

# **Economic Commission for Europe**

**Biennial Report  
(20 April 2021-18 April 2023)**

**Economic and Social Council  
Official Records, 2023**

**Supplement n° 17**



**United Nations**



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*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Biennial Report covering the period from 20 April 2021 to 18 April 2023**

#### **Introduction**

1. The present Biennial Report is based on the report adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at its seventieth session on 19 April 2023.

#### **Chapter I Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention**

2. At its seventieth session, the Commission adopted decisions A (70) Economic and Social Effects of Russia's Aggression Against Ukraine; B (70) Digital and green transformations in support of the sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe; C (70) Promotion of Circular Economy and the sustainable use of natural resources; D (70) Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development; E (70) Building resilient energy systems; F (70) Decision to study finance for energy-related climate change activities in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe, particularly related to critical raw materials; G (70) Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation; H (70) United Nations Resource Management System Principles and Requirements; I (70) Request to strengthen the role of the secretariat of the Economic Commission of Europe in supporting member States in building resilient energy systems and modernizing resource management systems; J (70) Implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention); K (70) Matters related to sustainable transport and mobility. The texts of all decisions are contained in Chapter IV. (For the account of the proceedings, see Chapter III.)

3. The Commission, as part of its high-level segment, discussed the theme "Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe". (For the Chair's summary of the discussions, see annexes I and II).

#### **Chapter II Work of the Commission since its sixty-ninth session**

4. The Commission, the Executive Committee and the subsidiary bodies of the Commission held their meetings, including other meetings organized under their auspices, serviced by the ECE secretariat.

5. A list of meetings held since the sixty-ninth session is contained in annex III, showing in each case the dates, the officers, and the symbols of the report. These reports record the agreements reached and decisions taken.

## Chapter III Seventieth session of the Commission

### A. Attendance and organization of work

6. The seventieth session of the Commission was held from 18 to 19 April 2023 with participants able to attend either in person in Geneva or remotely via videoconferencing on the first day, 18 April 2023. At the opening session, the Commission heard remarks by the Chair, the Executive Secretary, the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG). The Chair's summary of these statements is contained in annex I.

7. The session was chaired by Austria on 18 and 19 April. It was agreed that the Republic of Moldova would act as Rapporteur during the session.

8. The session was attended by representatives of the following States: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

9. Representatives of the Holy See attended under article 8 of the Commission's Terms of Reference.

10. The session was attended by representatives of the European Union.

11. Representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the following specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: European Investment Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Telecommunication Union, International Union of Railways, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, and the World Customs Organization. Additionally, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations were in attendance: Earthjustice and European Environmental Bureau.

12. A complete list of participants, including non-governmental organizations and other participants, can be found on the ECE website ([www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)).

### B. Agenda

13. The Commission adopted its agenda (Part I, E/ECE/1502) pursuant to a roll-call vote.

1. Opening and adoption of the agenda.
2. High-level dialogue.
3. Roundtable: Digital and green: the twin transformations to advance sustainable development.
4. Consideration of the high-level statement.
5. Report on activities on the high-level theme of the sixty-ninth session: "Promoting circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe."
6. Report on activities of the Executive Committee.
7. Other issues calling for decision by the Commission.
8. Election of officers.



9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the session.

14. Under this item, the Chair proposed to adopt the provisional agenda as contained in Part I of document E/ECE/1502. The Chair recalled that Part II of the document contained a reference to document E/ECE/1506, which had not been issued due to the lack of consensus and that document E/ECE/2023/L.1/Rev.1 had been submitted under agenda item 4.

15. The representative of the Russian Federation objected and reminded that the annotated provisional agenda as contained in document E/ECE/1502, Parts I and II, had been agreed by the Executive Committee (EXCOM) before the submission of the draft resolution. The Russian Federation stated that the resolution was irrelevant for agenda item 4. The representative of Belarus proposed to delete agenda item 4, since the high-level statement was not issued. The representatives of the European Union, Ukraine and of the United States of America supported the proposal of the Chair.

16. The representative of Ukraine requested a vote on the chair's proposal and the representative of the Russian Federation requested that the vote be through a roll-call.

17. The results of the roll-call vote was 38 votes in favour, 2 votes against, and 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:*

Belarus, Russian Federation.

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan.

## **C. Election of Officers (Agenda item 8)**

18. In accordance with Rule 12 of its Rules of Procedure (E/ECE/778/Rev.5), the Commission elected Switzerland as Chair, and Austria and Montenegro as Vice-Chairs of the seventy-first session.

19. Several delegations thanked the outgoing Bureau and congratulated the incoming Bureau.

## **D. Account of proceedings**

### **High-level dialogue (Agenda item 2)**

20. Under this item the Commission had before it background document E/ECE/1504 from the secretariat, entitled "Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe" and document E/ECE/1505 entitled "Toolbox of instruments of the Economic Commission for Europe related to digital transformation".

21. Many delegations welcomed the choice of "Digital and green transformations in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe" as the theme of the session and stressed how important it was to capitalize on the digital transformation for a green transformation. Several delegations also highlighted the need to enhance regional cooperation and multilateralism, and agreed that ECE, as a multi-stakeholder convening platform, had an important role to play.

22. The Chair's summary of discussions under this item is contained in annex I.

**Roundtable: Digital and green: the twin transformations to advance sustainable development (Agenda item 3)**

23. As part of its high-level segment, the Commission held a roundtable on “Digital and green – the twin transformations to advance sustainable development” with two segments: “Digitalization as enabler for climate action and decarbonization”, “Enhancing trust and transparency: Using digital tools to support the green transformation”.
24. The Chair’s summary of discussions under this item is contained in annex II.

**Consideration of the high-level statement (Agenda item 4)**

25. Under this item, the Commission had before it a draft resolution contained in document E/ECE/2023/L.1/Rev.1, submitted by Member States of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Georgia, Iceland, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.
26. The representatives of the European Union, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the United States of America made statements supporting the draft resolution.
27. The representatives of Belarus and of the Russian Federation made statements opposing the consideration of the draft resolution.
28. The representative of the United States of America made a motion for the closure of debate under rule 31 of the rules of procedure and requested that a vote be held on the draft resolution. As there was no opposition to the motion, the Chair declared the debate closed.
29. The representative of the Russian Federation requested that the vote be through a roll-call. The result of the roll-call vote was 40 votes in favour, 2 against and 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:*

Belarus, Russian Federation.

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Uzbekistan.

30. The representatives of Belarus and of the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote, after the vote, disassociating themselves from the resolution adopted by the Commission. A statement was also made by France.
31. A statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the European Union and of the Russian Federation.

**Report on activities on the high-level theme of the sixty-ninth session: “Promoting circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe” (Agenda item 5)**

32. Under this item the Commission had before it background document E/ECE/1507 “Progress report on the work of the Commission on the promotion of a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources”. The Commission heard a presentation by the Executive Secretary on the work carried out by ECE on the high-level theme of the sixty-ninth session since that session.

33. The Commission welcomed the work carried out by ECE on the high-level theme of the sixty-ninth session since that session. Several delegations expressed support for designating a theme for the high-level segment of future Commission sessions.

#### **Report on activities of the Executive Committee (Agenda item 6)**

34. Under this item the Commission had before it document E/ECE/1508 providing a report on the activities and the main achievements of the Executive Committee since the last Commission session.

35. The Commission took note of the report of activities of the Executive Committee. It thanked the Executive Committee and its Bureau for the work done during the intersessional period. Several delegations expressed support for the role played by the Executive Committee.

#### **Other issues calling for decision by the Commission (Agenda item 7)**

36. The Commission adopted by consensus draft decisions I to VIII, as contained in document E/ECE/1509, and draft decision I, as contained in E/ECE/1509/Add.1. In relation to draft decisions VIII and IX, the secretariat read out the accompanying oral statements on programme budget implications before their consideration.

37. In relation to draft decision IX, the following representatives made statements in favour of the adoption of the draft decision: Austria, European Union, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

38. The representatives of Belarus and of the Russian Federation stated that they could not support the adoption of draft decision IX and objected to referring the draft decision to the Economic and Social Council.

39. The representative of Ireland requested a vote on draft decision IX and the representative of the Russian Federation requested that the vote be held through a roll-call.

40. The result of the roll-call vote was 35 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention. The voting was as follows:<sup>1</sup>

*In favour:*

Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:*

Belarus, Russian Federation

*Abstaining:*

Türkiye

41. The representatives of Belarus and of the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote, after the vote, disassociating themselves from decision IX adopted by the Commission.

#### **Other business (Agenda item 9)**

42. The Commission agreed to hold its seventy-first session in 2025.

#### **Adoption of the report of the session (Agenda item 10)**

43. The report of the seventieth session was adopted.

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<sup>1</sup> The delegation of Greece subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour of the motion.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Decisions adopted by the seventieth session of the Economic Commission for Europe**

#### **A (70) Economic and Social Effects of Russia’s Aggression Against Ukraine**

**Submitted by the European Union and its Member States, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Georgia, Iceland, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America**

*The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Reaffirming* the paramount importance of the Charter of the United Nations in the promotion of the rule of law among nations,

*Recalling* the obligation of all States under Article 2 of the Charter to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means,

*Recalling also* the obligation under Article 2 (2) of the Charter, that all Members, in order to ensure to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from membership, shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter,

*Recalling also* the decisions ECE/EX/2022/L.12 and ECE/EX/2022/L.6 of the Executive Committee (EXCOM) relating to “Latest development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe”,

*Reaffirming* that no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (ECE) to facilitating the economic development and integration of Europe, to raising the level of European economic activity, and to maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of countries in the ECE region,

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution ES 11/1, which deplored in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine,

*Expressing grave concern* at reports of attacks on Ukrainian civilian facilities such as residences, schools and hospitals, and of civilian casualties, including women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and children,

*Expressing grave concern* at the deteriorating human rights situation in Ukraine caused by Russia’s aggression, including but not limited to reports of the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, arbitrary and extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, forced transfers, and forced displacements of population, and violations and abuses committed against children,

*Expressing grave concern* at the deteriorating humanitarian situation in and around Ukraine, with substantial and sustained numbers of internally displaced persons and refugees in need of humanitarian assistance, the majority of whom are women and girls, who face an increased risk of all forms of gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking in persons,

*Expressing grave concern* at reports of attacks on critical energy, water, and transportation infrastructure in Ukraine and on natural resources crucial to food production and climate mitigation,

*Expressing concern* about the impact of the Russian aggression against Ukraine on the whole region through a surge in refugee flows, trade disruptions, high food and energy prices fuelling a cost-of-living crisis, setting us back from achieving the 2030 Agenda goals,

*Expressing concern also about the impact of the conflict on increased food insecurity globally, as Ukraine and the region are one of the world's most important areas for grain and agricultural exports, when millions of people are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world, as well as on energy security,*

1. Deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in violation of Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Demands that the Russian Federation immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;

3. Deplores the complicity of Belarus in the Russian Federation's unlawful use of force against Ukraine, and calls upon it to abide by its international obligations;

4. Requests the secretariat to refrain from any actions or publications that might be interpreted as recognizing or endorsing any alteration of the internationally recognized borders of Ukraine;

5. Requests the ECE secretariat and relevant subsidiary bodies to continue and intensify efforts towards the implementation of its projects on the reconstruction of Ukraine;

6. Requests the ECE secretariat to continue to assist Ukraine and neighbouring member States in recovering and rebuilding from the economic, environmental, infrastructure, energy, and social effects of Russia's aggression to the extent possible within available resources and within the context of existing mandates.

