

Decisions submitted to silence procedure following formal meeting with remote participation of the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Environmental Policy, 9-10 November 2020

Agenda item	Document No (link)	Decision
1	Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session (ECE/CEP/2020/1) https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2019/ece/cep/ece.cep.2020.1.e.pdf Provisional time schedule of the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Environmental Policy Information paper No. 1 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/CEP-26_HYBRID_2_DAYS_TimeSchedule.IP.1.e.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopts the agenda for its twenty-sixth session (ECE/CEP/2020/1), taking into account the proposed timetable as presented in information paper No. 1
2	Outcomes of the work of the Bureau for the period January–July 2020 (ECE/CEP/2020/3) https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.cep.2020.3.e.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses appreciation to the Bureau for its good work in fulfilling the mandates assigned to it by the Committee, especially for the excellent work undertaken with regard to preparation of draft outlines of two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes note of the information on developments in the ECE region linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Calls for active participation in the preparation and conduct of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region (March 2021)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes with interest the information provided by the secretariat on the Enhancing Transparency and Traceability for Sustainable and circular value chains in the Garment and Footwear industry
4 (a)	<p>Calendar of events and holidays in 2022 Information paper No. 8 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/Calendar_of_events_2022_IP.8.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decides to reschedule the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (Nicosia, the Republic of Cyprus), for 5-7 October 2022 Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Cyprus for the continued commitment to host the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, in Cyprus Encourages the member States, partner organisations, and all interested stakeholders to actively participate in the preparation and conduct of the Conference Asks the secretariat to follow up with the present decision and to keep the Committee and the Bureau informed on the progress of all necessary preparations
4 (b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asks the Bureau, with support from the secretariat and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders to prepare for the next session of the Committee a first draft of the provisional annotated agenda for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
4 (c)	<p>Draft outline of the background thematic document of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference: "Greening the economy in the pan-European region: working towards sustainable infrastructure" https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/EfE-9_Theme_1_draft_outline_IP.5.e.pdf Information paper No. 5 Draft outline of the background thematic document of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference: "Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism" Information paper No. 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses appreciation for the work undertaken by the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, OECD and UNEP, to prepare draft outlines of two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference Asks the Committee to make concrete suggestions and proposals on draft outlines of two background thematic documents on the themes for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference and send them to the secretariat until the end of 2020 Asks the Bureau, with support from the secretariat and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to continue working to prepare for the next regular session of the Committee the first drafts of the two background thematic documents

	https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/EfE-9_Theme_II_draft_outline_IP.6.e.pdf	
4 (d)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asks the Bureau, with support from the secretariat to prepare for the next session of the Committee a new document regarding organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
4 (e)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses gratitude to the countries for their pledges to contribute financially for preparing of the Conference Invites interested countries and organizations to make contributions (in cash and in kind) for the preparation of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
4 (f)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses appreciations to the Republic of Cyprus as the host the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, for the information provided
5	<p>Annual timetable of activities for 2021, as amended if the next ministerial conference is rescheduled to 2022 Information paper No. 7 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/WGEMA_timetable_for_2021_IP.7.e.pdf</p> <p>Decisions taken by the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (informal record)</p> <p>Information paper No. 11 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/JTF_decisions_IP.11.e.pdf</p> <p>Decisions taken by the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (informal record)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes note of the information provided and welcomes the activities of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, especially regarding the review of the ECE set of environmental indicators and how the Joint Task Force seeks to address environmental and health information together Takes note of the modified timetable of activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment in 2021 as set out in information paper No. 7 Decides to extend mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group until mid-2023 to allow the Working Group to prepare a new draft mandate and terms of reference after the next Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, and requests the secretariat to submit this decision on extension to the ECE Executive Committee for approval Takes note of the information provided and welcomes the activities of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, especially in support of the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System Encourages all member States to submit by 15 December 2020 their self-assessments on progress made in establishing the Shared Environmental Information System by using the online tool for reporting on the System Expresses its appreciation to those member States that have provided financial contributions to support preparation of the next pan-European environmental assessment, encourages member States to provide further support in terms of expertise and funding, and requests the secretariat to continue to inform the Bureau of progress made

