take actions to develop national policies; enhance regional and international cooperation and to improve access to environmentally friendly energy services and resources; Call upon Governments and international organisations to implement the provisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development on energy for sustainable development	Cooperation with the Energy Division on energy pricing, removal of subsidies and internalizing of external costs
Partnership with business and industry <sup>1</sup>	Business and industry have a special responsibility for ensuring environmentally friendly production methods; The initiations of new efforts to improve partnerships with business and industry was strongly supported.	Involvement of business and industry in all activities aimed at sustainable development received very strong support; Summit called to encourage industry to improve its social and environmental performance; the promotion of corporate responsibility and accountability also received substantial attention.	No
EECCA Environmental Strategy <sup>1</sup>	National efforts and sub-regional and regional cooperation on sustainable development involving international organisations are supported; improving governance and democratic processes at all levels was identified as one of the priorities for ECE.	Summit welcomed and supported regional, sub-regional and trans-regional cooperation aimed at the promotion of sustainable development.	With a view of improving environmental quality in the region, takes measures to make the implementation of the regional environmental conventions and protocols more effective. The Committee offers a catalyzing forum to share experience in promoting and assessing the implementation of regional environmental instruments and identify means of improving compliance with them

 $^{1}$  This agenda item has relevance to the issue of sustainable production and consumption

Water; CA <sup>2</sup> Water initiative <sup>1</sup>	Sustainable management and conservation of natural resources was identified as one of the priorities for ECE; water pollution was identified as one of the major problems in the region; the commitment of CA countries to cooperate on developing a subregional strategy for the integrated water management of water resources and transboundary watercourses was welcomed; commitment to ensure implementation of Water Convention.	It was recommended to develop national and regional strategies, plans and programmes on integrated river basin management and promote effective coordination on international level. Issue of quality and quantity of water received special attention; it was agreed to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water.	Idem			
Mountain	Related priority for ECE region is sustainable	Develop and promote programmes on sustainable mountain development	No			
Partnership	management and conservation of natural resources.					
Regional Environmental Conventions (Aarhus, Air, Espoo, Water, Industrial Accidents)						
New Protocols	Call to solve significant environmental problems	Summit identified the promotion of rule of law as one of the objectives for	Supports the regional environmental			
to UNECE	through international and regional legal	strengthening sustainable development institutional arrangements.	conventions, and finds possible			
MEAs <sup>3</sup>	instruments, including multilateral environmental agreements. There is a commitment to implement and comply with all regional and subregional protocols and conventions relevant to the environment and sustainable development.		synergies and areas of cooperation between instruments on issues of common interest			
SEA Protocol to	The importance of SEA for ECE region was	Summit stressed that an integrated, multi-hazard, inclusive approach to address	Idem			
Espoo	reconfirmed.	vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management, including prevention,				
Convention		mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, is an essential element of a safer				
		world in the twenty-first century.  Summit called for developing and further promoting the wider application of				
		environmental impact assessments and methodologies at policy, strategy and				
		project levels for sustainable development decision-making at the national, local				
		and regional (if relevant) levels. SEA has not been addressed by name.				
PRTR to	Encourage those who wish to accede to Aarhus	Summit called to ensure access, at the national level, to environmental information	Idem			
Aarhus	Convention to do so as soon as possible; to	and judicial and administrative proceedings in environmental matters, as well as				
Convention	encourage regional initiatives and processes with	public participation in decision-making. It also stressed that all countries should				
	the participation of major groups on public access	promote public participation, including through measures that provide access to				
	to environmental and other information relevant to	information regarding legislation, regulations, activities, policies and programmes.				
	sustainable development, public participation in	Countries should also foster full public participation in sustainable development				
	decision-maiking and access to justice.	policy formulation and implementation.				

Countries of Central Asia
 Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Civil Liability Protocol to Water and Industrial Accidents Conventions	Call upon countries in ECE region to develop a civil liability regime for damage, including environmental damage, caused by hazardous activities; it also encouraged countries to participate in the intergovernmental negotiation process aimed at adopting a legally binding instrument on civil liability for transboundary damage caused by hazardous activities within the scope of two conventions.	Summit stressed that an integrated, multi-hazard, inclusive approach to address vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, is an essential element of a safer world in the twenty-first century. Actions are required at all levels and promotion of cooperation for the prevention and mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from major technological and other disasters is one of the actions that should be taken. Summit stressed the importance of having effective liability, relevant to international maritime transportation and other transboundary movement of radioactive material, radioactive waste and spent fuel. Civil liability regime has not been addressed by name.	Idem
Guidelines on compliance and enforcement PEBLDS	In order to improve governance and democratic processes at all levels, meeting also called to discuss ways and means to promote compliance with, and enforcement of, MEAs.  Related priorities of the ECE region also include sustainable management and conservation of natural resources. There is a commitment to promote the integration of biodiversity concerns into land-use planning and management; call to establish and maintain further ecological networks in all ecosystems, in particular the Pan-European Ecological Network, as appropriate, and to strength and revise the Pan-European Biological and	Summit identified the promotion of rule of law as one of the objectives for strengthening sustainable development institutional arrangements.  The role of biodiversity in overall sustainable development and poverty eradication was seen as critical and the Convention on Biological Diversity was reconfirmed as the key instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. A target of 2010 was set on reducing significantly the loss of biodiversity.	Development of guidelines for strengthening compliance with and implementation of MEAs.  No
Session on future of EfE	Landscape Diversity Strategy by 2003.  Improving governance and democratic processes at all levels	Strengthening the institutional framework for SD at the international level and regional level	The Future strategic directions of ECE environmental policies are discussed and decided upon by the Committee
NGOs session on policy integration	Among other priority actions on global changes the initiation of new efforts to improve partnerships with civil society and industry have been mentioned.	Summit called on the integration of sustainable development concerns into policies at all levels. It also gave strong support to involvement of civil society and other major groups.	No

The Johannesburg Summit sent strong messages on four cross-cutting issues: strengthening of partnerships, cross-sectoral cooperation, better coordination and good governance.

Issues that were addressed in Johannesburg and by the UNECE Regional Ministerial Meeting that **are not** addressed by either the proposed Kiev Agenda or the Programme of Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) include the following: trade, environment and development; nuclear safety; oceans, seas and coastal zones and financing of sustainable development.

The Environmental Performance Review Programme of the CEP covers in part several of the issues of concern in Johannesburg, including: air pollution, mining, minerals and metals; sustainable tourism; chemicals; forest; land degradation; desertification; climate change; waste and coastal zone management.

The CEP Programme addresses issues related to production and consumption; environment and health; and transport, environment, and health; and genetically modified organisms <sup>4</sup>. These were all also included in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Guidelines on access to information, public participation and access to justice with respect to genetically modified organisms, prepared under auspices of the Aarhus Convention