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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Second regional meeting on education for sustainable development
Rome, 15-16 July 2004

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Thursday, 15 July 2004 at 3 p.m. to Friday, 16 July 2004 at 5 p.m.*

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Draft UNECE strategy for education for sustainable development.
4. Practical aspects of the strategy's implementation.
5. Other business.
6. Concluding remarks by the Chair and closing.

* The meeting will take place in Rome (Italy). Delegates are requested to complete the attached registration form, which is also available from the web site of the UNECE Environment and Human Settlements Division (<http://www.unece.org/env/wgso/SustainableDevelopment/ESD/welcomeESD.htm>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest by 18 June 2004, either by fax +41-22-917-0107 or by e-mail: subashini.narasimhan@unece.org

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Pursuant to a decision taken at the fifth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (Kiev, 2003), the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy, at its tenth session (20-22 October 2003), set up an open-ended task force to develop a strategy for education for sustainable development. The delegations of the Russian Federation and Sweden volunteered to lead the process. UNECE serves as its secretariat.

The first meeting of the Task Force took place in February 2004. The Task Force adopted its terms of reference and its work programme. It also provided comments on the draft strategy that had been prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the lead countries. The Task Force set up a drafting group to help prepare the final draft of the document for adoption at its second meeting in July 2004.

This initiative is expected to provide a substantial regional contribution to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2015) proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh session (December 2002).

Item 1: Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Ministry of Environment and Territory of Italy.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

Mr. Jon Kahn (Sweden), Chair, will invite the Task Force to adopt its agenda.

Item 3: Draft UNECE strategy for education for sustainable development

The Chair will deliver introductory remarks. The drafting group met three times and has prepared a draft strategy (CEP/AC.13/2004/8) taking into account comments provided by member States, and international and non-governmental organizations. The strategy is meant to serve as a flexible framework and its implementation can be adapted to each country's priorities, specific needs and circumstances. Therefore, the document reflects the main considerations expressed by member States and is based on a general consensus.

The Task Force may wish to discuss, amend, if necessary, and approve this draft strategy for submission to the Committee on Environmental Policy at its eleventh session (October 2004) for comments and endorsement. Once the Committee on Environmental Policy has endorsed the strategy, it may wish to submit it for adoption at a joint high-level meeting of Environment Ministries and Education Ministries or equivalent State bodies responsible for education in UNECE member States.

In order to structure the discussion, it is suggested that the Task Force should address:

- (a) The structure of the document and the chapters on vision, introduction, aim, objectives and scope (chaps. I- III);

- (b) The chapters that address the implications for education and the principles (chaps. IV-V);
- (c) The chapter which focuses on the framework for implementation (chap. VI).

The drafting group has also prepared two background documents for information only: one on past and ongoing international processes on education for sustainable development (CEP/AC.13/2004/8/Add.1), and another to clarify some terms used in the strategy (CEP/AC.13/2004/8/Add.2).

Item 4: Practical aspects of the strategy's implementation

The Task Force may wish to discuss the practical aspects of implementing the strategy in the region, based on a discussion paper prepared by the secretariat (CEP/AC.13/2004/9).

Item 5: Other business

The Task Force is invited to raise any other business.

Item 6: Concluding remarks by the Chair and closing

The Chair may wish to summarize the main decisions of the Task Force.



Please send it by 18 June 2004 by fax to: +41 22 917 0107 or e-mail: subashini.narasimhan@unece.org
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

Conference Registration Form

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Title of the Conference

Date

SECOND REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
 15-16 July 2004, Rome

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organization or Agency

Participant

Date

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Family Name

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