



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

MP.WAT/SEM.5/2005/2

28 September 2005  
ENGLISH ONLY

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY  
WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES**

**Seminar on environmental services and financing  
for the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems**  
(Geneva, 10-11 October 2005)

**PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR**

to be held at the Palais des Nations in room VII \*  
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 10 October 2005

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\* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Water Convention's web site

(<http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/registrationmeeting.htm>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest 10 days prior to the meeting, i.e. **by 1 October 2005**, either by fax (+ 41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail ([water.convention@unece.org](mailto:water.convention@unece.org)). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention's secretariat (Tel: +41 22 917 23 46).

The Seminar is being held at the invitation of the Government of Switzerland. It is being prepared by the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape and the UNECE secretariat of the Water Convention, in consultation with the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the secretariats of the 1971 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and of the UNECE Timber Committee.

Information on the Seminar, including official documents, discussion papers and national reports, can be found at [http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/payment\\_ecosystems/seminar.htm](http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/payment_ecosystems/seminar.htm).

## **1. Opening**

## **2. Election of officers**

Following the Convention's rules of procedure, Ms. Sibylle Vermont, Switzerland, will chair the meeting. Participants will be invited to elect three vice-chairpersons; who will each chair one of the three sessions.

## **3. Setting the scene**

The Chairperson, Ms. Sibylle Vermont, will provide a keynote lecture on: "Ecosystem services - global commitments and regional action."

The secretariat will inform the participants about the outcome of the Seminar on the role of ecosystems as water suppliers (Geneva, 13-14 December 2004) and the expectation regarding the outcome and the follow up to the present Seminar.

## **4. Session I - Valuing ecosystem services**

To introduce this Seminar session, the following keynote lectures will be delivered:

- "Valuing ecosystems services - advantages and disadvantages of different existing methodologies from IUCN practical experience," Ms. Danièle Perrot-Maître, World Conservation Union (IUCN).
- "Developing payments for ecosystem services in Latin America: the potential for combining carbon sequestration with watershed management," Mr. Jan Fehse, EcoSecurities Ltd.
- "Central Asian mountain ecosystem assessment," Ms. Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia.

The Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson will lead the debate on the topic, following the items for discussion contained in document MP.WAT/SEM.5/2005/1. Seminar participants who have submitted contributions will be invited to share their experience.

## **5. Session II - Legal and contractual aspects**

To introduce this Seminar session, the following keynote lectures will be delivered:

- “Financial and Contractual Frameworks for the New York City Watershed Protection Program,” Mr. Michael A. Principe, Deputy Commissioner and Director, Bureau of Water Supply of the City of New York, Department of Environmental Protection.
- “Issues and examples of environmental services and financing for the protection and sustainable use of water-related ecosystems in the Netherlands,” Ms. Andrea Almaši, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.
- “Financial mechanism for natural resources management - learning from FAO experience,” Mr. Gerardo E. van Halsema, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson will lead the debate on the topic, following the items for discussion contained in document MP.WAT/SEM.5/2005/1. Seminar participants who have submitted contributions will be invited to share their experience.

## **6. Session III - Challenges for implementation**

To introduce this Seminar session, the following keynote lectures will be delivered:

- “Fostering and promoting payments for environmental services in the Danube River basin,” Mr. Andreas Beckmann, WWF International.
- “Challenges and opportunities for payments and markets for ecosystem services based on multilateral environmental agreements and pro-poor approach,” UNEP, speaker to be confirmed.
- “Lessons learned from country reports and Seminar’s contributions”, Ms. Francesca Bernardini and Mr. Rainer Enderlein, UNECE.

The Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson will lead the debate on the topic, following the items for discussion contained in document MP.WAT/SEM.5/2005/1. Seminar participants who have submitted discussion papers will be invited to share their experience.

## **7. Conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar**

Based on the outcome of the previous agenda items, the Chairman will draft conclusions and recommendations on possible global, UNECE-wide, subregional and national measures to promote policies, strategies and concrete actions for financing the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems in support of sustainable water management.

The Seminar will provide guidance on follow-up, in particular proposals for the 2006-2009 workplan under the Water Convention, to be submitted to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its next meeting.

