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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Steering Committee on Education
for Sustainable Development****Fifteenth meeting**

Geneva, 7 and 8 May 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**Annotated provisional agenda for the fifteenth meeting****To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Thursday, 7 May 2020*****I. Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development:
 - (a) Summary outcomes of the progress report on the fourth phase of implementation;
 - (b) Regional framework of cooperation for sustainable development: Regional Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (c) Outcomes of capacity-building activities.
4. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the online registration form available at <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=9KMXMQ> no later than two weeks before the meeting. On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe website at www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307.



5. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2021.
 - (a) Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference;
 - (b) Host country preparations;
 - (c) Official documents for consideration at the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries;
 - (d) Resource requirements.
6. Outcomes of the three meetings and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group for strategic planning:
 - (a) Draft concept notes for the post-2019 implementation framework;
 - (b) Draft workplan for the post-2019 implementation framework.
7. Outcomes of the first meeting and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group on youth.
8. Outcomes of the three meetings and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group on indicators: the draft format for reporting on the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (2020–2030).
9. Education for sustainable development and youth: initiatives and actions on education for sustainable development.
10. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums.
11. Participation of the Steering Committee in upcoming regional and international forums.
12. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes.
13. Publications on education for sustainable development from the Economic Commission for Europe region.
14. Calendar of meetings.
15. Other business.
16. Closure of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 10–10.15 a.m.

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development is expected to adopt the agenda for its fifteenth meeting as set out in the present document. The draft agenda was prepared by the secretariat and the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the Bureau.¹

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifteenth meeting (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2020/1).

¹ The provisional agenda and other documents for the meeting, including informal papers, will be made available on the meeting web page: www.unece.org/index.php?id=53412.

2. Election of officers.

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 10.15–10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Steering Committee adopted by the Second High-Level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (Batumi, Georgia, 8 June 2016), for the upcoming fifth implementation phase a chair, vice-chair and the Bureau will be elected from among the representatives of the ECE member States present at the meeting. Officers should represent different sectors (for example, environment and education). They shall serve as the officers of the Steering Committee until their successors have been elected. The officers are eligible for re-election.

3. In accordance with the above, the Committee will be invited to elect a chair and other members of the Bureau. A call for the member States to express their interest in submitting candidatures for the Bureau will be issued by the secretariat. A preliminary list of proposed candidates will be circulated by email prior to the meeting (information paper No. 1).

Documentation

Note by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Steering Committee “The Bureau of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development” (information paper No. 1).

3. Implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

(a) Summary outcomes of the progress report on the fourth phase of implementation

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 10.30–11.30 a.m.

4. The Steering Committee will be informed about the summary outcomes of the fourth mandatory reporting cycle, which was carried out at the end of the fourth phase of implementation (2017–2019) of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (Strategy) (information paper No. 2).

5. The Committee will be invited to consider both the progress made and the remaining challenges as presented in the national implementation reports, and in particular to discuss the implications of the findings from the fourth reporting round for the implementation of activities beyond the fourth phase of implementation.

6. Countries will be invited to complement the secretariat’s presentation with interventions on outstanding activities and initiatives implemented since the fourteenth Steering Committee meeting (Geneva, 2 and 3 May 2019).

Documentation

Fourth evaluation report on the implementation of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development during 2017–2019 (information paper No. 2).

(b) Regional framework of cooperation for sustainable development: Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 11.30 a.m.–12 noon.

7. The secretariat will inform the meeting about the outcomes of the ECE Steering Committee’s input to round table 1 “Boosting human well-being and capabilities through health and education for all” and the side event “Whole institution approach as a key driver for achieving human well-being and education for all” organized in the framework of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE Region (Geneva, 19 and 20 March 2020) (information paper No. 3).

Documentation

Summary of outcomes of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2020 round table 1 “Boosting human well-being and capabilities through health and education for all” and of the side event “Whole institution approach as a key driver for achieving human well-being and education for all” (information paper No. 3).

(c) Outcomes of capacity-building activities

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 12 noon–12.30 p.m.

8. The secretariat, together with the host country (Azerbaijan), will update participants on the outcomes of a Swiss-funded capacity-building workshop, to be held on 15 and 16 April 2020 in Baku, and on the promotion of education for sustainable development at the national level (information paper No. 4).

Documentation

Summary outcomes of the capacity-building workshop held in Baku, on 15 and 16 April 2020 (information paper No. 4).

4. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 12.30–1 p.m.

9. The secretariat will report to the Steering Committee on contributions received since the Committee’s last meeting, on the basis of an informal note (information paper No. 5) to be submitted for the Committee’s consideration at the meeting. Since the funding situation of the Strategy is very difficult, and the regional activities are funded exclusively through contributions by member States to the trust fund, advance indications of pledges by States are vital.

10. The Chair of the Steering Committee will invite the members of the Committee and national focal points to consider the funding situation regarding the Strategy’s activities over the past several years, with a view to examining alternative ways to address the matter.

11. During the discussion, the Steering Committee will be expected to look for ways to mobilize additional funds for capacity-building activities at the national and subregional levels.

