

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews

Thirty-sixth session

On-line (Microsoft Teams), 22-23 May 2023

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session

**To be held on-line on Microsoft Teams, starting at 09:30 on Monday, 22 May
until 16:00 on Tuesday, 23 May 2023**

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Preparation of additional guidance on the conduct of Fourth Cycle of Environmental Performance Reviews
3. Activities under the Environmental Performance Review Programme
4. Other business

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs) will be invited to adopt the agenda for its thirty-sixth session as contained in the present document.

2. Preparation of additional guidance on the conduct of Fourth Cycle of Environmental Performance Reviews

2. At its special session in Nicosia in October 2022, the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) invited the Expert Group on EPRs to prepare additional guidance on the conduct of the Fourth Cycle of EPRs for the consideration of the Committee on Environmental Policy at its twenty-eighth session in November 2023.¹

3. At its on-line meeting on 8 March 2023, the CEP Bureau:

(a) Took note of the Information paper No. 1 “Guidance to the Fourth Cycle of Environmental Performance Reviews”, developed by the Expert Group on EPRs;

(b) Taking into account a number of square brackets in the document (e.g., with regard of limiting the number of chapters per EPR, limiting the number of recommendations per chapter and per EPR, etc.) agreed that:

- (i) such a decision [on the conduct of the Fourth Cycle] shall be taken by CEP at its next regular session in November 2023,

¹ ECE/CEP/S/2022/6, para 29 (j).

- (ii) until CEP decides on a revised mandate, the EPR Programme shall be governed by and comply with the existing mandate as contained in the document ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/12,
- (iii) based on an inclusive consultation process (including through a survey to the CEP delegates and dedicated discussions with countries that have been subject to the EPRs) an options paper will be prepared to support decisions by the CEP on the Fourth Cycle of EPRs.

4. A survey was developed in consultation with the Expert Group on EPRs and circulated on 14 March 2023 to CEP, the Expert Group on EPRs, National Coordinators of EPRs in beneficiary countries and regular authors of EPR chapters.

5. The Expert Group will be invited to consider the results of the survey (forthcoming), with a view to guiding the secretariat in the preparation for the CEP 28th session of additional guidance to the Fourth Cycle of EPRs and an options paper on the matter. An updated version of the draft guidance that was submitted to the CEP Bureau in March 2023 will be made available to the Expert Group (forthcoming).

6. To ensure inclusive consultations, on Tuesday, 23 May 2023, it is proposed to organize a two-hour on-line consultation on the results of the survey with interested representatives of CEP and National Coordinators of EPRs in beneficiary countries.

3. Activities under the Environmental Performance Review Programme

7. The Expert Group will be informed about activities conducted under the EPR Programme since its last meeting.

4. Other business

8. The Expert Group will be invited to discuss any other business that might be brought to its attention. Experts wishing to propose items are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

III. Organization of work

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Monday, 22 May 2023</i>
09:30–11:30	Agenda items 1 and 2 Expert Group on EPRs discussing the results of the survey and preparation of the Guidance on the conduct of the Fourth Cycle of EPRs and options paper
<i>11:30–14:00</i>	<i>Break</i>
14:00–16:00	Agenda items 2 and 3 Expert Group on EPRs discussing the results of the survey and preparation of the Guidance on the conduct of the Fourth Cycle of EPRs and options paper
<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Tuesday, 23 May 2023</i>
10:00–12:00	Agenda item 2 Consultations with interested representatives of CEP and National Coordinators of EPRs in beneficiary countries on the outcomes of the survey
<i>12:00–14:00</i>	<i>Break</i>
14:00–16:00	Agenda items 2 and 4 Expert Group on EPRs discussing the results of consultations and preparation of the Guidance on the conduct of the Fourth Cycle of EPRs and options paper