## **B (70) Digital and green transformations in support of the sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Recalling and reaffirming* the commitments, *inter alia*, to protect our planet and to improve digital cooperation in the Declaration on the Commemoration of the seventy-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations;

2. *Taking note* of the aspects relevant to digital and green transformations of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Our Common Agenda", welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/6 of 15 November 2021 as a basis for further consideration by Member States;

3. *Underlining* the urgent need to address, in a comprehensive and synergetic manner, climate change and the biodiversity loss in a broader context of achieving the sustainable development goals, as well as the importance of protecting, conserving, restoring and sustainably using nature and ecosystems for effective and sustainable climate action;

4. *Noting* the importance of transition to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production for efforts to address climate change;

5. *Emphasizing* that enhanced effective climate action should be implemented in a manner that is just and inclusive while minimizing negative social and economic impacts that may arise from climate action;

6. *Noting* the outcomes of the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh Conferences of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular the decisions relevant to the mandate of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE);

7. *Acknowledging* the accelerated pace of digitalization, which is radically transforming many aspects of our lives and opening new possibilities for economic development, policy design and the implementation and management of public services;

8. *Noting* the multiple contributions that digitalization and related advanced technologies can make to the green transformation, including through efficiency gains, better

monitoring of the use of natural resources and connectivity, enhanced systems optimization, and new channels of communication and collaboration among different stakeholders;

9. *Further noting*, in particular, the role of digital technologies in advancing circularity and sustainable use of natural resources, notably tracing materials across value chains in a precise way that enables informed decision-making by both producers and consumers, as appropriate;

10. *Acknowledging* the need to mitigate the potential negative environmental implications of digital technologies, including those related to energy and material consumption and the generation of related e-waste, by advancing decarbonization and applying circular principles more broadly in support of the green transformation;

11. *Noting* that the green and digital transformations call for determined efforts, including appropriate financing, *inter alia*, climate finance and innovative sources of finance, to realize their full potential to bring about enhanced cooperation, increased inclusiveness and to avoid new divides within and across countries as well as to address the existing ones;

12. *Recognizing* that digital divides persist across income groups, age groups, geography and gender and reiterating the need for initiatives on digital cooperation to bridge these divides in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13. *Recognizing* the strengths of ECE in developing norms and standards, and providing policy guidance and technical assistance in its mandated areas of activity;

14. *Emphasizes* the need to further strengthen the work of the Commission in support of digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the ECE region within its existing mandate as appropriate and subject to available resources;

15. *Requests* the relevant Sectoral Committees and bodies reporting directly to the Executive Committee, and their subsidiaries, to consider how to enhance the impact of relevant existing ECE instruments, in order to foster digital and green transformations, including by proposing ways to identify, assess and fill gaps in governance and good practices;

16. *Invites* these subsidiary bodies to replicate and scale up existing approaches that facilitate broad and effective use of the appropriate instruments, including through capacity-building and knowledge-sharing activities;

17. *Further invites* these subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, to consider developing proposals in their respective programmes of work, including possible collaboration across subprogrammes, for impactful and measurable solutions that promote digital and green transformations and that can facilitate attaining the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

18. *Requests* the secretariat to further promote partnerships related to digital and green transformations, including within the United Nations system, other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector, to explore opportunities for synergies to broaden the use of relevant ECE instruments;

19. *Requests* the secretariat to develop and scale new capacities, as suggested in UN 2.0 Quintet of Change and subject to availability of resources, to assist the digital and green transformations in the ECE region;

20. *Requests* the secretariat to contribute to the development of the Common Blueprint for Digital Transformations, led by the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy for Technology, in areas relevant to the ECE mandate, in order to support the coordinated action within the United Nations system on digital and green transformations;

21. *Requests* the secretariat to present a progress report on the work of the Commission on the digital and green transformations towards sustainable development in the region of the ECE, as outlined in the above decision, for consideration at its seventy-first session.

## **C (70) Promotion of Circular Economy and the sustainable use of natural resources**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Recalling* the deliberations at its sixty-ninth session, including the commitment made by its member States to step up their efforts to promote circular economy approaches and the sustainable use of natural resources, namely by mainstreaming circularity and the sustainable use of natural resources in the existing relevant ECE sectoral work programmes – as appropriate, and through the voluntary initiatives and capacity building cooperation opportunities that have been submitted to that session of the ECE, and other voluntary commitments that were made earlier in the Environment for Europe process;

2. *Welcomes* the progress report on the work of the Commission on the promotion of a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, as contained in document E/ECE/1507;

3. *Recognizes* with appreciation the efforts made by relevant sectoral committees and bodies reporting directly to the Executive Committee, and by the secretariat of the Commission, to further strengthen its work in this field in line with the provisions of decision A (69) I, to enhance the impact of relevant existing ECE instruments, replicate and scale up existing approaches, and develop proposals in their respective programmes of work, including possible collaboration across subprogrammes, for impactful and measurable solutions that promote a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, that support measuring progress towards policy targets regarding circular economy in the ECE region, and that can facilitate attaining the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Acknowledges* that the Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy may serve as a framework for voluntary initiatives on circular economy, resource efficiency and sustainable infrastructure development, including through promoting nature-based solutions, towards a just transition;

5. *Further recognizes* the voluntary initiatives undertaken by member States to further accelerate and scale up the transition to a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources;

6. *Invites* relevant subsidiary bodies, the secretariat and member States to continue their efforts in this regard and explore synergies also with the Commission's future work, especially initiatives related to digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of ECE;

7. *Notes* that the early designation of a high-level theme has effectively facilitated closer collaboration across the secretariat, the intergovernmental architecture and the broad expert community of the Commission and made their collective expertise available to the deliberations at the session of the Commission, and thus requests the Executive Committee, in line with its responsibilities to prepare the session of the Commission, to designate a future cross-cutting theme for the high-level segment of the upcoming session of the Commission at the end of a given Commission year.

## **D (70) Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Recalling* its decisions B (67) to establish the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and B (68) and C (69) to extend its mandate;

2. *Reaffirming* the provisions contained therein on the role, objectives and format of the Regional Forum;

3. *Noting with appreciation* the successful organization of the previous sessions of the Regional Forum as a platform for peer learning and the exchange of policy experiences and good practices in the implementation of the sustainable development goals;

4. *Taking note* of the evaluation of the added value of the Regional Forums held in 2021 and 2022 prepared by the secretariat (document E/ECE/1510);

5. *Decides* to continue to convene annual sessions of the Regional Forum to follow-up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in close cooperation with the entities of the regional United Nations system and with the active engagement of other relevant stakeholders;

6. *Requests* the secretariat to develop the agenda of each session of the Regional Forum in close consultation with member States, and to align it with the respective themes and programme of work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, with a focus on those aspects that are particularly relevant to the ECE region;

7. *Also requests* the secretariat to continue to publish a yearly report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the ECE region to support the discussions at the sessions of the Regional Forum, with a focus on the sustainable development goals under review by the high-level political forum for sustainable development that year, using existing data sets and statistics;

8. *Decides* to keep the Regional Forum aligned with the overall follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, taking into account General Assembly resolution A/RES/75/290 B entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level” and future decisions on the theme and focus of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

9. *Also decides* to submit the reports of the annual sessions of the Regional Forum, including the Chair’s summary of the discussions with key messages, to the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, as part of the regional contributions to the global follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## **E (70) Building resilient energy systems**

### *The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Noting* the urgent need to address the increasing vulnerability of the energy systems in the ECE region; noting the sovereign right of states to determine national energy policy, conditions for exploiting their energy resources, their choice between different energy sources, and the general structure of their energy supply, and the pace and ways of the energy transformations; and further noting that the efforts that are being currently undertaken on the global scale need to be scaled-up to meet the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in general and of the 2°C target of the Paris Agreement in particular, and that current climate goals should not be compromised by a focus upon short-term energy challenges;

2. *Recognizes* that the Committee and its six subsidiary bodies are in a unique position to support the building of resilient energy systems in the ECE region;

3. *Welcomes* the prioritization and implementation of special resiliency-related activities by the Committee;

4. *Takes note* of the ECE Platform on Resilient Energy Systems to coordinate and promote efforts related to energy resilience across the ECE region, providing for inclusive dialogue;

5. *Further notes* that the Committee added building resilient energy systems to the programme of work beginning in 2024 as a new focus area with no regular budgetary implications, but recognizes the urgent need to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to support this critical area of work.



**F (70) Decision to study finance for energy-related climate change activities in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe, particularly related to critical raw materials**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Noting* that, to deliver on climate change and sustainable development, the ECE region must optimize the management of endowments of natural resources, including critical raw materials (CRMs), that a significant increase in sustainability-focused investments for sourcing and development of CRMs is crucial to ensuring the security of supply, and that there is currently a lack of financing available for CRMs-related projects in the ECE region;

2. *Requests* that the Committee study how best to address the current barriers to climate finance in the ECE region, such as a lack of socially, environmentally and economically referenced standardized and harmonized data on projects, and develop, within existing resources, products that address these barriers.

**G (70) Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Recalling* its decision 4 of E/ECE/1462 Annual Report (1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011);

2. *Noting* the value of capturing and using recovered methane to increase energy supply and support energy system resilience in the short term and the value of increasing the capture and reduction of methane to achieve climate objectives in the long term;

3. *Endorses* the “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” (ECE/ENERGY/139), developed under the Committee’s Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition;

4. *Recommends* that the Guidance be disseminated widely, inviting Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” worldwide;

5. *Decides* to propose to the Economic and Social Council to consider inviting Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to apply the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level and to transmit to the Council at its next session a draft decision on the issue for consideration and possible adoption.

**Draft ECOSOC Decision on the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that at its seventieth session (18 - 19 April 2023), the Economic Commission for Europe endorsed the “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” (ECE/ENERGY/139), of December 2021, recommended that the “Best Practices Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” be disseminated widely, and invited Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility

of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” in countries worldwide, and proposed to the Economic and Social Council that it recommend the application of the “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” worldwide, and noting that this proposal does not have financial implications,

*Decides* to invite Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the “Best Practice Guidance for Effective Management of Coal Mine Methane at National Level: Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Mitigation” worldwide.

## **H (70) United Nations Resource Management System Principles and Requirements**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Recalling* its decision E (69) paragraph 2 of E/ECE/1494 Annual Report (9 April 2019 to 20 April 2021);

2. *Noting* that sustainable management of natural resources is fundamental to attainment of the 2030 Agenda, attainment of the Paris Agreement and progress towards a more circular economy;

3. *Endorses*, subject to the procedure outlined in the report of the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its thirty-first session (ECE/ENERGY/143, paragraph 34), the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) Principles and Requirements (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2022/6) developed by the Committee’s Expert Group on Resource Management;

4. *Recommends* that the UNRMS Principles and Requirements be disseminated widely, inviting Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the UNRMS Principles and Requirements worldwide;

5. *Decides* to propose to the Economic and Social Council to consider inviting Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to apply the UNRMS Principles and Requirements and to transmit to the Council at its next session a draft decision on the issue for consideration and possible adoption.

### **Draft ECOSOC Decision on the UNRMS Principles and Requirements**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that at its seventieth session (1819 April 2023), the Economic Commission for Europe endorsed the UNRMS Principles and Requirements of 14 April 2022 as contained in document ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2022/6, recommended that the UNRMS Principles and Requirements be disseminated widely, and invited Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the UNRMS Principles and Requirements in countries worldwide, and proposed to the Economic and Social Council that it recommend the application of the UNRMS Principles and Requirements worldwide, and noting that this proposal does not have financial implications,

*Decides* to invite Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the UNRMS Principles and Requirements worldwide.

**I (70) Request to strengthen the role of the secretariat of the Economic Commission of Europe in supporting member States in building resilient energy systems and modernizing resource management systems**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Considering* a number of decisions of the Economic and Social Council concerning the sustainable energy subprogramme (United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities (1997/226), United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources (2004/233), Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines (2011/222), Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Recovery and Use from Abandoned Coal Mines (2021/249), Updated United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (2021/250));

2. *Noting* at its seventieth session the critical importance of building resilient energy systems in the ECE region, including sustainable resource management of critical raw materials (CRMs) and the development of sustainable value chains of CRMs, and progress toward a more circular economy in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement targets;

3. *Further noting* that ECE member States are starting to prioritize building resilient energy systems and implementation of sustainable resource management tools, including the implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) for social, environmental and economic performance improvements in natural resource management, including through the International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and the International Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane and supporting proper management of coal mine methane and abandoned mine methane;

4. *Recalling* that the regular budget support for the subprogramme, including staffing, has remained minimal and unchanged for the past many years;

5. *Decides* to request the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the ECE secretariat in supporting member States in building resilient energy systems and modernizing resource management systems;

6. *Decides* to transmit to the Economic and Social Council at its session of 2023 a draft resolution on this issue for consideration and possible adoption.

**Draft resolution of the Economic and Social Council to strengthen the role of the secretariat of the Economic Commission of Europe in supporting member States in building resilient energy systems and modernizing resource management systems**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the adoption by the seventieth session of the Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, 18–19 April 2023) of decision I (70), by which the Economic Commission for Europe recommended to the Economic and Social Council endorsing the said decision,

*Endorses* decision I (70) of the Economic Commission for Europe and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the ECE secretariat in supporting member States in building resilient energy systems and modernizing resource management systems.