Documentation

Contributions, incurred expenses and estimated resource requirements (information paper No. 5)

5. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2021**(a) Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference**

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 3–3.30 p.m.

12. At its twenty-fifth session (Geneva, 13–15 November 2019), the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy expressed its gratitude to the Government of Cyprus for offering to host the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries; welcomed the information provided by the delegation of Cyprus regarding the offer; and decided to organize the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries, in Nicosia, from 3 to 5 November 2021. The Committee on Environmental Policy appreciated the progress in the work of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development and encouraged members of the

Committee on Environmental Policy to cooperate with the Steering Committee, especially in view of the preparations for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference.

13. At the same session, the Committee on Environmental Policy considered the main organizational issues and the proposed framework for preparing the Nicosia Ministerial Conference, with a view to advancing the preparatory process. It invited Cyprus to actively participate in the future meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Environmental Policy in order to keep the Committee and the Bureau informed of progress regarding all necessary preparations.

14. The Steering Committee will be informed of the relevant decisions of the Committee on Environmental Policy, including regarding organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, the proposed framework for preparing the Conference, and the requirements for hosting that event (information paper No. 6).

Documentation

Organizational issues for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the Third High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No. 6)

(b) Host country preparations

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 3.30–4 p.m.

15. The Steering Committee will be informed about the host country preparations for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, including the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No. 7).

Documentation

Host country preparations for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (information paper No. 7).

(c) Official documents for consideration at the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 4–4.15 p.m.

16. The Steering Committee will be informed about the official documents to be prepared for consideration at the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No.8).

Documentation

Official documents for consideration at the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No. 8).

(d) Resource requirements

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 4.15–4.30 p.m.

17. The Steering Committee will be informed about the resource requirements for the organization of the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No. 9).

Documentation

Resource requirements for the High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (information paper No. 9).

6. Outcomes of the three meetings and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group for strategic planning

(a) Draft concept notes for the post-2019 implementation framework

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 4.30–5.30 p.m.

18. The secretariat will update the Steering Committee on the outcomes of the second and third meetings of the ad hoc group for strategic planning, held respectively on 27 and 28 September 2019 and 15 and 16 March 2020 in Nicosia.

19. The Chair of the Steering Committee will present the revised draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework, elaborated by the members of the ad hoc group (information paper No. 10).

20. The Chair will invite the leaders of the ad hoc group to present concept notes for each of the four thematic areas outlined in the draft concept note, as follows: (a) whole institution approach; (b) quality education; (c) digital education and information communication technologies; and (d) entrepreneurship, employment and innovation.

21. The members will be invited to provide comments on the proposed draft concept notes for each of the four thematic areas outlined in the draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework. The secretariat will be mandated to incorporate the results of the discussions into the presented draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework and to circulate it to the Steering Committee for final approval, with a view to submitting the final version of the document to the next meeting of the Committee, to be held in spring 2021.

Documentation

Draft concept notes for the post-2019 implementation framework (information paper No. 10).

(b) Draft workplan for the post-2019 implementation framework

Timing: Thursday, 7 May, 5.30–6 p.m.

22. The Committee will be invited to consider the revised draft workplan for implementation of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development after 2019 (information paper No. 11). The draft workplan aims to establish a road map of activities to be undertaken during the post-2019 implementation phase to further the implementation of the Strategy at the national and international levels, in accordance with the mandate articulated by education and environment ministries at the Second High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries and taking into consideration the timelines of the post-Global Action Programme implementation plan.

23. The outline was prepared by the secretariat based on the framework for the future implementation of the Strategy and the draft concept note for the post-2019 implementation framework, in cooperation with the ad hoc group for strategic planning and the Bureau.

24. The Steering Committee will be invited to provide comments on the proposed draft document.

25. The secretariat will be mandated to incorporate the comments provided into the proposed outline of the draft workplan for the post-2019 implementation period and to elaborate the final document for its official submission at the next meeting of the Committee, to be held in spring 2021.

Documentation

Draft workplan for the post-2019 implementation framework for the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (information paper No. 11).

7. Outcomes of the first meeting and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group on youth

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 10–11 a.m.

26. The representative of Youth Sexual Awareness for Europe will update the Steering Committee on the outcomes of the first meeting of the ad hoc group on youth “Education for Sustainable Development and Youth”, to be held from 16 to 18 February in Vienna (information paper No. 12).

27. Based on the above-mentioned presentation, the Steering Committee and the youth delegates will be invited to discuss the draft outcome document of the first meeting of the ad hoc group on youth. Their comments and suggestions will be taken into consideration during the revision of the document.

Documentation

Outcomes of the first meeting of the ad hoc group on youth “Education for Sustainable Development and Youth” (information paper No. 12).

8. Outcomes of the three meetings and of the subsequent work of the ad hoc group on indicators: the draft format for reporting on the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2020 to 2030

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 11 a.m.–12 noon.

