

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

101st meeting

Geneva, 31 October 2018

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Informal document No. **2018/28**

**Twenty-five-year review of the implementation
of the Beijing Platform for Action
(Beijing+25):
regional process and review meeting**

Twenty-five-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing+25): regional process and review meeting

A. Background and Mandate

1. In the year 2020 the international community will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Congress on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action (1995). Five years will have passed since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the Beijing Declaration and the 2030 Agenda, UN member States took universal commitments to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls worldwide.
2. In line with ECOSOC resolution E/RES/2018/8 the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at its sixty-fourth session, in 2020, “will undertake a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly”^a. The review will also be an opportunity to discuss the progress, strategies and policies to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls in the framework of the 2030 Agenda, specifically “the contribution [of the Beijing Declaration] toward the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through a gender perspective”^b.

B. National review process

3. In the same resolution, all member States are called to undertake comprehensive national-level reviews of the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. The UN regional commissions are encouraged to undertake regional reviews which will feed into the CSW’s 2020 review.
4. UN Women has initiated the preparatory process for Beijing+25 and, in cooperation with UN regional commissions, has prepared a guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews with a common questionnaire to guide the member States in preparing the national reviews. The guidance note has been sent out by UN Women to the Permanent Missions in New York, accompanied by a Note verbale.
5. All States are invited to complete their national reviews by 1 May 2019. The national reports will be published on the UNECE website and shared with relevant institutions, including the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE, Vilnius, Lithuania). The regional commissions will use the national reviews to prepare regional assessment reports over the course of 2019.

^a E/RES/2018/8

^b Ibid.

C. Regional Review Meeting

6. The meeting will review the progress and challenges in the twelve areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action, with an emphasis on the years since the last regional review meeting in 2014. As it will mark five years of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with SDG 5 both as a stand-alone goal on gender equality as well as a precondition to other SDGs, discussions will focus on progress and challenges in achieving gender equality in the broader context of sustainable development.

Date and venue

7. Suggested date: 29-30 October 2019
Venue: Geneva, Palais des Nations

Format and participants

8. The meeting will be a region-wide event: member States of UNECE will discuss key achievements and challenges in their countries. Delegations will consist of heads/representatives of national gender machineries; representatives of ministries of economy, finance and/or development; experts; parliamentarians; NGOs.
9. It is expected that NGOs and other stakeholder groups will take an active part in the meeting.

Expected output

10. Based on previous experience, the expected outcome will be the Chairperson's conclusions and a meeting report. The Chairperson's conclusions will highlight key points from the discussion, including good practices, and provide directions for further action in the region. The Chairperson's conclusions will be forwarded, together with the report, to the Commission on the Status of Women. They will serve as the UNECE region's input to the global review meeting, to be held during the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2020 in New York.

Partner organizations

11. Following the practice of the previous meetings, Beijing+5, Beijing+10, Beijing+15 and Beijing+20, UNECE will closely cooperate with relevant entities of the regional UN system, including the UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and other relevant partners. It is suggested to invite also international financial institutions such as the World Bank, IMF and EBRD.

Documentation

12. The documentation will be prepared by the secretariat and will include a regional assessment report, background notes and the report of the meeting, including the Chairperson's conclusions.

Financial Resources

13. There will be a need for extrabudgetary resources to finance speakers, consultants for the regional assessment report and background notes and to cover travel costs of speakers and participants from EECCA and South-Eastern European countries members of UNECE. For details see Annex 1.

Draft Decision:

EXCOM decides to hold a regional review meeting for Beijing+25, in line with ECOSOC resolution E/RES/2018/8 and in accordance with its respective mandates, subject to availability of resources. EXCOM requests the secretariat to submit an extrabudgetary proposal for approval by EXCOM at its 102nd session, and to regularly update EXCOM on the preparations for the review meeting.

Annex 1

Proposal for Budget for the UNECE Regional Review Meeting for Beijing +25
(Geneva, 29-30 October 2019)

	Travel Expenses (per person)		Total Fees	Total cost (per person)	No. of experts/ participants /consultants	TOTAL COST (Rounded)
	Air ticket average price	Subsistence Allowance				
	<i>(In US Dollars)</i>					
1. <u>7 Speakers/independent experts*</u>						
2 from Western European countries	1,200	1,137	None	2,337	2	4,674
5 from countries in EECCA and South-East Europe	1,400	1,137	None	2,537	5	12,685
2. <u>20 Participants*</u> 20 from countries in EECCA and South-East Europe	1,400	1,137	None	2,537	20	50,740
3. <u>2 Consultants</u> 1 consultant to prepare a regional assessment report progress based on the national reports of the UNECE member States, 1 consultant to prepare a background paper	--	--	20,000	--	2	20,000
Sub-total						88,099
Add: 13% programme support cost						11,452
TOTAL COST						99,552
ECE Contribution (E175)						40,000
TOTAL REQUESTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DONORS (Total Cost less ECE Contributions)						59,552

*Final number of participants will depend on the availability of extrabudgetary funding.