**J (70) Implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)**

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Acknowledging* the essential role of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) in furthering effective and inclusive public access to information, access to justice and public participation in environmental matters across different sectors and processes;

2. *Also acknowledging* that the Aarhus Convention is thereby playing an important role in the achievement of all sustainable development goals, in particular goal 16, by empowering the public with the right to access to information and to justice, and participate effectively in decision-making on a wide range of issues addressed by the goals;

3. *Recognizing* that the implementation of the Convention also supports countries efforts in implementing many other international commitments, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); and a number of Human Rights Council resolutions and processes with direct relevance to environmental matters;<sup>1</sup>

4. *Welcoming* the tangible positive changes across the ECE region and beyond in promoting access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, stimulated by the Aarhus Convention since its adoption in 1998;

5. *Noting* that the number of the Parties to the Convention was progressively growing;

6. *Also noting* the adoption, at the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties, of Decision VII/9 establishing a rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders;

7. *Recognizing* the importance of adequate financing for the implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders in order to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as other relevant global and regional commitments;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase the support by ECE, in order to strengthen the secretariat's capacity to facilitate the implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Aarhus Convention;

9. *Decides* to transmit to the Economic and Social Council at its session of 2023 a draft resolution on this issue for consideration and possible adoption.

**Draft resolution of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the adoption by the seventieth session of the Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, 18–19 April 2023) of decision J (70) on the implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Aarhus Convention by which the Economic Commission for Europe recommended to the Economic and Social Council endorsing the said decision,

*Endorses* decision J (70) of the Economic Commission for Europe and requests the Secretary-General to increase the support by ECE, in order to strengthen the secretariat's capacity to facilitate the implementation of the rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders under the Aarhus Convention.

## K (70) Matters related to sustainable transport and mobility

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

1. *Acknowledges* the importance of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) and of the eTIR international system towards seamless, paperless and efficient border-crossing operations internationally, further facilitating road/intermodal transport and trade, and requests the countries that have not yet performed interconnection of their customs systems with the eTIR international system to do so as soon as possible;

2. *Reiterates* its support to the TIR Convention recognizing the benefits it created since its entry into force for transport and trade facilitation, appealing for its further geographical expansion and inviting United Nations Member States from all regions to become contracting parties to the Convention;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariat and the contracting parties to operationalize the Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road concerning the electronic consignment note (eCMR protocol) to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR Convention), and invites all relevant parties to finalize this demanding task as soon as possible, and to ensure that the future eCMR system will include the interests of all stakeholders involved in today's daily CMR practice and of all regions, thus creating a sustainable electronic solution and continuing the great success over time of the CMR Convention by leading road transport and therefore intermodal transport to a fully digital environment;

4. *Notes* the development of the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory on a Geographical Information Technology Platform, including the work done on the adaptation of transport infrastructure to climate change, invites countries to start using the tool and benefit from its services emphasizing that this work is a good practice that further facilitates the sustainable development of transport infrastructure;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of a package of guidance or regulations in the area of vehicle automation by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE);

6. *Also welcomes* activities of the ECE/ITC World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and by United Nations Member States towards the establishment of minimum technical safety and specific environmental requirements for used and new vehicles designated for markets in low and middle-income countries, where some 90 per cent of global road crash fatalities occur;

7. *Notes* the ongoing work and regulatory results by the ECE/ITC World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations for the safety, energy consumption testing, and carbon Life-Cycle-Assessment of, *inter alia*, electric and hydrogen vehicles and emphasizes that these regulatory tools provide a sound basis for efficient decarbonization of road transport;

8. *Recalls* the use of the ITC carbon emission modelling tool For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS), and invites countries, regions or cities to request modelling of impact for different policy measures planned towards mitigation of road transport-based carbon emissions”.

## Annex I

### Item 1: Opening and adoption of the agenda

#### Chair's summary of the discussions

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Commission heard opening remarks as follows:

**Ms. Désirée Schweitzer, Chair of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)**, stated that there was an urgent need to unleash the digital transformation potential to advance the green transformation, including sustainable energy transition, and address climate change. She added that ECE already had a significant amount of expertise in this area. The extensive body of relevant ECE work on that topic highlight how the digital transformation can support the green transformation, in particular as it concerns the management of natural resources and the shift to a circular economy, the impact on sectors that are key for decarbonization and increased energy efficiency, the potential of innovation and the related measurement issues.

**Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary of ECE**, stated that the current period of accelerated technological transformation would offer new prospects but also raise additional challenges, amid continued environmental pressures. As existing patterns of resource use are exceeding planet boundaries and damaging biodiversity, a green transformation is urgently required to change the way in which we produce and consume. The pandemic accelerated the growth of the digital economy, increasing social demands and acceptance for digital solutions. Amid falling costs and increased availability, the use of key advanced technologies such as cloud computing, connected devices and the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and machine learning or blockchain is becoming more widespread. For ECE, digitalization opens new opportunities to enhance the implementation of its mandates, across the normative, policy advisory and capacity-building dimensions in support of the green transformation. The virtual side events preceding the Commission had showcased ECE expertise on the current and previous high-level themes and done some horizon scanning on the future of regulation.

**Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**, stressed the long-standing and strong partnership with ECE, which includes collaboration on smart cities, the future of networked cars and the regional United Nations Digital Transformation Group. The topic of green and digital transformation is crucial for sustainable development and to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the prolonged high inflation. Research shows that boosting broadband penetration would strengthen economic growth. There is a massive potential of digital technologies to accelerate the progress on Sustainable Development Goals. Technical standards are important in this respect, such as those developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and ECE. In view of many synergies between ITU and ECE, it will be mutually beneficial to continue strengthening cooperation.

**Ms. Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva**, remarked that digitalization played an important role during the COVID-19 pandemic. Children were studying remotely, employees teleworked, and multilateral cooperation shifted to digital. However, over one third of the population cannot take advantage of digitalization. This requires multilateral cooperation against the digital divide so that digitalization will be forward looking and more inclusive and involve the youth in decision-making. To get back on track to implement Agenda 2030, more international solidarity and public-private cooperation in sustainable financing is needed. ECE, with its member States, prepared tools that support digitalization and green economy. It is important to share them in the ECE region and beyond.

## Item 2: High-level Dialogue

### Chair's summary of the discussions

The item was moderated by **Ms. Désirée Schweitzer, Chair of ECE**.

Many delegations welcomed the choice of “Digital and green transformations in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe” as the theme of the session and stressed how important it was to capitalize on the digital transformation for a green transformation. Several delegations also highlighted the need to enhance regional cooperation and multilateralism, and agreed that ECE, as a multi-stakeholder convening platform, had an important role to play.

### Statements

**Mr. Rashid Meredov, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Turkmenistan**, noted the relevance of the issue of digital and green transformations for sustainable development. In the ECE region, there is a growing interest in digital and green transformations that ultimately support the move towards a circular economy. In Turkmenistan, the use of new technologies in the area of nature protection is a state priority. The second Voluntary National Review (VNR) of Turkmenistan, to be presented at the 2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), will include extensive information on green technologies and measures to combat climate change. He highlighted successful national examples related to the ECE “Trees in Cities Challenge”, reducing methane gas emissions, smart cities and hydrogen energy.

**Mr. João Gomes Cravinho, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Portugal**, said that addressing the climate crisis and promoting the energy transition requires more international and regional cooperation and that moving to a widely circular economy is essential to achieve climate neutrality. This requires capitalizing from the digital transition and investing in technological innovation. ECE has tools such as the Batumi Initiative on Greening the Economy (BIG-E). Digital transformation must also play an important role in implementing the 2030 Agenda, but it will only work if due attention is paid to digital literacy. Portugal is using one third of the funds of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan on the twin green and digital transitions, in particular initiatives targeting Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9 and 12. ECE has a key role to play.

**Ms. Leonore Gewessler, Federal Minister for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria**, stated that strong and effective multilateralism was the best approach to dealing with the current environmental challenges. Green and digital transformation will support Austria in becoming climate neutral by 2040 and meet the target of 100 per cent electricity from renewable sources by 2030. Austria focuses on green and digital with a fund of 3,46 billion euros. ECE was encouraged to focus on green and digital transformation, specifically on regional differences and on closing the digital divide.

**Mr. Daniyar Amangeldiev, Minister of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyzstan**, positively assessed the work of ECE in the country, which has contributed to inclusive economic growth and the integration in supply chains. This beneficial collaboration will be maintained in the future. Kyrgyzstan intends to boost its potential in exporting domestically made high-tech products. International markets are changing, which is creating new opportunities but also challenges. Digital technologies will need to meet the needs of the population and businesses alike. The country welcomes the focus on green economy and supports initiatives to swap foreign debt for green initiatives. It is the goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. To this end, an overhaul of economic sectors is being conducted. Technological innovation as well as energy production is being stepped up.

**Ms. Ana Novakovic Djurovic, Minister of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism, Montenegro**, agreed on the importance to discuss digital and green transformation for sustainable development. Montenegro is committed to adopting a

sustainable and circular economy model. The country adopted a National Circular Transition Strategy that aims at changing the way of thinking and doing business to preserve human, social, and natural capital. In a period of energy crisis, it is more difficult to secure energy availability. Despite that, Montenegro is still committed to decarbonization and green energy transition and will welcome the support from more advanced countries.

**Mr. Ruslan Strelets, Minister of Environment, Ukraine**, emphasized that digital and green transformations were inseparable to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and climate neutrality. Digitalization has become a priority within the Eastern Partnership of the European Union. In the context of European integration and the alignment with the European Union Green Deal, Ukraine has identified digital and green transformations as a priority. Digitalization will also play a significant role on the rapid post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. The Ministry of Environment is also pursuing the path of digitalization, e.g. by launching a unified web portal for environmental information and obtaining environmental administrative services. Despite the Russian aggression, the ambition remains to build a modern and digital country.

**Mr. Neophytos Papadopoulos, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, Cyprus**, stated that there are synergies between green transition and digital transformation, and neither can be achieved without a holistic approach. Cyprus 2035 is the policy and strategic vision to achieve strategic development, reaching digital transformation and green transition. The main pillar of the digital strategy is a technology that works for people and for a green digital transition. Forty-one percent of investments of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan are on green transition and transition to circular economy. Sustainable mobility, sustainable blue economy and transition to circular economy are expected to be implemented by 2030.

**Ms. Velislava Petrova, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria**, underscored that sustainable development could not be achieved without lasting peace. She called on Russia to stop the war against Ukraine thus allowing efforts and resources to be used to address the global challenges. The twin digital and green transitions are not only necessary but also inevitable. Smart and clean digital technologies have the potential to improve energy and resource efficiency and to facilitate the move to a circular economy. Bulgaria aims at developing a full-fledged research and innovation ecosystem to transform society and economy. A holistic and whole-of-society approach is needed to achieve this as well as concerted efforts between countries.

**Mr. Märt Volmer, Undersecretary for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia**, said that his country aligned itself with the statement of the European Union to be delivered at a later stage. Energy, transport, environment are areas among which constructive engagement by all parties has facilitated work within ECE. Digital transformation is not a goal in itself, but a way to transform the society as a whole, starting with energy consumption habits to building trust in the changing world. For that, Estonia welcomes the participation of ITU in discussions on the topic. ECE has a central supportive role in driving transformation. The current geopolitical situation should not stop improvement in digitalization and green transition.

**Ms. Ingrid Brockova, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovakia**, said that one could not ignore the impact of multiple crises on shared aspirations of countries. The Russian aggression against Ukraine not only caused immense human suffering and loss of lives, but also has had a negative impact on the social and economic well-being of the region. Slovakia supports all projects and plans for the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. It is crucial to continue efforts to accelerate digital and green transformations. Moreover, investments in the green economy are part of the solution of the energy crisis. The region is sliding back on the Sustainable Development Goals and must therefore work together to use the transformative power of technology. The involvement of youth and society as a whole is vital for a green transition.

**Mr. Zdenko Lucic, State Secretary for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Croatia**, stated that his country aligned itself with the statement of the European Union to be delivered at a later stage. Digital and green transitions are the only solutions to tackle food, energy, climate, biodiversity loss and environmental crisis. During



the COVID-19 pandemic, digital technology proved its adaptability. Croatia has been focusing on further digitalizing public administration. Human rights, rule of law, and cyber democracy must be respected also in the digital sphere. By 2027 Croatia plans to invest more than 15 billion euros in green and digital transition. Citizens are to be supported in the digital transition as no one should be left behind.

**Ms. Eva Volfová, Deputy Minister of Environment, Czechia**, touched upon the opportunities and threats of the twin transitions, which must be handled in a just and proper way. The past years have revealed the fragility of supply chains and interdependencies in the world economy. This relates in particular to energy sources and critical raw materials. The experiences have highlighted the need for collaboration. At the level of the European Union, the green transition is advanced by developing a digital product passport and strengthening the circular economy. In the Czech economy, digital technologies are particularly instrumental to address the sustainability of the construction sector.