28. The secretariat will update the Steering Committee on the outcomes of the three meetings of the ad hoc group on indicators, held respectively from 23 to 25 October 2019 in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on 16 and 17 December 2019 in Podgorica, and from 12 to 14 February 2020 in Brussels (information paper No. 13).

29. The Steering Committee will be invited to consider the revised draft format for reporting on the implementation of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2020 to 2030, and to provide comments on the proposed new indicators or changes to the existing indicators that were included in the updated reporting format.

30. The Committee members will be also invited to consider the proposed reporting timeline² for the fifth cycle of reporting to be carried out at the end of the next implementation phase.

31. The secretariat will be mandated to introduce any changes proposed during the meeting into the draft format for reporting, and to circulate the revised version to the Committee members for their further consideration and final comments to be provided to the secretariat before the end of May 2020. The secretariat will then create the final consolidated version of the draft format for reporting.

32. The final draft of the format for reporting will have to be considered at the fourth meeting of the ad hoc group on indicators, to be convened in June 2020 in the Netherlands (exact dates and location to be confirmed). The fourth meeting of the ad hoc group on indicators will be devoted to incorporating all comments into the final document and to finalizing it as a definitive and final framework for monitoring and evaluation in the form of the format for reporting on the implementation of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2020 to 2030.

33. In addition, countries may wish to put forward ideas about the outline of the evaluation report that will be prepared on the basis of the national implementation reports.

² To be outlined depending on the inputs from the Committee members and partners

Documentation

Outcomes of the three meetings of the ad hoc group on indicators: the draft format for reporting on the implementation of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development from 2020 to 2030 (information paper No. 13).

9. Education for sustainable development and youth: initiatives and actions on education for sustainable development

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 12 noon–1 p.m.

34. The Steering Committee will be updated on the activities of youth focused on promoting education for sustainable development in the region.

35. The representative of the Cyprus Youth Council will inform the participants about the initiative “Youth and Sustainable Cities”.

36. The member States will be invited to inform the Steering Committee about youth initiatives and actions integrated into their national context.

37. Furthermore, the representative of the Cyprus Youth Council will announce the preliminary dates for a youth forum to be held in 2020 in Cyprus.

10. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 3–3.30 p.m.

38. The Steering Committee will be updated about recent activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums. It will be informed about the developments in the processes aimed at implementing education for sustainable development at the global level led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The UNESCO representative will update the Committee on the following:

(a) The conclusion and results of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (2015–2019), including highlights of a 2019 education for sustainable development report to the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly and the resulting General Assembly resolution 74/233;

(b) An update on the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Berlin, 2–4 June 2020) and highlights of a road map for implementing education for sustainable development for 2030, including on plans for indicator 4.7.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals and education for sustainable development for 2030 reporting.

39. The Steering Committee will be also updated on the recent activities organized in the framework of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development and Regional Workshop on Education for Sustainable Development (Heraklion, Greece, 24–26 June 2019)), an education for sustainable development-related event held at the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Madrid, 2–13 December 2019) and Global Education Network Europe.

40. The Steering Committee will be also informed about the secretariat’s participation in the workshop organized by the World Health Organization European Centre for Environment and Health on integrating environment and health considerations into healthy school settings, held on 22 and 23 October 2019 in Bonn, Germany.

11. Participation of the Steering Committee in upcoming regional and international forums

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 3.30–4 p.m.

41. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss ways of promoting the Committee's work at upcoming regional and international forums.

12. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 4–4.30 p.m.

42. Delegations and in particular stakeholders such as international and non-governmental organizations, regional environmental centres and research institutions, may wish to inform the Steering Committee of activities related to the Strategy's implementation currently being carried out or planned at the national and international levels.

13. Publications on education for sustainable development from the Economic Commission for Europe region

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 4.30–5.15 p.m.

43. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the possibility of the members' assistance, including through in-kind contributions, in publishing a number of reports and/or other publications referred to in the draft workplan for the next implementation phase (2020–2030).

44. The Chair will inform the members of the Steering Committee about the two publications that have to be published in 2020, i.e. the progress report on the implementation of the fourth mandatory reporting cycle of the Strategy and a guide containing good practices on the whole institution approach. A draft of the template will be presented, and countries will be invited to express their comments, as well as their interest in participating.

45. The Chair of the Steering Committee will also present a draft proposal for the programme of publications during the next implementation framework (2020–2030) (information paper No. 14), ask the members to provide comments and suggestions about any other publications and invite the countries to contribute to the realization of the proposed programme.

Documentation

Draft proposal for the publications programme during the 2020–2030 implementation framework (information paper No. 14).

14. Calendar of meetings

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 5.15–5.30 p.m.

46. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the format and the timing of the sixteenth Steering Committee meeting, to be held in 2021, as well as of the next meetings of the working groups of experts (ad hoc groups), to be agreed on by the meeting.

15. Other business

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 5.30–5.45 p.m.

47. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss any other business that might be brought to its attention. Delegations wishing to propose items are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

16. Closure of the meeting

Timing: Friday, 8 May, 5.45–6 p.m.

48. Following some concluding remarks, the Chair will officially close the fifteenth meeting.