	<p>Information paper No. 12 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/WGE/MA_decisions_IP.12.e.pdf</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme: fourth cycle of reviews (ECE/CEP/2020/6) https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.ep.2020.6.e.pdf</p> <p>Third Environmental Performance Review of Romania: recommendations Information paper No. 2/Rev.1 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-26/CEP-26_InfoPaperNo.2_Rev.1_e.pdf</p> <p>Results of the survey on the possible options for the fourth cycle of UNECE EPRs Information paper No. 9 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-26/EPR-4_SurveyResults_InfoPaperNo.9_e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopts the recommendations contained in the Third Environmental Performance Review of Romania (Information paper No. 2/Rev.1); • Adopts the fourth cycle of EPRs (ECE/CEP/2020/6) and submits it for endorsement to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Nicosia, 5–7 October 2022); • Greatly appreciates the work of the ECE Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews in 2020; • Welcomes the information provided on the activities of the Environmental Performance Review Programme, and expresses its appreciation to the secretariat for the excellent work in support of the Programme; • Welcomes the commencement of the second environmental performance review of Morocco; • Welcomes the commencement of third environmental performance review of Azerbaijan and takes note of the postponement of the review country mission to 2021 due to the COVID-19 international situation; • Takes note of the pending requests made by Armenia and Ukraine to undertake their next environmental performance reviews; • Welcomes the broad promotion of the Third Environmental Performance Review of Uzbekistan; • Welcomes the activity to support the implementation of recommendations made in recent EPRs of North Macedonia and Uzbekistan through the development of roadmaps by the two governments, initiated with funds from the ECE Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation; • Invites members of the Committee to nominate their representatives to the Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews; • Takes note of the information provided by the secretariat on resource mobilization for the Environmental Performance Review Programme in 2019–2020 and, in particular, thanks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) Austria, Germany, Norway, Portugal and Switzerland for their financial support; • (ii) Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Portugal, Sweden, UNEP, the World Health Organization, OECD and the European Investment Bank for providing expertise; • (iii) Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Romania, Switzerland and UNEP for having delegated their experts to serve in the Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews; • (iv) The United Nations Development Programme for logistical support; • Appreciates the close cooperation of the ECE Environment, Forest, Land and Housing, Statistical, Sustainable Energy and Sustainable Transport Divisions, and United Nations Country Teams, with the Environmental Performance Review Programme; • Encourages delegations to provide in-kind (expert) and financial support to the Environmental Performance Review Programme;

7	<p>Cross-sectoral activities under the auspices of the ECE Environment subprogramme (ECE/CEP/2020/4) https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.cep.2020.4.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes note of the information provided in the document on Cross-sectoral activities under the auspices of the ECE Environment subprogramme (ECE/CEP/2020/4) • Takes note of the information provided on the work of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development and to encourage its members from the countries participating in the Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development to remain informed of the process at the national level by establishing and maintaining working contacts with the Steering Committee members and focal points from their national administrations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). • Confirms its willingness to continue close cooperation with the Steering Committee in the framework of the preparations for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. • Welcomes the work under THE PEP and encourage the nomination of national focal points for the programme from the environment side; • Takes note of the change of date of the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and encourage the participation of experts in the preparatory process for the Meeting; • Takes note of the information provided with respect to the European Environment and Health Process; • Takes note of the information provided with respect to the Environment and Security Initiative • Recognizes the importance of gender mainstreaming in environmental activities, particularly in the light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasize that gender equality is both a goal in itself and a means to contributing to achieving sustainable development; • Agrees to continue to mainstream a gender perspective in its activities.
8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decides to continue using the criteria for financial support for participation in meetings and events approved at its 25th session for another year • Request the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to periodically verify the availability of data for 2019 and, if available, for all countries with economies in transition, to prepare revised criteria for financial support for approval by the Committee at its next session
9	<p>Draft programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2021 (ECE/CEP/2020/5) https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.cep.2020.5.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopts the draft annual programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2021 (ECE/CEP/2020/5) and recommends that it be approved by the Executive Committee • Requests the Bureau to address the issue of timing in the definition of the programme of work and to oversee the appropriate balance with regards to its activities
10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the information provided by UNEP on the ongoing preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, and invites UNEP to continue to inform the Committee of relevant developments under the Assembly • Congratulates UNEP on the success of the virtual side event “Transforming Tourism for a resilient and sustainable post COVID world”

11	<p>Proposed schedule of meetings of the Committee on Environmental Policy and its Bureau for the period of 2021-2023</p> <p>Information paper No. 3 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/CEP_mtgs2021-2023.IP.3.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the proposed schedule of CEP and its Bureau meetings until 2023 (information paper No.3) • Decides to organize the Committee's twenty-seventh session in Geneva, from 3 to 5 November 2021
12	<p>The Bureau of the Committee on Environmental Policy</p> <p>Information paper No. 4 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/CEP-26_Bureau.IP.4.e.pdf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decides to elect the Bureau of the Committee, as stated in information paper No. 4 • Expresses appreciation to the outgoing members of the Bureau, Ms. Ekaterina Kouznetsova, Ms. Megan E. McPhee and Ms. Aliya Shalabekova, for their work
13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the information provided by the WHO Regional Office for Europe • Agrees to seek an input from the Committee members and observers on how to better reflect a COVID-19 response that supports further progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Programme of Work of the Environment Subprogramme, and mandates the Bureau with support from the secretariat to prepare the Committee's input for the information for the ECE Executive Committee • Agrees to further discuss impact of the coronavirus disease pandemic, including on the Environment for Europe process, at its next regular session
16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests the Bureau and the secretariat to follow up on the Committee's decisions, including by preparing the documents and reports necessary for the Committee's work at its next session • Expresses appreciation for the work of the ECE secretariat in preparation of the present meeting • Expresses gratitude for the work of the Interpretive technical team in servicing the present meeting • Expresses appreciation for the work of the interpreters in servicing the present meeting