**Ms. Almira Xhembulla, Deputy Minister of Tourism and Environment, Albania**, observed that green transformation was inevitable for sustainable development. For Albania, green growth means ensuring that natural assets continue to provide resources and environmental services while the country grows economically. A new project on circular economy and green growth will support the private sector to introduce circular economy measures. The right legislative framework needs to be established to grant sustainable conditions for investments. Tourism is one of the main sectors to drive economic growth and its promotion is to be based on environmental protection. Global solidarity will allow society to become climate neutral, and the governments need to agree on that.

**Mr. Wojciech Gerwel, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland**, expressed solidarity with the Ukrainian people suffering from the unjustified Russian aggression. Poland believes that digital and green transformations are key to achieving climate neutrality and maintaining high socio-economic development. Poland uses innovative educational technology tools to increase digital awareness among all social groups. In terms of energy transition Poland anticipates more dynamic development of renewable energy sources, will expand and construct new liquified natural gas terminals and add nuclear energy to the energy mix.

**Mr. Goran Aleksic, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Serbia**, stated that the fourth industrial revolution of digitization was central to innovation, modernization, economic growth, competitiveness and comprehensive socio-economic progress and development. Serbia relies on education for digital age, E-government, and digital and knowledge-based economy. Serbia is committed to the Green Agenda with the development of the Environmental Protection Strategy.

**Mr. Samuel Žbogar, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovenia**, stated that climate and water were among the top foreign policy priorities of Slovenia with a commitment to transboundary environmental cooperation and its positive effects on peace and stability. Slovenia is pleased to be taking over the presidency of the ECE Water Convention 2024–2027 in December 2023. Slovenia shares a human-centric vision of digital transformation. Science and technology are powerful allies to help make quicker and better-informed choices.

**Mr. Yuri Ambrazevich, Deputy Foreign Minister, Belarus**, said that the Commission session was taking place during a major global security crisis. The contribution of the Commission to cooperation on economic development and integration between countries is obvious and undeniable, but Belarus notes challenges in terms of its politization. The world continues to be in need of a forum for genuine multilateral cooperation based on the principles of the sovereignty of states and non-interference in domestic affairs. There have been significant achievements in the region in the field of digital and green transformations. Belarus is amongst the leaders in Information Technology (IT) exports per capita and is implementing a national plan for the development of the green economy. Belarus called upon all ECE member States to enable the Commission to work under its unique and timeless mandate towards sustainable development and prosperity for the sake of future generations.

**Ms. Jovita Neliupšienė, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lithuania**, stated that Lithuania aimed to achieve the target of 100 per cent renewably generated electricity by as early as 2030. Her country has a National Resilience and Recovery Plan and has taken measures to support this green transition. There is a need for all stakeholders to collaborate in a more concerted way to ensure the responsible use of the new technologies. Lithuania is chairing the Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention, supporting the facilitation of the implementation of the Rapid Response Mechanism for protecting environmental defenders under the Convention.

**Ms. Nerissa J. Cook, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, Department of State, United States of America**, stated that innovation and encouraging innovation-enabling environments were critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including early-stage investment and intellectual property protections and enforcement systems. The Biden Administration has made a historic investment of \$16.5 billion in support of climate science and clean energy innovation, including \$11.3 billion to boost clean energy innovation. Attention was being paid to advancing economic growth while securing environmental protections to implement the Sustainable Development Goals fully.

**Mr. Didar Temenov, Director General, Multilateral Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan**, said that ongoing global crises demanded more innovative and sustainable approaches. The new economic policy of Kazakhstan puts digital and green transformations on top of the agenda. Profound legal and political changes have taken place in the country. New priorities include building an open, self-sufficient and competitive economy and promoting digital and green transformations. Kazakhstan has defined the ambitious target of achieving net carbon zero by 2060. The first-ever low-carbon development strategy was adopted as part of these efforts. The domestic digital market is growing. Kazakhstan stands ready to work with ECE and all member States to advance digital and green transformations.

**Mr. Hubert Gambis, Deputy Director-General DG GROW - Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Union**, underlined the commitment of the European Union and of the European Commission to engage constructively in ECE to work towards the 2030 Agenda. He stated that peace and security were prerequisites for sustainable development. The European Union and its Member States strongly condemn Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Green and digital transformation is at the heart of the work of the European Commission and the DG GROW, as shown by the Net-Zero Industry Act. He noted the need for strong partnerships and the involvement of businesses, particularly Small and Medium Businesses, in the ECE process. He also suggested to explore the continuation of hybrid meetings in ECE to use digital technology for climate benefits and ensure broad participation.

**Mr. Benedikt Wechsler, Ambassador, Head of Division for Digitalization, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland**, said that digital technology was important to economic development and a catalyst for environmental transition and implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. The 2023 Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, co-chaired by Switzerland, also confirmed that fact. Switzerland developed a digitalized monitoring tool that simplifies collection of data for the next national voluntary review under Agenda 2030 and for a broader cooperation and coordination in the country. Digitalization can support monitoring of air pollution and the use of water. Data must be accessible and interoperable, especially on water and health. All international stakeholders are needed to ensure a prosperous digital transition.

**Mr. Gennady Gatilov, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Russian Federation**, stated that the Russian Federation supported the ECE activities aimed at implementing a balanced policy for developing an environmentally sustainable economy and digital transformation. The country is committed to a balanced energy transition based on the principle of technological neutrality, promotion of transitional and adaptive solutions in responding to climate change. Digital transformation in the Russian Federation is affecting all sectors of the economy and the social sphere. The Russian Federation condemns the attempts of the United States of America, the European Union and other countries to disseminate anti-Russian propaganda and to create divisions within the Commission. The

Russian Federation is continuing to pragmatically engage in the cooperation within ECE until it serves its interests. The Russian Federation expressed its gratitude to Ms. Olga Algayerova for her responsible and impartial work in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

**Mr. Jérôme Bonnafont, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, France,** recalled that peace and prosperity were important for economic dialogue. France is fully committed with green transition. For example, France and Gabon co-convened the One Forest Summit in early March 2023 and the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee for the upcoming Treaty on Plastics will take place in Paris in June 2023. Opportunities of an economic transformation through digitalization are many and will guide the work and thinking of France for green transition and sustainable development. However, France does not forget that the digital sector also creates pollution, e.g. through metal extraction, and emits CO<sub>2</sub> (two percent, nearly as much as aviation). In order to tackle such issues, France has developed a roadmap of 50 measures to address environmental challenges of the digital sector and calls on member States to become pioneers on that. In addition, cybersecurity and cyber democracy are crucial issues on which France is also very much involved together with other countries and actors from all continents. France invites all ECE member States to embrace such initiatives.

**Ms. Meirav Eilon Sahar, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Israel,** said that Israel remained concerned over the impact of the Russian invasion on civilians in Ukraine as well as on the region. The country supports all projects to rebuild Ukraine. Science and technology have brought changes to all aspects of life, yet climate change continues to accelerate. Green transformation is the best concept to use technology for sustainable development. Israel has been engaged in developing technological solutions, in particular to counter climate change. Israel's growing climate technology ecosystem has an important role to play in this regard.

**Mr. Alexander Maisuradze, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Georgia,** stated that Georgia recognizes the potential for economic growth of digital and green transformation. The government, with stakeholders, started developing a Circular Economy Strategy. Georgia aims at developing coherent climate change policies with relevant international partners. Georgia is engaged in increasing the use of renewable energy and decreasing reliance on fossil fuels aiming at carbon neutrality by 2050. Digital connectivity in the Black Sea is a priority for the country. Georgia is ready to maintain cooperation with partners to enhance cooperation.

**Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Armenia,** stressed that the anniversary session offered an opportunity to renew the pledge to the Sustainable Development Goals at the midpoint towards 2030. However, this is a daunting task amidst multiple global challenges. For Armenia, the existing global challenges have been exacerbated by the aggression of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. As a consequence, the humanitarian situation remains difficult. Having embraced an ambitious reform agenda, Armenia sees ECE as a valuable and reliable partner. The second Environmental Performance Review (EPR) of Armenia and its recommendations are instrumental to improve environmental sustainability across all sectors. An Innovation Performance Review in the country will take place in June.

**Mr. Hans-Peter Jugel, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, Germany,** recalled that Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine was impacting policies that ECE is implementing. The climate change and economic crisis ask for digital and green transformation. Germany started a project to measure the carbon footprint of the automotive sector. Such projects are important to share information on carbon footprint and can be replicated to other sectors. With international cooperation the impact of digitalization will be maximised. The ECE Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN) aims at producing a network on transformative innovation for peer learning. Germany looks forward for participants to join the network.

**Ms. Hema Kotecha, Deputy Permanent Representative, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,** emphasized that there was a unique window of opportunity ahead. The Glasgow Climate Pact describes a way forward to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees. Halfway to 2030, the global pandemic and Russia's illegal invasion

of Ukraine have caused setbacks. There is an opportunity to accelerate progress to a net zero economy by market-led technology transition. The international technology strategy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland sets out technology as an engine of progress. Research on circular economy and resource management is being fostered. Electrification of road transport is gaining momentum and requires internationally harmonized approaches. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland stands ready to collaborate on a greener, fairer and peaceful future.

**Ms. Arzu Erçelik Vandeweyer, Deputy Permanent Representative, Türkiye**, stated that digital and green transformations were needed to advance sustainable development and achieve Agenda 2030. Türkiye established a Digital Transformation Office to coordinate efforts through policies on digitalization. It promotes digitalization in public and private sectors, including medium and small enterprises. Energy transition and zero-waste initiative are other important parts of the transformation strategy. Türkiye has been investing significantly in renewable energy. Digital and green transformation should be accessible and available to countries lacking the know-how. Türkiye invited member States to make contributions to the United Nations Technology Bank in Gebze, the only United Nations agency dedicated to the Least Developed Countries exclusively.

**Mr. Emil Majidov, Adviser to the Minister of Economy, Azerbaijan**, highlighted that the commitment to digital and green transformations was now embedded in the national socio-economic development plan. The community of Agali was referred to as an example of a smart and digital settlement, while still suffering from the aftermath of the conflict with Armenia. Azerbaijan is now chairing the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) and will hold a summit in Baku at the end of the year, seeking to leave a good legacy for the next Chair

A statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Armenia.

Wrapping up the discussions, the Executive Secretary expressed encouragement by the array of innovative initiatives presented by delegations. They would be key to realize the promise of the digital transformation to support green transformation and the fight against climate change. Only by promoting digital inclusion for all could the digital potential be fully unleashed. Promoting digital inclusion of older persons, and especially older women, will contribute to achieving targets on health and well-being, on decent work and economic growth, and on sustainable cities and communities. ECE has embarked on a process to strengthen the engagement of youth more systematically and created a range of events to provide fora of exchange. ECE stands ready to welcome even more youth delegates at the next session of the Commission and also to develop new proposals through its subsidiary bodies to provide even more impactful and measurable solutions for greater digital inclusion.

## Annex II

### **Item 3: Roundtable: Digital and green: the twin transformations to advance sustainable development**

#### **Chair's summary of the discussions**

The roundtable comprised two thematic panels, which were each followed by interactive dialogue.

#### **Panel 1: Digitalization as enabler for climate action and decarbonization**

##### **Segment A: The 4Ds of modern energy system: digitalization, decentralization, democratization, and decarbonization**

The first segment of Panel 1 was moderated by **Ms. Erlijn Van Genuchten, Task Force on Digitalization in Energy of the UNECE Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency**. In her opening remarks, Ms. Van Genuchten underscored the potential of digitalization to produce, transmit, distribute, and use energy more efficiently through better connectivity and decision-making support, while she stressed the need to understand and address related multiple risks and challenges.

**Ms. Elizabeth Massey, Co-Chair of the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy of the UNECE Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency**, set the scene by highlighting three key data aspects for consideration: integrity, availability and confidentiality. Systems that address these aspects can master the challenges faced with data curation, data integration, data democratization, cybersecurity and grid resiliency. She emphasized that these concepts ensure accurate load forecasts, benefitting from dynamic market signals and making timely decisions aligned with strategic orientations.

**Ms. Ingrid Brockova, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovakia**, stated that smart and interconnected energy systems were important. Slovakia applies these systems to ensure energy availability through more responsive energy systems and allow new business models for sustainable energy markets. Slovakia also invests in smart solutions such as smart meters in households and a smart grid that enables renewable sources for distributed energy supply. Slovakia experiences many advantages of decentralization.