The Seminar will also agree on the modalities for the preparation of its report by the secretariat as well as the printing of the proceedings.

**8. Closing**

The Chairperson will close the meeting on 11 October 2005 around 6 p.m.



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**SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND FINANCING FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF ECOSYSTEMS**

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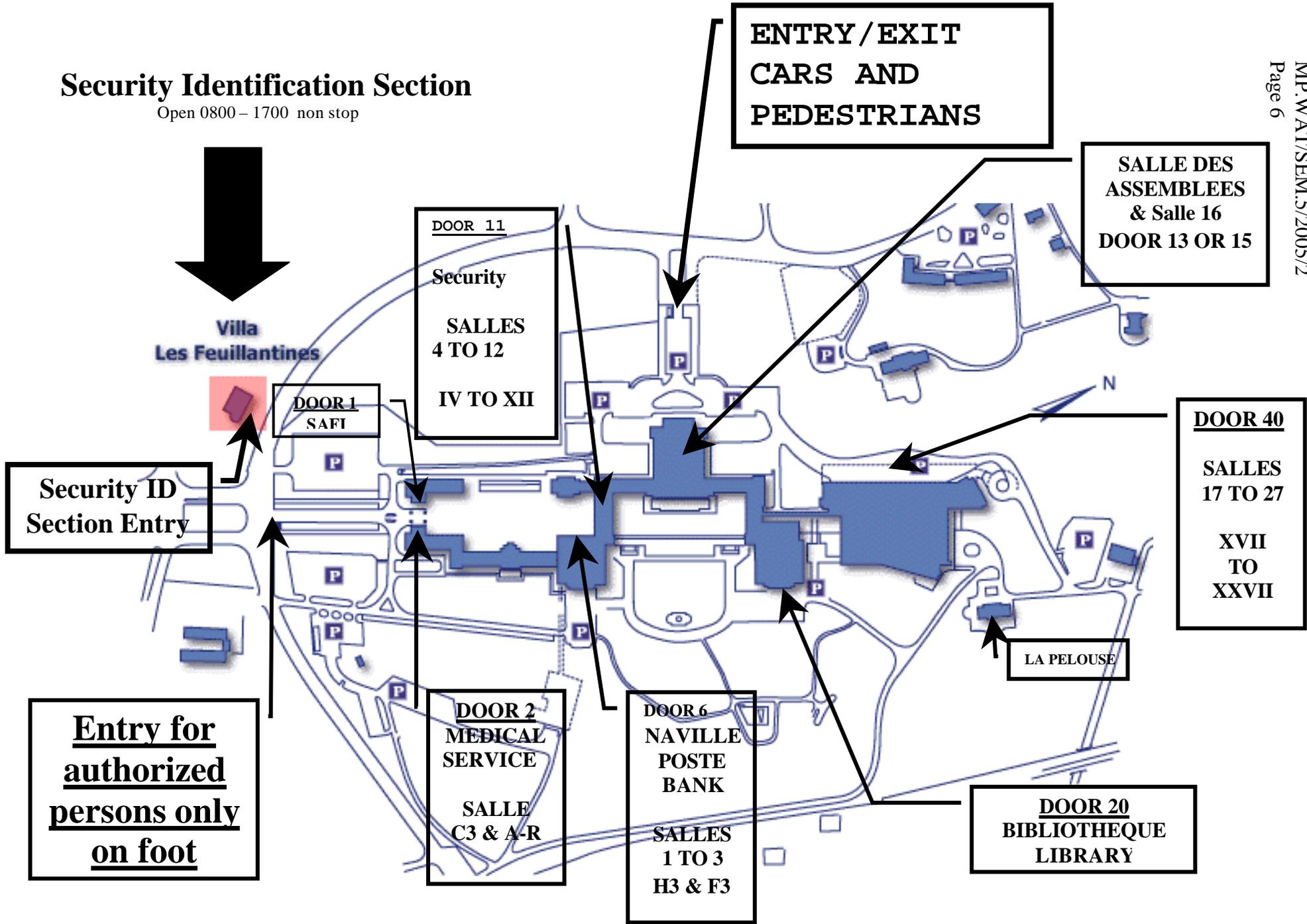
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