



SIXTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
“ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE”

BELGRADE, SERBIA
10-12 October 2007

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

submitted by

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through the Ad Hoc Working Group of Senior Officials



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“Environment for Europe”
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Introduction

Following the request from the third and fourth meetings of the Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO) for preparing the Sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (ECE/CEP/AC.11/ 2006/9 and ECE/CEP/AC.11/ 2007/2) and the fourth and fifth meetings of the Executive Committee (ECE/CEP/AC.11/EXECOM/2006/3 and ECE/CEP/AC.11/EXECOM/2007/1), the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair has developed the annotated provisional agenda for the Conference (ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/1) and the organization of work at the Conference (ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/2).

This document provides the organization of work at the Conference compiled on the basis of the interests expressed by the Governments, as well as inputs by partners in the “Environment for Europe” (EfE) process submitted to the secretariat. Following the decision by the fifth meeting of the WGSO to give priority to ministers in delivering keynote addresses, the secretariat, in developing this document, and has tried to take into account as much as possible the expressions of interest received and, at the same time, to ensure a well-balanced and broad representation of the UNECE region based on geographical coverage as well as on Governments’ leadership in certain activities.

¹ The present document is submitted on the above date, as it was prepared following the discussion by the fifth meeting of the WGSO for preparing the Sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” held in Geneva on 29 August 2007.

Wednesday, 10 October 2007

Chair of the Conference: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Item 1. Official opening of the Conference and adoption of the agenda

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

Welcoming address by Mr. Boris Tadic, President of Serbia, opening the Conference (up to 10 minutes)

From Kiev to Belgrade: passing the “Environment for Europe torch” address by Mr. Vasyl Dzarty, Minister of Environmental Protection, Ukraine (up to 3 minutes)

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Keynote addresses (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Marek Belka, Executive Secretary of UNECE
- Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Opening event by the host country

Item 2. Assessment and implementation

10 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. (a) State of the environment and monitoring and assessment

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Presentation by Ms. Jaqueline McGlade, Executive Director, the European Environment Agency (EEA), of its fourth pan-European assessment report on the state of the environment (Belgrade assessment) (up to 15 minutes)

Keynote addresses (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Francisco Nunes Correia, Minister of Environment, Portugal (on behalf of the European Union)
- Mr. Leonty Khoruzhik, Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Belarus, on environmental monitoring
- Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen, Minister of Environment, Finland
- Mr. Yuri Tsaturov, the Adviser to the Director of the Hydrometeorological Centre, the Russian Federation
- Mr. Daniel Reifsnyder, State Department Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, the United States of America

- Ms. Victoria Elias, Chair of the European ECO-Forum

Discussion² (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **(b) Implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and findings of UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews**

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Raimonds Vejonis, Minister of Environmental Protection, Latvia

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Keynote addresses on multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Dzhevdet Chakarov, Minister of Environment and Water, Bulgaria
- Mr. Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio, Minister for the Environment, Italy

Keynote addresses on Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs) (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Constantin Mihailescu, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Moldova
- Mr. Vasyl Dzarty, Minister of Environmental Protection, Ukraine
- Ms. Rut Bízková, Deputy Minister of the Environment, the Czech Republic

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

SPECIAL SESSIONS

2.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. **Item 3. Joint session on education for sustainable development³**

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Evaripidis Stylianidis, Minister of National Education and Religious Affairs (tbc), Greece

Welcome address by Mr. Zoran Loncar, Minister of Education, Serbia (up to 5 minutes)

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

² The list of speakers for interventions at the Conference was opened as of 3 September 2007.

³ A joint session of environment and education ministers from member States that adopted the UNECE Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development in Vilnius (March 2005), and other interested member States.

Keynote addresses (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Edward Picco, Minister of Education, Canada
- Mr. Nurlan Iskakov, Minister of Environmental Protection, Kazakhstan
- Mr. Giuseppe Fioroni, Minister for Education, Italy
- Mr. Jan Szyszko, Minister of the Environment, Poland
- Ms. Åsa-Brit Karlsson, State Secretary, Ministry of the Environment, Sweden
- Mr. Engelbert Ruoss, Director, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe

Presentation by Ms. Jacqueline Cramer, Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, the Netherlands, of the key findings of the report on progress in implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (up to 10 minutes)

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Adoption of the Draft Statement on education for sustainable development

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m. **Item 4. Biodiversity**⁴

Roundtable

Chair: The roundtable will be co-chaired by:

- Ms. Helen Oddveig Bjørnøy, Minister of Environment, Norway, on behalf of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS)
- Mr. Rob Wolters, Executive Director, European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC), European ECO-Forum

Introductory remarks by the two Chairs on the Kiev Resolution and pan-European efforts to halt the biodiversity loss; and on achievements and challenges for the pan-European region, respectively (up to 5 minutes each)

Keynote addresses on the challenges of the twenty-first century: conserving nature under a changing global climate (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Jan Szyszko, Minister of the Environment, Poland

⁴ A roundtable of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and ministers from interested member States of the Council of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS), and the European ECO-Forum.