**Mr. Alexey Kulapin, Director General, Russian Energy Agency, Ministry of Energy, Russian Federation**, stated that the digital transformation of the global energy sector will contribute to ensuring universal access to reliable and affordable energy sources and reducing the burden on climate. A 13.5-fold increase in the number of digital technologies is expected in the Russian energy sector, while ensuring cybersecurity. In this context, Russia consistently advocates non-discriminatory access to modern technologies that will contribute to a fair energy transition. To speed these developments up, the Russian Federation implements remote management, smart grids, big data and energy storage. The country also ensures rapid reaction to accidents and focuses on IT infrastructure and skill development. This increases digital maturity and a balanced shift related to Sustainable Development Goal 7.

**Mr. Sergii Vlasenko, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, Ukraine**, stated that Ukraine continued to implement digitalization even after the Russian invasion that included attacks on the energy system and had caused dire conditions, destruction of infrastructure, physical danger and had generally slowed progress. Sustainable energy sources, such as wind and solar, had been lost to a large extent. As Ukraine has also experienced hacker attacks, it has moved most of the data to the cloud to ensure security of data and data-related assets.

**Mr. Neophytos Papadopoulos, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, Cyprus**, stated that his ministry had initiated a digitalization project in line with the 4 Ds. Cyprus is developing a model that has 18 solutions in 6 categories, focusing, for instance, on education for sustainable development, development of smart cities and sustainable agriculture. Key tools are experiential and transformative learning, and unified, as opposed to fragmented, smart solutions. The goal is to achieve a holistic transformation to the circular economy, interconnectivity, based on community needs and using a multistakeholder approach.

**Mr. Thomas Spoormans, European Union**, expressed full solidarity with Ukraine and reiterated the European Union strong condemnation of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, which had a very concrete impact also in the area of energy. He stated that digital technologies were indeed relevant for fostering sustainability and mentioned actions to digitalise the energy system. These help to improve efficiency, integrate renewable energies and save costs for users and energy companies.

The moderator concluded that digital solutions enabled advances in connectivity, data, and analytics, and greatly increased overall efficiency of energy system. Digital innovations offer new ways of addressing challenges in energy delivery process, and of finding exceptional ways to address them.

#### **Segment B: Intelligent Transport Systems and integrated multimodal transport as a means to achieving greener transport**

The second segment of Panel 1 was moderated by **Ms. Hannie Meesters, Chair of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC)**. In her opening remarks, she emphasized the role of ITC as the United Nations Platform for inland transport conventions and supporting new technologies and innovations in inland transport and stressed the need for implementing policies and measures that promote efficient, clean, safe and affordable inland transport.

**Mr. François Davenne, Director General, International Union of Railways**, addressed challenges for digital and green transition on inland transport. Massive reduction of emissions, modal shift and investments are required to achieve a renewed transport paradigm where rail together with public transport could become the backbone of mobility. Introducing new technologies such as integrated ticketing and autonomous driving, will facilitate this transition. Several digital initiatives have been already launched in the sector.

**Ms. Els De Wit, Chair of the ITC Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics**, highlighted progress in digitalization of transport documents, improving the multimodal infrastructure, economic viability and environmental performance of Euro-Asian transport links. eTIR is expected to play a key role. Active mobility is promoted by the “Mobility as a Service” concept of seamless and integrated mobility solutions for multimodal trips. Work is ongoing on taking stock of developments in electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

**Mr. Jim Robb, Chair of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems**, observed that e-mobility will have as much impact on the design and operation of the electric grid as it will on transportation systems themselves. Electric loads will grow significantly, and location and operation of Electrical Vehicle chargers (private or public) needs to be integrated with grid and resource planning. Greater emphasis should be placed on cybersecurity. He called for collaboration and information sharing between governments and private sector.

**Mr. Robert Thaler, Bureau of the Pan-European Programme on Transport, Health and Environment (THE PEP)**, noted that the Vienna Declaration could help drive change to clean, safe, healthy and inclusive mobility. The use of active mobility is being accelerated by the promotion of cycling and eco-driving and supported by the Pan-European Master Plan on Cycling Promotion. Digitalization can significantly contribute to the programme from the perspective of users. THE PEP Partnerships play the key role for collaboration towards this transformation.

**Mr. Thomas Spoormans, European Union**, recalled the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and other initiatives of the European Commission towards a green transport and automated mobility. Digitalization and innovation in green technologies are key driving forces for improving the sustainability of the European Union transport system. Integrating the international dimension of transport policy is important for enhancing the competitiveness, sustainability and efficiency of the European Union transport sector.

The moderator concluded that digitalization in inland transport and reducing its environmental footprint to a minimum were fundamental for the future. It is important that ITC member States continue to support digital and green transformation processes through the implementation of the ITC Strategy until 2030.

## **Panel 2: Enhancing trust and transparency: Using digital tools to support the green transformation**

### **Segment A: Data for effective and evidence-based policymaking**

The session was moderated by **Mr. Pdraig Dalton, Chair of the Conference of European Statisticians**. In his scene-setting remarks, he highlighted the role of trustworthy and transparent information as key to addressing the multi-dimensional challenges facing our world today. He emphasized that policy makers increasingly required complex insights drawn from the evidence that are of high quality, timely and in sufficient detail. To meet the demands, all available data sources need to be used. Accessibility is key, and the data must be planned and structured correctly from the outset so it can be linked and integrated. Collaboration and partnerships in this domain will be central to unlocking the evidence and insight.

**Mr. Märt Volmer, Undersecretary for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia**, emphasized that data was the fuel for targeted and calibrated decision making. Using the huge amounts of data currently created needs a systematic policy approach, open data, and standardization and harmonization. He brought examples of digital tools for developing a smart energy grid, forestry data, recycling textile waste, and promoting the Data for the Environment Alliance (DEAL).

### **Segment B: Back to the source: Traceability of materials across supply chains**

The session was moderated by **Ms. Anna Stanley-Radière, Director, Climate Transparency and member of the Extended Leadership Group, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)**. In her opening remarks, Ms. Stanley-Radière noted the importance of digital tools to ensure transparency and traceability as key enablers for reliable information, accountability and sustainability in global value chains.

**Mr. Ilkhom Khaydarov, Chair, Confederation of Employers of Uzbekistan and UzbekTextilProm**, showcased the applicability of digital tools in the clothing sector of Uzbekistan, supporting transparency and traceability efforts in textile value chains. Under the initiative of the ECE “The Sustainability Pledge”, UzbekTextilProm traces cotton from farm to shelf through blockchain technology, tracking social and environmental performance. Certification and thus being able to sell the yarn as the first ever certified “Better Cotton yarn” marks a significant improvement for the country. Challenges arise for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises owing to limited resources and technological knowledge.

**Ms. Cécile Billaux, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission**, noted the relevant role of the European Union policies and regulations to promote the digital transformation in an inclusive and effective way. As part of the European Union Green Deal, the European Commission will introduce the Digital Product Passport and the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products and Textiles. These two frameworks will ensure better information to consumers, investors and stakeholders along the value chain. The ECE Sustainability Pledge initiative, implemented with support of the European Commission, contributes to take this agenda to a wider scale in sectors with global value chains.

**Ms. Laura Calligaro, Italy**, welcomed the work with ECE and recalled a joint side event on the occasion of the ECE Regional Forum for Sustainable Development with the National Chamber of Italian Fashion in 2023, which especially focused on the responsible use of resources and circular economy for the sustainable textile sector. She further emphasized the successful collaboration under “The Sustainability Pledge” between ECE and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

**Mr. Ricardo Treviño Chapa, Deputy Secretary General, World Customs Organization (WCO)**, noted that digitalization was particularly important in customs procedures, as paper-based trade is inefficient and costly. While the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation, more efforts are needed to reduce carbon footprint in trade and logistics. WCO is implementing a data strategy through advanced technologies to enhance efficiency and decision-making, and further protect human and environmental health through agreements on import and export of illicit and harmful goods at international borders. WCO stands ready to collaborate, contribute, and take action on climate change, plastic pollution and biodiversity loss.

The moderator summarized that access to digital tools that enable transparency and traceability should be anchored as a driving force and not come at a cost, particularly for Small and Medium Enterprises.

### **Segment C: Innovative ways to relate with the public, share information and design policy**

The session was moderated by **Mr. Pdraig Dalton, Chair of the Conference of European Statisticians**.

**Mr. Nebojsa Redzic, Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)**, highlighted the importance of effective digital data management for decision-making. He presented the PRTR system in Serbia, which had been recognized as being innovative, and noted that the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol provided the basis for its establishment. The system is a set of information on environmental pollution sources and is used for decision-making, such as for example setting fees for emissions.

**Ms. Cristina Avornic, speaking on behalf of the Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Information**, noted the role of the “Recommendations on the more effective use of electronic information tools” in promoting inclusive and effective access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters. She illustrated how they were applied in the Republic of Moldova through different digital tools.

**Ms. Summer Kern, Earthjustice and European Environmental Bureau**, highlighted the civil society perspective on the use of electronic tools for access to information and public participation. She noted major benefits: better decision-making, good governance, greater public acceptance, and resilience in times of crisis; and challenges: e.g. making information accessible, also for those in vulnerable situations, establishing “a 1-stop shop”, lack of awareness of those tools by public authorities and civil society, and gender or age-related concerns.

**Mr. Régis Farret, France**, spoke about several aspects of digitalization, noting its positive role in transforming our society, and also its impact on energy consumption and on pollution. He underlined that digital and green transformations shall be implemented in a complimentary and coherent way. He recalled that data transparent publication, as well as data treatment, were essential to observe and assess our impacts, and then to mitigate them in a collaborative way with all actors of the society. This is the case in many environmental bodies and international Conventions. Referring to the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTRs, he stressed the need for transparency in data management and for democratic approaches to digitalization.

**Ms. Paola Deda, Director of the ECE Forests, Land and Housing Division**, presented INForest, a tool to view and compare different data on forests. She underlined the



novelty and user-friendliness of the tool and strongly encouraged delegations to use it to inform effective policy-making.

A statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

In conclusion, the moderator highlighted the importance of transparent, internationally agreed principles, standards, treaties, etc. to provide effective access to high quality data and information for participatory and inclusive decision-making, as demonstrated by various ECE tools. He noted the need for ‘data by design’ – taking into account potential data uses from the start when data systems were set up. Collaboration and partnerships between the many actors in this domain would be central to unlocking the evidence and insight.

## Annex III

[English only]

### List of meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and conventions administered by the ECE secretariat between 20 April 2021 and 19 April 2023

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>A. The Commission</b>		
Economic Commission for Europe		
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. D. Schweitzer (Austria)	70th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	18–19 April 2023
		E/2023/37 E/ECE/1503
Executive Committee		
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. E. Tichy-Fisslberger (Austria)	116th meeting
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	17 May 2021
		117th meeting 8 July 2021
		118th meeting 15 October 2021
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. M. Zbinden (Switzerland)	119th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Ms. E. Tichy-Fisslberger (Austria) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	16 December 2021
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. E. Tichy-Fisslberger (Austria)	120th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	26 January 2022
		121st meeting 3 March 2022
		121st session (resumed) 24 March 2022
		122nd meeting 3 May 2022
		123rd meeting 8 July 2022
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. D. Schweitzer (Austria)	124th meeting
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	30 September 2022
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. D. Schweitzer (Austria)*	125th meeting
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	30 November 2022
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. D. Schweitzer (Austria)	126th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	13 January 2023

\* The 125th and the 127th sessions of the Executive Committee were chaired by Mr. B. Richard (Switzerland)

