



Report by the Chair of the Committee on Environmental Policy

Elisabete Quintas Da Silva
Chair

*104th meeting of the
Executive Committee
Geneva, 11 March 2019*



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



ENVIRONMENT

24th session of the CEP

- Geneva, 29-31 January 2019
- Delegations from 35 UNECE member States
- Representatives from national, regional and international organizations and bodies
- Civil society

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

ENVIRONMENT

Mid-term review of the main outcomes of the 8th Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, 2016)



- Implementing the Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy and the Batumi Initiative on Green Economy;
- Activities to support countries in their efforts to green their economies and achieve sustainable development;
- Implementation of the Batumi Action for Cleaner Air: fostering progress towards improved air quality;
- Mid-term review report on the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System;
- Environmental performance reviews: progress made in conducting the third cycle;
- Implementing multilateral environmental agreements in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Mid-term progress report on the Green Economy and Environment (GREEN) Action Programme Task Force

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Performance Reviews

- Published:
 - *3rd EPR of Albania*
 - *3rd EPR of Bosnia and Herzegovina*
 - *EPR of Mongolia*
- Launched:
 - *3rd EPR of Albania*
 - *EPR of Mongolia*
- Reviewed: *3rd EPRs of*
 - *Kazakhstan*
 - *North Macedonia*
- Ongoing: *3rd EPRs of*
 - *Uzbekistan*
 - *Romania*
- In the pipeline:
 - *3rd EPR of Ukraine*
- Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews:
 - mandate and ToR for 2019–2022 adopted by the CEP-24,
hereby submitted for EXCOM approval



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



ENVIRONMENT

New emerging environmental issues, considered by the CEP-24

- Environmental impacts of the Belt and Road Initiative in Central Asia and beyond;
- Environmental impact of the garment industry and the activities of the UN Alliance on Sustainable Fashion.



- New « Silk road »**
- Central Asia expanded
 - Secondary state involved
 - China
 - Russia
 - European Union
- ◆ Eurasian hub in China
- Railroad**
- existing
 - planned or under construction
- Pipelines connecting China**
- Main pipelines (oil and gas)
- Economic corridors**
- Eurasian road
 - South and Southeast Asia
 - Maritime road
- North maritime road**
- Permanent
 - Only in the summer
- Ports with Chinese engagement**
- existing
 - planned or under construction





Cross-cutting activities

Education for Sustainable Development:

- First meeting of the Ad hoc group for Strategic Planning (November 2018, the Hague, the Netherlands)
- Fourth mandatory reporting of national implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD
- 14th meeting of the Steering Committee (May 2019, Geneva)
- Round Table on SDG 4 during the RFSD: “The Power of Knowledge for Change: Education and Learning as Drivers for Sustainable Development” (22 March 2019)



Cross-cutting activities

Transport, Health and Environment:

- Subregional workshop for the countries of Central Asia (November 2018, Almaty, Kazakhstan)
- 5th Ministerial High-Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment: Making Mobility Green and Healthy: Paving the pan-european way towards prosperity and happy citizens (22-24 October 2019, Vienna)



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

ENVIRONMENT



UNECE multilateral environmental agreements

- 5 MOPs during the reporting period:
 - Water Convention (October 2018, Astana, Kazakhstan);
 - Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (December 2018, Geneva);
 - Air Convention (December 2018, Geneva);
 - Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA (February 2019, Geneva)
- Water Convention:
 - Accession by Chad and Senegal in 2018;
 - Interest to accede by 20 countries officially expressed
- Air Convention:
 - 40th anniversary in 2019



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



ENVIRONMENT

The Executive Committee is invited to

- **Approve** the renewal of mandate and terms of reference of the Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews for 2019–2022



Thank you for your attention

More information is available on the UNECE website:

<http://www.unece.org/env/welcome.html>