- Ms. Jacqueline Cramer, Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, the Netherlands

Roundtable discussion on “Managing biodiversity for human well-being in the twenty-first century”, including on the Kiev commitments related to protected areas and ecological networks and the identification of High Nature Value farmland, on protected areas and ecological networks in pan-Europe, and on the identification of High Nature Value farmland in pan-Europe (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen, Minister of Environment, Finland
- Mr. Hussein Baghirov, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan
- Mr. Makhtumkuli Akmuradov, Minister of Nature Protection, Turkmenistan
- Mr. Robert Palmer, Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage, the Council of Europe
- Mr. Nikolay Sobolev, Biodiversity Conservation Center, the Russian Federation
- Ms. Liliana Jura, BIOTICA Ecological Society, Moldova
- A representative of the World Bank (tbc)

Roundtable discussion on “Society in nature, nature in society”:

Keynote address by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP (up to 5 minutes)

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention):

- Mr. Bruno Oberle, Director of the Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland
- Mr. Humberto Rosa, Secretary of State for Environment, Portugal, on behalf of the European Union
- Mr. Gordon McInnes, Deputy Executive Director, European Environment Agency
- Mr. Frank Petter, Mayor of Woudrichem, President of the Noord-Brabant Biodiversity Working Group of Local Authorities, The Netherlands
- Ms. Emmanuelle Mikosz, European Landowners’ Organization
- Mr. Alistair Clark, Corporate Director, Environment and Sustainability Department, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- Ms. Vera Coelho, GEOTA, Portugal
- Mr. Sreten Djordjevic, Ecological Society “Gradac”, Serbia
- Mr. Oleg Tsaruk, Caucasus Office of WWF Russia

- Mr. Tamás Marghescu, Regional Director for Europe, the World Conservation Union (IUCN)
- Mr. Rustam Murzakhanov, Youth representative, Uzbekistan

Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Adoption of the Draft Statement on Biodiversity

Concluding remarks by the Co-Chairs (up to 3 minutes)

Launching of Multi-Stakeholder Initiative:

Keynote address by Mr. Gábor Fodor, Minister of Environment and Water, Hungary (tbc) (up to 3 minutes)

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Reception hosted by Mr. Božidar Đelić, Vice-President of the Government of Serbia, for Ministers, Ambassadors, Heads of Delegation and High-Level Officials

Thursday, 11 October 2007

Item 5. Capacity-building

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

(a) Progress and perspectives in implementation of the Environment Strategy for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia⁵, and of the Central Asia Initiative for Sustainable Development

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Constantin Mihailescu, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Moldova

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Presentation by Mr. Lorents Lorentsen, Director of the Environment Directorate, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) of the report assessing progress in implementing the Environmental Strategy for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (up to 10 minutes)

Main Keynote addresses by the two Co-Chairs of the Task Force for the Implementation of the Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe (up to 5 minutes per address):

- Mr. Nurlan Iskakov, Minister of Environmental Protection, Kazakhstan
- Ms. Soledad Blanco, Director of International Affairs, Environment Directorate-General, the European Commission

⁵ Environmental partnerships in the UNECE Region: Environment Strategy for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia: strategic framework (ECE/CEP/105/Rev.1).

Keynote addresses on the key findings of the report (up to 5 minutes per address):

- Mr. Aram Hatutyunyan, Minister of Nature Protection, Armenia
- Ms. Rut Bízková, Deputy Minister of the Environment, the Czech Republic
- Mr. Michael Müller, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
- Michael Kozeltsev, Executive Director, Regional Environmental Center (REC) for the Russian Federation
- Ms. Olga Ponizova, Executive Director, ECO-Accord, Russian Federation, European ECO-Forum

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Presentation by Mr. Arstanbek Davletkeldiev, Director of the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan, of the report on the implementation of the Central Asia Initiative on Sustainable Development (up to 10 minutes)

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(b) South-East European perspectives

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Presentation by the Chair on the Belgrade Initiative: enhancing regional cooperation in the field of climate change (up to 10 minutes)

Main keynote address by Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) (up to 7 minutes)

Keynote addresses (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Slobodan Puhalic, Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr. Predrag Nenezić, Minister of Tourism and Environment, Montenegro
- Ms. Marina Matulović-Dropulić, Minister of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, Croatia
- Ms. Sonja Lepitkova, Deputy Minister of Environment and Physical Planning, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Mr. Lufter Xhuveli, Minister of Environment, Forests and Water Administration, Albania

- Ms. Kori Udovički, Director, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Bureau for Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States
- Ms. Soledad Blanco, Director of International Affairs, Environment Directorate-General, the European Commission
- Mr. Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio, Minister for the Environment, Italy
- Mr. Stavros Kaloyannis, Deputy Minister of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, Greece
- Mr. Corrado Clini, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the REC for Central and Eastern Europe (CEE)

Discussion (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Item 6. Partnerships

3 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

(a) Environmental policy and international competitiveness: can we afford a better environment?