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Schweitzer (Austria)*	127th session	
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. D. Chambovey (Switzerland) Mr. A. Haljanov (Turkmenistan)	16 March 2023	
<b>Standing Working Group on Ageing</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. E. Martinho (Portugal)	14th meeting	ECE/WG.1/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. A. Rinckenbach (France) Ms. A. Strand (Norway)	22–23 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Ferrante (Italy)	15th meeting	ECE/WG.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. M. Amberger (Germany)	21–22 November 2022	
<b>Ministerial Conference on Ageing</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. Bonetti (Italy)	5th meeting	ECE/WG.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. S. Riisalo (Estonia) Ms. A. Mendes Godinho (Portugal)	16–17 June 2022	
<b>B. Meetings held under the auspices of the Commission</b>		
<b>Steering Committee of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. V. Rønning (Norway)	19th session	ECE/AC.21/SC/2021/2-
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. R. Thaler (Austria) Mr. E. Divol (France)	27–28 October 2021	EUHP2018924/4.1/2
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. S. Fioriti (France)	20th session	ECE/AC.21/SC/2022/2-
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. V. Rønning (Norway) Ms. B. Filipovic (Serbia)	17–19 October 2022	EUHP2219536/1.1/2
<b>High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Thaler (Austria)	5th session	ECE/AC.21/SC/2021/2-
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. V. Rønning (Norway) Mr. V. Donchenko (Russian Federation)	17–18 May 2021	EUHP2018924/4.3.2
<b>Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. E. Baisalov (Kyrgyzstan)	6–7 April 2022	ECE/RFSD/2022/2
<b>Co-Chairs:</b> Mr. M. Prica (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. M. Reubi (Switzerland)	29–30 March 2023	ECE/RFSD/2023/2
<b>C. Meetings of the sectoral committees and other meetings held under their auspices</b>		
<b>Committee on Environmental Policy</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. Quintas da Silva (Portugal)	27th session	ECE/CEP/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. L. Lukina (Belarus) Mr. M. De Moor (Belgium) Mr. K. Heinma (Estonia) Ms. N. Tkhilava (Georgia) Mr. M. Bass (Germany) Ms. M. Nagornii (Republic of Moldova) Mr. N. Inamov (Russian Federation) Ms. S. Dokic (Serbia)	3–5 November 2021	

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
Ms. M. Rohn-Brossard (Switzerland) Ms. Y. Elkei (United States)		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. Quintas da Silva (Portugal) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. K. Heinma (Estonia) Ms. N. Tkhlava (Georgia) Mr. M. Bass (Germany) Ms. A. Fianza (Italy) Ms. M. Nagornii (Republic of Moldova) Ms. M. Rohn-Brossard (Switzerland) Mr. J. Talipov (Uzbekistan)	Special session 9–12 May 2022	ECE/CEP/2022/2
	Special session 3–4 October 2022	ECE/CEP/2022/6
Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (organized jointly with the Conference of European Statisticians)		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. Poleshchuk (Belarus) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. Š. Korajčević (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Ms. N. Shashlova (Russian Federation)	18th session 18–19 October 2021	ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2021/2
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Š. Korajčević (Bosnia and Herzegovina) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Klevakina (Russian Federation) Mr. O. Prokopenko (Ukraine)	19th session 3–4 November 2022	ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2022/2
Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Javakhishvili (Georgia) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. J. Mayer (Austria) Ms. K. Nikolovska (North Macedonia)	23rd session 4–5 May 2021	ECE/CEP/AC.10/2021/2
	24th session 11–12 April 2022	ECE/CEP/AC.10/2022/2
Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Zachariou (Cyprus) <b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. J. Duishenova (Kyrgyzstan)	16th session 10–11 May 2021	ECE/CEP/AC.13/2021/2
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Zachariou (Cyprus)	17th session 30–31 May 2022	ECE/CEP/AC.13/2022/2
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Zachariou (Cyprus) <b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. J. Duishenova (Kyrgyzstan)	Special session 4 October 2022	ECE/CEP/AC.13/S/2022/2
<b>Inland Transport Committee</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. Schockaert (Belgium) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M.-P. Meganck (France) Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland) Mr. R. Dobre (Romania) Mr. S. Andreev (Russian Federation)	84th session 22–25 February 2022	ECE/TRANS316
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Meesters (Netherlands) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M.-P. Meganck (France) Mr. A. Erario (Italy) Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland) Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine)	Special session 29 April 2022	ECE/TRANS/324
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Meesters (Netherlands) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. R. Farret (France)	85th session 21–24 February 2023	ECE/TRANS/328

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
Mr. A. Erario (Italy) Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland) Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine) Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. L. Iorio (Italy) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. K. Hofman (Belgium) Mr. D. Mitroshin (Russian Federation)	83rd session 20–24 September 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/177
	Special session 9 December 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/S/169
	84th session 7–11 March 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/179
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. L. Iorio (Italy) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. K. Hofman (Belgium) Mr. B. Viegas (United Kingdom)	85th session 19–23 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/181
	86th session 13–17 March 2023	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/183
Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. Hofman (Belgium)	20th session 25 October 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.2/40
	21st session 30 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.2/42
	22nd session 3–4 November 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.2/44
Group of Experts on Drafting a New Legal Instrument on the Use of Automated Vehicles in Traffic (LIAV)		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. B. U. Rudolph (Germany) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Molina (France) Mr. V. Lugovenko (Russian Federation)	1st session 1 September 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.3/2021/2
	2nd session 6 December 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.3/2021/4
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. B. U. Rudolph (Germany) <b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. V. Lugovenko (Russian Federation)	3rd session 16 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.3/2022/2
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. B. U. Rudolph (Germany) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Molina (France) Mr. V. Lugovenko (Russian Federation)	4th session 1–2 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.3/2022/5
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. B. U. Rudolph (Germany) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Molina (France) Mr. H. Berg (Sweden)	5th session 12 December 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.3/2022/10
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. de Wit (Netherlands) <b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. S. Andreev (Russian Federation)	34th session 15–17 September 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/68
	35th session 5–7 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/72

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>Group of Experts on Cycling Infrastructure Module</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. M. Eder (Austria)	1st session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.5/1
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. G. Steklačič (Slovenia)	2–3 June 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. G. Steklačič (Slovenia)	2nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.5/3
	29–29 November 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. M. Eder (Austria)	3rd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.5/5
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. G. Steklačič (Slovenia)	23–24 March 2023	
<b>Group of Experts on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation For Transport Networks and Nodes</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. S. Hänsel (Germany)	20th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/40
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. E. Smalley (Canada)	22–23 April 2021	
Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland)	21st session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/42
	2–3 September 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. S. Hänsel (Germany)	22nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/44
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland)	28–29 March 2022	
	23rd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/46
	31 October –1 November March 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. S. Hänsel (Germany)	24th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/48
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. T. Popescu (France)	9–10 March 2023	
Mr. J. Kleniewski (Poland)		
<b>Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Maciejewski (Poland)	12th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/25
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. L. Ünal (Türkiye)	22–23 November 2021	
	13th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/27
	10–11 February 2022	
	14th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/29
	23–24 May 2022	
<b>Working Party on Transport Statistics</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. M. Scrim (Canada)	72nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.6/181
	9–11 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Larmour (Canada)	73rd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.6/183
	15–17 June 2022	

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. de Putter (Netherlands)	77th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.11/245
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. J.-M. Bonnal (France)	26–29 October 2021	
	78th session 3–6 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.11/247
	79th session 25–28 October 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.11/249
<b>Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods</b>		
<b>Chairs:</b> Ms. A. Roumier (France) Mr. A. Simoni (Italie)	109th session 4–7 May 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/253
	110th session 8–12 November 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/255
	111th session 9–13 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/258
	112th session 8–11 November 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/260
<b>Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. C. Pfauvadel (France)	21 September-	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/162,
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. S. Garcia Wolfrum (Spain)	1 October 2021	Add. 1
	14–18 March 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/164
	12–16 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/166
	20–24 March 2023	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/168, Add. 1
<b>Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. H. Langenberg (Netherlands)	38th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/78
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. B. Birkhuber (Austria)	23–27 August 2021	
	39th session 24–28 January 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/80
	40th session 22–26 August 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/82
	41st session 23–27 January 2023	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/84

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. H. Langenberg (Netherlands)	26th session	ECE/ADN/58
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. B. Birkhuber (Austria)	27 August 2021	
	27th session	ECE/ADN/60
	28 January 2022	
	28th session	ECE/ADN/63
	26 August 2022	
	29th session	ECE/ADN/65
	27 January 2023	
Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. J. Elsinger (Austria)	64th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.24/148
	20–22 October 2021	
	65th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.24/151
	17–19 October 2021	
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Erario (Italy)	184th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1159
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. S. Anikeev (Russian Federation)	22–24 June 2021	
	185th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1161
	23–25 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Erario (Italy)	186th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1164
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. Y. Yarnold (United Kingdom)	8–11 March 2022	
	187th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1166
	21–24 June 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Erario (Italy)	188th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1168
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. S. Anikeev (Russian Federation)	14–16 November 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Erario (Italy)	189th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1171
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. T. Naono (Japan)	7–9 March 2023	
Working Party on Noise and Tyres (GRBP)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Ficheux (France)	74th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/72
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. A. Bocharov (Russian Federation)	15–17 September 2021	
	75th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/73
	8–11 February 2022	
	76th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/74
	5–7 September 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Ficheux (France)	77th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/75
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. B. Schüttler (Germany)	7–10 February 2023	



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<b>Working Party on Lighting and Light-signalling (GRE)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. T. Kärkkäinen (Finland)	84th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/84
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. D. Rovers (Netherlands)	26–30 April 2021	
	85th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/85
	26–29 October 2021	
	86th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/86
	26–29 April 2022	
	87th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/103
	25–28 October 2022	
<b>Working Party on Pollution and Energy (GRPE)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Rijnders (Netherlands)	83rd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/83
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. D. Kay (United Kingdom)	1–4 June 2021	
	84th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/84
	12 November 2021	
	85th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/85
	11–14 January 2022	
	86th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/86
	31 May–3 June 2022	
	87th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/87
	10–13 January 2022	
	88th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/88
	12–13 April 2023	
<b>Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles (GRVA)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Damm (Germany)	10th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/10
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. C. Chen (China)	25–28 May 2021	
Mr. T. Onoda (Japan)		
	11th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/11
	27 September– 1 October 2021	
	12th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/12
	24–28 January 2022	
	13th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/13
	23–27 May 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Damm (Germany)	14th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/14
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. C. Chen (China)	29–30 September 2022	
Mr. T. Naono (Japan)		
	15th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/15
	23 January 2023	

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<b>Working Party on General Safety Provisions (GRSG)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Erario (Italy)	122nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/101
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. K. Hendershot (Canada)	12–15 October 2021	
	123rd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/102
	28 March–1 April 2022	
	124th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/103
	11–14 October 2022	
	125th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/104
	27–31 March 2023	
<b>Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. M. Koubek (United States)	69th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/69
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. H.G. Kim (Republic of Korea)	17–21 May 2021	
	70th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/70
	6–10 December 2021	
	71st session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/71
	9–13 May 2022	
	72nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/72
	5–9 December 2022	
<b>Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. O. Fedorov (Ukraine)	157th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/314
	9 & 10 June 2021	
	158th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/316
	12 & 15 October 2021	
	159th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/318
	8 & 11 February 2022	
	160th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/320
	8–10 June 2022	
	161st session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/322
	11–12 & 14 October 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. V. R. Boeg (Denmark)	162nd session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/324
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. H. Azgaldyan (Armenia)	7–8 & 10 February 2023	
<b>Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. O. Beyhan (Türkiye)	76th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155
	13–14 October 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. F. Coulon (Belgium)	77th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/157
	9–10 February 2022	
	78th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/159
	12–13 October 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. E. Khakimov (Uzbekistan)	79th session	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/161
	9 February 2022	

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Technical Implementation Body		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. P. Arsic (Serbia)	1st session 18–21 January 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2
	2nd session 31 August– 2 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/4
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. L. Jacobs (Belgium)	3rd session 19–20 December 2022	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/6, Corr.1
Group of Experts on the Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. P. Arsic (Serbia)	3rd session 13–15 September 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/6
	Extraordinary session 7–8 April 2021	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2021/39
Working Party on Road Transport		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine)	116th session 13–15 October 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/416
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine)	117th session	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/418
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. A. Novikova (Latvia) Mr. K. Lewczak (Poland)	18–20 October 2023	
Group of Experts on European Agreement concerning Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine)	26th session 14 June 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/59
	27th session 12 October 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/61
	28th session 21 February 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/64
	29th session 13 June 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/66
	30th session 17 October 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/68
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Symonenko (Ukraine)	31st session	
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. E. Mathevet (France)	20 February 2023	
Group of Experts on the Operationalization of eCMR		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Novikova (Latvia)	1st session	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. E. Khakimov (Uzbekistan)	4–5 July 2022	
	2nd session 4–6 October 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/4
	3rd session 9–11 November 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/6

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	4th session 25–27 January 2023	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/8
	5th session 3–5 April 2023	ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/10
Working Party on Rail Transport		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. Kulesza (Poland)	75th session	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/236
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. H. Groot (Netherlands)	17–19 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. H. Groot (Netherlands)	Special session	
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. J. Kapturzak (Poland)	7 September 2022	
	76th session 16–18 November 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/238
Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. H. Groot (Netherlands)	1st session	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/HUBS/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. B. Hall (United Kingdom)	7–9 July 2021	
	2nd session 13–15 December 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/HUBS/2021/6
	3rd session 23–25 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/HUBS/2022/2
	4th session 5–7 September 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/HUBS/2022/7
Group of Experts on the Permanent Identification of Railway Rolling Stock (PIRRS)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. Grigoriev (Russian Federation)	3rd session 6–7 May 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/PIRRS/2021/2
	4th session 13–14 September 2021	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/PIRRS/2021/7
	5th session 4–6 May 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/PIRRS/2022/2
	6th session 29–30 August 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.2/PIRRS/2022/7
Working Party on Inland Water Transport		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Turf (Belgium)	65th session	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/215
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. L. Deraković-Rakas (Croatia)	3–5 November 2021	
	66th session 12–14 October 2022	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/217

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<b>Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. I. Ignatov (Bulgaria)	59th session	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/118
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. A. Afanasiev (Belarus)	23–25 June 2021	
	60th session	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/120
	16–18 February 2022	
	61st session	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/122
	29 June - 1 July 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. V. Dabrowski (Czechia)	62nd session	ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/124
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. T. Kocoń (Poland)	15–17 February 2023	
<b>Conference of European Statisticians</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Arora (Canada)	69th plenary session	ECE/CES/101
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Mnatsakanyan (Armenia)	23–25 June 2021	
	Mr. P. Dalton (Ireland)	
	Mr. J. Santaella (Mexico)	
	Mr. M. Sowden (New Zealand)	
	Mr. D. Rozkrut (Poland)	
	Mr. M. Kovacevic (Serbia)	
<b>Chairs:</b> Mr. P. Dalton (Ireland)	70th plenary session	ECE/CES/103
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Mnatsakanyan (Armenia)	20–22 June 2022	
	Mr. A. Arora (Canada)	
	Ms. A. Zigure (Latvia)	
	Ms. G. Marquez Colin (Mexico)	
	Mr. M. Sowden (New Zealand)	
	Mr. D. Rozkrut (Poland)	
	Mr. M. Kovacevic (Serbia)	
	Mr. I. Diamond (United Kingdom)	
<b>Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (organized jointly with the Committee on Environmental Policy)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. E. Poleshchuk (Belarus)	18th session	ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. Š. Korajčević (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	18–19 October 2021	
	Ms. N. Shashlova (Russian Federation)	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Š. Korajčević (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	19th session	ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Klevakina (Russian Federation)	3–4 November 2022	
	Mr. O. Prokopenko (Ukraine)	
<b>Group of Experts on Business Registers</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Allen (United Kingdom)	17th session	ECE/CES/GE.42/2022/2
	26–28 September 2022	
<b>Group of Experts on National Accounts</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. G. Eding (Netherlands)	17–26 May 2021	ECE/CES/GE.20/2021/2
	17–20 May 2022	ECE/CES/GE.20/2022/2

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<b>Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. E. Schulte Nordholt (Netherlands)	19–20 May 2021	ECE/CES/GE.41/2021/2
	21–23 September 2022	ECE/CES/GE.41/2022/2
<b>Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Kabiyeva (Kazakhstan)	6th session	ECE/CTCS/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. D. Fomchenko (Belarus) Mr. T. Ulianoschi (Republic of Moldova)	21–22 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Kabiyeva (Kazakhstan)	7th session	ECE/CTCS/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. D. Doroshevich (Belarus) Ms. M. Gabunia (Georgia)	27–28 June 2022	
<b>Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. S. Probert (United Kingdom)	28th session	ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. I. Watt (Australia) Mr. M. Laskowski (Canada) Ms. H. Becha (France) Mr. T. Khan (India) Ms. L. Fratini Passi (Italy) Ms. E. Igwe (Nigeria) Mr. A. Bondarenko (Russian Federation)	10–11 October 2022	
<b>Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Lund (Sweden)	31st session	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. G. White (Canada) Mr. M. Chloupek (Czechia) Ms. R. Seville (United Kingdom)	24–26 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Lund (Sweden)	32nd session	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. G. White (Canada) Ms. R. Seville (United Kingdom)	7–9 November 2022	
<b>Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Sudol (Poland)	76th session	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. B. Gwartney (United States)	15–17 November 2021	
	77th session	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2022/2
	14–16 November 2022	
<b>Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. U. Bickelmann (Germany)	69th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. C. Julius (South Africa)	9–11 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. C. Julius (South Africa)	70th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. U. Aslanov (Tajikistan)	16–18 May 2022	

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<b>Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce</b>		
<b>Chairs:</b> Mr. D. LaFond (United States)	68th session	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2021/2
Mr. U. Aslanov (Tajikistan) Ms. A. Uluhan (Türkiye)	16–18 June 2021	
<b>Chairs:</b> Mr. D. LaFond (United States)	69th session	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.2/2022/2
Mr. U. Aslanov (Tajikistan)	15–17 June 2022	
<b>Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. I. King (Australia)	29th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.11/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. M. Lobstein (United States)	6–8 September 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. I. King (Australia)	30th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.11/2022/2
	28–30 September 2022	
<b>Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Kortemaa (Finland)	49th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. N. Crump (Australia) Ms. N. Zidack (United States)	17–18 March 2022	
	50th session	ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2023/2
	16–17 March 2023	
<b>Committee on Sustainable Energy</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Keinhorst (Germany)	30th session	ECE/ENERGY/137
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. T. Melkonyan (Armenia) Mr. A. Softić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. D. Tvalabeishvili (Georgia) Mr. J. Gannon (Ireland) Mr. G. Dialuce (Italy) Mr. K. Rakhimov (Kazakhstan) Mr. P. Pikus (Poland) Mr. A. Kulapin (Russian Federation) Mr. J.-C. Füeg (Switzerland) Mr. Y. Demchenkov (Ukraine)	22–24 September 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Keinhorst (Germany)	31st session	ECE/ENERGY/143
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. E. Farhadzada (Azerbaijan) Mr. A. Softić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. R. Mikautadze (Georgia) Mr. C. Laumulin (Kazakhstan) Mr. P. Pikus (Poland) Mr. J.-C. Füeg (Switzerland) Mr. F. Bilolzoda (Tajikistan) Mr. Y. Demchenkov (Ukraine) Ms. E. Grubert (United States)	21–23 September 2022	
<b>Expert Group on Resource Management</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. D. MacDonald (United States)	12th session	ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2021/2
<b>1st Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. I. Shpurov (Russian Federation)	26–30 April 2021	
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. F. Mugyeyni (AUC) Mr. A. Cross (Australia) Ms. N. Farajullayeva (Azerbaijan) Ms. B. Knežević (Bosnia and Herzegovina)		

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<p>Mr. J. Ju (China) Mr. Y. J. Lee (Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia) Mr. R. Dixon (CRIRSCO) Mr. M. Grohol (EC D.G. GROW) Mr. M. Neumann (EFG) Mr. Z. Horváth (EGS) Ms. J. McCoy (Ernst &amp; Young LLP) Mr. H. Paillere (IAEA) Ms. G. Falcone (IGA) Mr. H. Allaboun (Jordan) Mr. V. Babashev (Kazakhstan) Mr. T. Arisekola (Nigeria) Mr. S.-M. Knutsen (Norway) Mr. L. Lopez (OLAMI) Mr. U. Neri (Mexico) Mr. R. Misztal (Poland) Ms. T. Ponce de Leão (Portugal) Mr. B. Seiller (SPE) Ms. E. Ingvald (Sweden) Mr. A. Jones (TAG) Ms. M. Ersoy (Türkiye) Ms. K. Hanghoj (United Kingdom) Ms. S. Forbes (United States)</p>		
<p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. D. MacDonald (United States) <b>1st Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. I. Shpurov (Russian Federation) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Kitaw (AUC) Mr. A. Cross (Australia) Ms. N. Farajullayeva (Azerbaijan) Ms. B. Knežević (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. Y. J. Lee (Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia) Mr. J. Ju (China) Mr. R. Dixon (CRIRSCO) Mr. M. Grohol (EC D.G. GROW) Mr. G. Burridge (EFG) Mr. Z. Horváth (EGS) Mr. H. Paillere (IAEA) Ms. G. Falcone (IGA) Mr. H. Allaboun (Jordan) Mr. V. Babashev (Kazakhstan) Mr. U. Neri (Mexico) Mr. S.-M. Knutsen (Norway) Mr. L. Lopez (OLAMI) Mr. R. Misztal (Poland) Ms. T. Ponce de Leão (Portugal) Mr. B. Seiller (SPE) Ms. E. Ingvald (Sweden) Mr. S. Purewal (TAG) <i>ex-officio</i> Mr. A. Shpilman (TAG) <i>ex-officio</i> Ms. M. Ersoy (Türkiye) Ms. K. Hanghoj (United Kingdom) Ms. S. Forbes (United States)</p>	<p>13th session 25 October 2022</p>	<p>ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2022/2</p>
<p>Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane</p>		
<p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Pilcher (United States) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. A. Haracic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. Z. Jin (China)</p>	<p>17th session 21–22 March 2022</p>	<p>ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2022/2</p>



<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
Mr. C. Backhaus (Germany) Mr. L. Kroplewski (Poland) Mr. J. Skiba (Poland) Mr. S. Shumkov (Russian Federation) Mr. Y. Bobrov (Ukraine) Mr. I. Yashchenko (Ukraine) Mr. N. Butler (United Kingdom) Mr. D. Creedy (United Kingdom) Mr. Ö. Karacan (United States) Ms. V. Roshchanka (United States) Mr. C. Talkington (United States)		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. R. Pilcher (United States) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. B. Foot (Australia) Ms. A. Haracic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. Z. Jin (China) Mr. J. Moulin (France) Mr. L. Kroplewski (Poland) Ms. A. Krzemien (Poland) Mr. J. Skiba (Poland) Mr. Y. Bobrov (Ukraine) Mr. N. Butler (United Kingdom) Mr. D. Creedy (United Kingdom) Mr. Ö. Karacan (United States) Ms. V. Roshchanka (United States) Ms. F. Ruiz (United States) Mr. C. Talkington (United States)	18th session 20–21 March 2023	ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2023/2
Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Robb (United States) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Clermont (Canada) Mr. V. Budinsky (Czechia) Mr. A. Minchener (IEA Clean Coal Centre) Ms. D. Aitmatova (Kyrgyzstan) Mr. G. Popov (Russian Federation) Mr. F. Usmonov (Tajikistan) Mr. J. Gibbins (United Kingdom) Mr. K. Lee (World Nuclear Association)	17th session 6–8 October 2021	ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2021/2
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Robb (United States) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Clermont (Canada) Mr. V. Budinsky (Czechia) Mr. A. Herzog (Electricité de France) Mr. A. Minchener (International Centre for Sustainable Carbon) Mr. B. Umirzakov (Kazakhstan) Ms. D. Aitmatova (Kyrgyzstan) Mr. F. Usmonov (Tajikistan) Mr. J. Gibbins (United Kingdom) Mr. K. Lee (World Nuclear Association)	18th session 19–20 September 2022	ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2022/2
Group of Experts on Gas		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. F. de la Flor Garcia (Spain) <b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. F. Marko (Austria) Mr. L. Damirli (Azerbaijan) Mr. J. Diamond (Canada) Mr. B. Maksijan (Croatia) Mr. A. Foster (Israel) Mr. T. Indrebø (Norway) Mr. A. Meluch (United States)	9th session 24–25 March 2022	ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2022/2
	10th session	ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2023/2

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	23–24 March 2023	
Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency		
<b>Chairs:</b>	Mr. P. Verma (Harvard Kennedy School of Government) Mr. S.M. Buettner (Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production) Mr. V. Jalalyan (United Nations Development Programme in Armenia)	8th session 20–21 September 2021 ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. V. Atayan (Armenia) Mr. A. Miniankou (Belarus) Ms. S. Kapetina (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Mr. R. Savickas (Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency) Mr. Z. Pavicic (Croatian Innovators Network) Mr. B. Lebot (French Ministry of Ecological Transition) Ms. N. Jamburia (Georgia) Mr. H. Mac Nulty (Green Growth Knowledge Partnership) Ms. A. Freyre (PAN DATA GmbH) Ms. I. Perfanova (Real Estate Tribune / AIIC Ltd.) Mr. P. Bobylev (Russian Federation) Mr. K. Gura (Ukraine) Mr. M.K. Patel (University of Geneva)	
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. S. Buettner (Germany)	9th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Ms. N. Farajullayeva (Azerbaijan) Mr. O. Tsereteli (Georgia) Mr. C. Johnson (United States)	3–4 October 2022 ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2022/2
Group of Experts on Renewable Energy		
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. K. Gura (Ukraine)	8th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. A. Bylyku (Albania) Ms. V. Keshishyan (Armenia) Mr. A. Miniankou (Belarus) Mr. A. Softić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Ms. A. Sitdikova (EBRD) Ms. M. Morese (FAO) Ms. M. Arabidze (Georgia) Mr. T. Fischer (Germany) Mr. P. Frankl (IEA) Mr. G. Gonul (IRENA) Ms. A. Sospanova (Kazakhstan) Ms. N. Abdurasulova (Kyrgyzstan) Ms. R. Adib (REN21) Mr. G. Ermolenko (Russian Federation) Mr. M. Banjac (Serbia)	5–6 October 2021 ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2021/2
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. K. Gura (Ukraine)	9th session
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b>	Mr. A. Bylyku (Albania) Mr. K. Huseynov (Azerbaijan) Ms. S. Kapetina (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Ms. M. Arabidze (Georgia) Mr. T. Fischer (Germany) Mr. A. Omiralin (Kazakhstan) Ms. N. Abdurasulova (Kyrgyzstan) Ms. O. Lenska (Ukraine) Ms. S. Jayanti (United States)	6–7 October 2022 ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2022/2