Roundtable

Chair: Mr. Bruno Oberle, State Secretary, Director of the Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Presentation by Mr. Marek Belka, Executive Secretary, UNECE, of the key findings on Environmental Policy and International Competitiveness in a Globalizing World: challenges for low-income countries in the UNECE region (up to 10 minutes)

Roundtable discussion on the integration of environmental policy concerns into national economic development strategies, on institutional dialogue among major stakeholders, and on the planning and implementation of effective environmental policies and successful policy integration (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Arunas Kundortas, Minister of Environment, Lithuania
- Mr. Shigeo Katsu, the Vice-President, the World Bank, on integration of environmental considerations in economic development
- Mr. Constantin Mihailescu, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Moldova
- Mr. Eldor Azizov, the General Director of the NIKOCHEM Corporation, the Russian Federation
- Mr. Vasyl Dzarty, Minister of Environmental Protection, Ukraine

- Mr. John Hontelez, the Secretary-General, the European Environmental Bureau, European ECO-Forum

Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

4.30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

(b) Environmental finance and partnerships to support the implementation of environmental policies and programmes

Plenary and roundtable

Chair: Ms. Marta Bonifert, Executive Director, REC-CEE

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Discussion on environmental finance:

Main keynote address by Ms. Brigita Schmögnerová, Vice-President for Environment, Procurement and Administration, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), on promoting sustainability by investing in environmental and social improvements (up to 10 minutes)

Keynote address (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen, Minister of Environment, Finland
- Mr. Douglas Menarchik, Assistant Administrator for Europe and Eurasia, USAID, the United States of America
- Ms. Mara Silina, Enlargement Coordinator of the European Environmental Bureau, Coordinator Public Participation Campaign of the European ECO-Forum

Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Roundtable discussion on partnerships to support the implementation of environmental policies and programmes with the participation of ministers and of high-level representatives from the private sector (up to 5 minutes per keynote address):

- Ms. Ros Tennyson, the Partnering Initiative Director, Director, International Business Leaders Forum
- Mr. Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio, Minister for the Environment, Italy
- Mr. Hussein Baghirov, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan, on Environment and Security
- Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, the Secretary General, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), on key challenges to ensure environmental security and sustainable development in the OSCE area: land degradation, soil contamination and water management

- Mr. Aleksandar Popović, Minister of Mining and Energy, Serbia (tbc)
- Mr. Predrag Nenezić, Minister of Tourism and Environment, Montenegro
- Ms. Åsa-Brit Karlsson, State Secretary, Ministry of the Environment, Sweden
- Ms. Rut Bízkova, Deputy Minister of the Environment, the Czech Republic
- Mr. Douglas Menarchik, Assistant Administrator for Europe and Eurasia, USAID, the United States of America
- Ms. Marta Bonifert, Executive Director, REC-CEE, on public-private partnership for reduced air pollution from vehicles through no-lead and low-sulphur fuels
- Mr. Piet Steel, Vice-President for European Affairs, Toyota Motor Europe
- Mr. Janis Brizga, Head of the Board, Green Liberty, Latvia, European ECO-Forum

Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

8 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Reception hosted by Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection of Serbia, for Ministers, Ambassadors, Heads of Delegation and High-Level Officials

Friday, 12 October 2007

9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. **Item 7. The future of the process**

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

Introductory remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Discussion on the future of the “Environment for Europe” process, including relevant issues addressed in the Ministerial Declaration:

Keynote address by Mr. Francisco Nunes Correia, Minister of Environment, Portugal (on behalf of the European Union) (up to 5 minutes)

Interactive discussion with interventions from the floor (up to 3 minutes per intervention)

Introductory remarks on the Ministerial Declaration by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

Adoption of and statements on the Ministerial Declaration

Concluding remarks by the Chair (up to 5 minutes)

12.30 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Item 8. Closure of the Conference

Plenary session

Chair: Mr. Saša Dragin, Minister of Environmental Protection, Serbia

Chair's Summary and closing remarks