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Sokolenko (Russian Federation)	79th session	ECE/TIM/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Whelan (Canada) Ms. M. Gaworska (Poland) Mr. P. Blombäck (Sweden)	22–25 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. P. Blombäck (Sweden)	80th session	ECE/TIM/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M. Whelan (Canada) Mr. T. Krejzar (Czechia) Ms. A. Dedic (San Marino)	2–4 November 2022	
Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Wolicka-Posiadała (Poland)	43rd session	ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. M. Synek (Czechia) Mr. M. Dieter (Germany)	1–3 June 2022	
<b>Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Administration</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Andoni (Albania)	82nd session	ECE/HBP/208
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. G. Bambagioni (Italy) Ms. A. Rogelj (Slovenia)	6–8 October 2021	
	83rd session (Part I)	ECE/HBP/213
	4–5 April 2022	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Andoni (Albania)	83rd session (Part II)	ECE/HBP/213
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. G. Bambagioni (Italy)	3–6 October 2022	
Working Party on Land Administration		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. F. Zetterquist (Sweden)	12th session	ECE/HBP/WP.7/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. K. Riekkinen (Finland) Ms. C. Potsiou (Greece)	31 May–1 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. F. Zetterquist (Sweden)	13th session	ECE/HBP/WP.7/2023/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. K. Riekkinen (Finland) Ms. V. Abbott (United Kingdom)	4–5 April 2023	
<b>Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnership</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Yavuz Noyan (Türkiye)	14th session	ECE/CECI/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Shlychkou (Belarus) Mr. S. Tourgeman (Israel) Mr. S. Firpo (Italy) Mr. M. Dyusseмбаev (Kazakhstan) Mr. N. Ponomarenko (Russian Federation) Mr. A. Smith (United States)	2–4 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Firpo (Italy)	15th session	ECE/CECI/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Shuba (Belarus) Ms. A. Vashakmadze (Georgia) Mr. N. A. Weil von der Ahe (Germany) Mr. G. Katapodis (Greece) Mr. M. Dyusseмбаев (Kazakhstan)	25–27 May 2022	

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Mr. M. Uzunkaya (Türkiye) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. G. Katapodis (Greece)	5th session	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. S. Yavuz Noyan (Türkiye)	29–30 November 2021	
	6th session	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/2
	1–2 December 2022	
Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Zecchini (Italy)	13th session	ECE/CECI/ICP/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. A. Vashakmadze (Georgia)	1–2 November 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. S. Zecchini (Italy)	14th session	ECE/CECI/ICP/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. A. Vashakmadze (Georgia)	14–18 November 2022	
<b>D. Conventions administered by the ECE secretariat</b>		
<b>Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution</b>		
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Engleryd (Sweden)	41st session	ECE/EB.AIR/148, Add. 1
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. S. Vasiliev (Russian Federation) Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland) Ms. E. Nichols (United States)	6–8 December 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. A. Engleryd (Sweden)	42nd session	ECE/EB.AIR/150, Add. 1, Add.2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. N. Megrilishvili (Georgia) Mr. E. Dame (Netherlands) Ms. E. Nichols (United States)	12–16 December 2022	
Joint Session of the Steering Body to the EMEP and the Working Group on Effects		
<b>Chairs:</b> Ms. L. Rouil (France) Ms. I. Rabago (Spain)	7th session	ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2021/2-
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. T. Dirnböck (Austria) Mr. J. Bak (Denmark) Ms. G. Schuetze (Germany) Ms. A. De Marco (Italy) Ms. J. Struzewska (Poland) Mr. X. Querol (Spain) Ms. S. Augustin (Switzerland) Mr. M. Holland (United Kingdom)	13–16 September 2021	ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2021/2
<b>Chairs:</b> Ms. L. Rouil (France) Ms. I. Rabago (Spain)	8th session	ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2022/2-
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. J. Bak (Denmark) Ms. A. De Marco (Italy) Ms. J. Struzewska (Poland) Mr. X. Querol (Spain) Ms. S. Augustin (Switzerland) Mr. M. Holland (United Kingdom)	12–16 September 2022	ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2022/2

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>
<b>Working Group on Strategies and Review</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. J. Kerr (Canada)	59th session	ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/126
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. I. Angelov (Bulgaria) Ms. D. Pritula (Canada) Mr. T. Spranger (Germany)	18–21 May 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. T. Spranger (Germany)	60th session	ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. P. Meulepas (Belgium) Ms. D. Pritula (Canada) Ms. D. Yates (United Kingdom)	11–14 April 2022	
<b>Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes</b>		
Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Z. Aitzhanova (Kazakhstan)	9th session	ECE/MP.WAT/63
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. H. Liiv (Estonia) Mr. P. Kovacs (Hungary)	29 September–1 October 2021	
Joint Meeting of the Working Groups on Integrated Water Resources Management and on Monitoring and Assessment		
<b>Co-Chairs:</b> Ms. H. Jekel (Germany) Ms. L. Kauppi (Finland) Mr. N. Ndour (Senegal)	3rd meeting 26–28 April 2021	ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/2 ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/2
<b>Co-Chairs:</b> Ms. A.-S. Heiskanen (Finland) Ms. H. Jekel (Germany) Mr. P. Kovacs (Hungary) Mr. N. Ndour (Senegal)	4th meeting 28–30 June 2022	ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2022/2 ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2022/2
Implementation Committee of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Tanzi (Italy)	13th meeting	ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2021/3
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. K. Kinnunen (Finland) Ms. D. Ziganshina (Uzbekistan)	20–21 May 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Tanzi (Italy)	14th meeting	ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. D. Ziganshina (Uzbekistan)	24–25 February 2022	
	15th meeting 16–17 February 2023	ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2022/4
<b>Protocol on Water and Health</b>		
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Vargha (Hungary)	6th meeting	ECE/MP.WH/24–
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. B. Rickert (Germany)  Ms. H. Costa (Portugal)	16–18 November 2022	EUCHP/2219533/3.1/2022/MOP-6/06

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<b>Compliance Committee</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. E. Viñuales (Switzerland)	21st meeting	ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2021/2–
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. Z. Kocsis-Kupper (Hungary)	15–16 June 2021	EUHP/2018917/4.1/2021/06
	22nd meeting	ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2021/4–
	16 November 2021	EUHP/2018917/4.1/2021/CC2/06
	23rd meeting	ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2022/2–
	7 June 2022	EUHP/2219533/3.1/2022/CC2/06
<b>Working Group on Water and Health</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. K. Tveitan (Norway)	13th session	ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2022/2–
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. H. Costa (Portugal)	19–20 May 2022	EUHP/2219533/3.1/2022/WGWH/06
Mr. G. Constantin (Romania)		
<b>Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment</b>		
<b>Working Group on Environment Impact and Strategic Environment Assessment</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. D. Toryfter-Szumanska (Poland)	10th meeting	ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. L. Lukina (Belarus)	1–3 December 2021	
Ms. A.-M. Maggiore (Italy)	11th meeting	ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2022/2
	19–20 December 2022	
<b>Implementation Committee</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Ducomble (Luxembourg)	50th session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2021/4
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. C. Baumgartner (Austria)	4–7 May 2021	
Ms. M. do Carmo Figueira (Portugal)	51st session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2021/6
	4–7 October 2021	
	52nd session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2022/2
	29–31 March 2022	
	53rd session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2022/3
	10–13 May 2022	
	54th session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2022/7
	4–7 October 2022	
	55th session	ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2023/2
	31 January–3 February 2023	

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<b>Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents</b>		
Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. T. Tandberg (Norway)	12th meeting	ECE/CP.TEIA/44, Add.1
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M.-C. Lhenry (France) Mr. M. Merkofer (Switzerland)	29 November – 1 December 2022	
Working Group on Implementation		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Fridh (Sweden)	43rd meeting	
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. P. Chukharev (Belarus) Mr. R. Gonzalez (Switzerland)	12–13 October 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. H. Fridh (Sweden)		
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. A. Tsarina (Russian Federation) Mr. R. Gonzalez (Switzerland)	44th meeting 1–2 February 2022	
	Special session 3–4 February 2022	
	46th meeting 20–21 June 2022	
	47th meeting 13 February 2023	
<b>Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters</b>		
Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Bitadze (Georgia)	7th session	ECE/MP.PP/2021/2, Add. 1
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. N. Boumann (Netherlands) Ms. B. Ekeberg (Norway)	18–20 October 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Saladžius (Lithuania)	Extraordinary session	ECE/MP.PP/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. N. Gokhelashvili (Georgia) Ms. N. Bouman (Netherlands)	23–24 June 2022	
Joint High-Level Segment of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters		
<b>Chairs:</b> Mr. L. Davitashvili (Georgia) Mr. A. Mankler (Sweden)	21 October 2021	ECE/MP.PP/2021/16 ECE/MP.PRTR/2021/2
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. T. Skarman (Sweden)	4th session	ECE/MP.PRTR/2021/6
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. M.-R. van den Hende (Belgium) Ms. U. Schüler (Germany)	22 October 2021	

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<b>Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. M. Bitadze (Georgia)	25th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Ms. N. Bouman (Netherlands) Ms. B. Ekeberg (Norway)	7–8 June 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. A. Saladžius (Lithuania)	26th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. N. Gokhelasvili (Georgia) Ms. N. Bouman (Netherlands)	22–23 June 2022	
<b>Compliance Committee under the Aarhus Convention</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. Ebbesson (Sweden)	71st meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2021/10
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. A. Kodjabashev (Bulgaria) Ms. Á. Ryall (Ireland)	7–9 July 2021	
	72nd meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2021/12
	18–21 October 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Á. Ryall (Ireland)	73rd meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2021/32
	13–16 December 2021	
<b>Chair:</b> Ms. Á. Ryall (Ireland)	74th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Mr. M. Clément (France) Mr. J. Jendroška (Poland) Mr. D. Skrynlikov (Ukraine)	15–18 March 2022	
	75th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2022/4
	14–17 June 2022	
	76th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2022/7
	13–16 September 2022	
	77th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2022/9
	13–16 December 2022	
	78th meeting	ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2023/2
	21–24 March 2023	
<b>Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. T. Kvasič (Slovenia)	9th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2022/2
<b>Vice-Chairs:</b> Ms. E. Shkurta (Albania) Mr. A. Radway (European Union)	24–25 November 2022	
<b>Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mr. J. L. Martin Ortega (Spain)	9th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2021/2
<b>Vice-Chair:</b> Mr. G. Movsisyan (Armenia)	28–29 April 2021	
	10th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2021/4
	31 May–1 June April 2021	
	11th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2021/6
	22 October 2021	
	12th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2022/2
	1 March 2022	
	13th meeting	ECE/MP.PRTR/C.1/2023/2
	7–8 March 2023	



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<b>E. Meetings of other bodies serviced by the ECE secretariat</b>		
<b>ECOSOC Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals</b>		
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. M. Maureen (United States)	11th session
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Mr. D. Pfund (United States)	11 December 2022
<b>ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods</b>		
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. D. Pfund (United States)	58th session
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Mr. C. Pfauvadel (France)	28 June - 2 July 2021
		59th session
		29 November - 8 December 2021
		60th session
		27 June - 6 July 2022
		61st session
		28 November - 6 December 2022
<b>ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals</b>		
<b>Chair:</b>	Ms. M. Ruskin (United States)	40th session
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Ms. N. John (Austria)	5–7 July 2021
		41st session
		8–10 December 2021
		42nd session
		6–8 July 2022
		43rd session
		7–9 December 2022
<b>Expert Group on Environmental Performance Review</b>		
<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. H. Liiv (Estonia)	32nd session
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Mr. X. Tschumi Canosa (Switzerland)	28–29 September 2021
		33rd session
		30 March -1 April 2022
		34th session
		14 June 2022
		35th session
		12–16 September 2022