ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT
(6 May 2000 - 11 May 2001)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2001

SUPPLEMENT № 17

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT
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OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2001

SUPPLEMENT N° 17

UNITED NATIONS
NOTE

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 6 May 2000 to 11 May 2001

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the sixth meeting of its fifty-sixth session on 11 May 2001.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. None.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the fifty-fifth session is contained in Annex I, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports record the agreements reached and decisions taken.

B. Other activities

4. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. A list of the reports submitted to the fifty-sixth session of the Commission is given in Annex II. Periodic reviews, including the Economic Survey of Europe, and a series of specialized statistical bulletins, were published. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

5. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 2000/2001 with various United Nations bodies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats, has continued as called for in the Plan of Action.
CHAPTER III

FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

6 The fifty-sixth session of the Commission was held from 8 to 11 May 2001. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman and the Executive Secretary.

7 The fifty-sixth session was attended by representatives from Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Yugoslavia.

8 The session was attended by representatives of the European Community.

9 Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

10 Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the following specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Office (ILO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Trade Organization (WTO), Council of Europe, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

11 For discussion of the ECE cooperation with subregional groupings and initiatives, representatives of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) were in attendance.

12 The following non-governmental organizations were represented: German National Committee of the International Council on Social Welfare; International Council of Women; International Federation of University Women; World Federation of United Nations Associations; Zonta International.

13 A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(56)/INF.1/Rev.1.
B. Agenda

14 The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1384/Rev.1).

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Business enterprise and economic growth in the Central Asian and the Caucasian countries: creating a supportive and secure environment

3. Reactions to the Spring Seminar and to the Debate of the First Day of the Session

4. ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing: Briefing by the State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Federal Republic of Germany

5. Environment, energy and transport: Strengthening links within the ECE region

6. The Millennium Declaration: Challenges for Europe

7. ECE strategic directions

8. Matters arising from the work of the subsidiary bodies requiring decision by, or meriting the attention of, the Commission

9. Election of officers

10. Other business

11. Adoption of the report

C. Election of Officers

15 The Chairman of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission was Mr. Harald Kreid (Austria) and the Vice-Chairpersons Mrs Spomenka Cek (Croatia), Mr. Amiran Kavadze (Georgia) and Mr. Yaakov Levy (Israel).

16 Ms. Kersti Alt (Estonia) was designated Rapporteur.

17 At its sixth meeting the Commission re-elected Mr. Harald Kreid (Austria) Chairman of the fifty-seventh session. Mr. Amiran Kavadze (Georgia) and Mr. Yaakov Levy (Israel) were re-elected Vice-Chairpersons and Mr. Kálmán Petöcz (Slovakia) was elected Vice-Chairperson of the fifty-seventh session.
D. Account of proceedings

Business enterprise and economic growth in the Central Asian and the Caucasian countries: creating a supportive and secure environment  
(Agenda item 2)

18 This year’s economic theme chosen for debate at the annual session was “Business enterprise and economic growth in the Central Asian and the Caucasian countries: creating a supportive and secure environment”. The debate was divided into three sessions:

(i) Session I - General Review of progress and problems in the transition process since 1991: Mr. Michael Kaser (Professor, University of Birmingham) and Mr. Teimura A. Beridze (Chairman, Department of Statistics, Georgia) were discussion leaders in the section on the Caucasian Republics; Mr. Pradeep Mitra (Director for Poverty Reduction & Economic Management, Europe & Central Asia, World Bank) and Mr. Rafkat Hasanov (Senior Consultant (Fiscal Reform Project), Prime Minister’s Office, Kyrgyzstan) led the discussion in the section on Central Asia.

(ii) Session II - Privatization, regulatory reform and enterprise development in Central Asian Republics and Caucasian Republics: Ms. Zhannat Zh. Ertlessova (Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration, Kazakhstan) and Rasim Hasanov (Director of the Centre for Economic Reforms, Azerbaijan) acted as discussion leaders.

(iii) Session III - Living standards and Social Policy: Ms. Munira Inoyatova (Secretary of State and Adviser to the President, Tajikistan) and Ms. Jane Falkingham (Director, ESRC SAGE Research Group, London School of Economics) led the discussion.

19 Following the discussion, the Chairman subsequently highlighted some of the main issues discussed during the debate. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the debate on Central Asia and the South Caucasus, where countries are experiencing serious difficulties in the transition process. It underlined the priority needs of these regions and encouraged the Executive Secretary to strengthen assistance to these countries through regional and subregional cooperation, and in cooperation with other international institutions and organizations, in particular through the work of special programmes and projects for the South Caucasus and Central Asia, it being understood that appropriate resources should be made available. Support was expressed for the continuation of activities in relation to the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).

Reactions to the Spring Seminar and to the Debate of the First Day of the Session  
(Agenda item 3)

20 The Commission expressed its appreciation of the quality of the Spring Seminar and of its complementarity with the debate of the first day of the Annual Session in addressing issues of sound economic development with particular relevance to economies in transition. It was suggested that the format of the first day debate could be more policy-oriented, taking advantage of a good mix of
speakers including policy makers, academics and representatives of the business community and civil society.

21 There was considerable interest shown in discussion of ECE's operational activities, with particular attention devoted to assistance to the CIS countries, during a forthcoming ad hoc informal meeting. A joint statement by Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine, was circulated. The Chairman proposed that the contents of the statement be discussed during the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission devoted to ECE operational activities.

ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing: Briefing by the State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Federal Republic of Germany
(Agenda item 4)

22 Mr. Peter Haupt, the German State Secretary for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, gave a briefing on preparations and expectations for the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, scheduled to be held in Berlin in September 2002. He stressed that the Conference offered unique opportunities for member States and civil society to work together to develop those socio-political measures that are necessary to meet the challenges of demographic change. A national and international discussion on ageing was needed and the UNECE had made the relevant decision to organize a conference to that end. The Berlin Conference would try to provide a regional implementation scheme for the plan developed by the UN Second World Assembly on Ageing to be held in Madrid in 2002. He conveyed an invitation from the German Minister for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth to Ministers of ECE member States to attend the Conference in Berlin and encouraged them to actively participate in the preparatory process.

23 A presentation was then given by a member of the State Secretary’s team, Mr. Christoph Linzbach, Coordinator of International Affairs of the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, who spoke on the linkages between the Berlin Conference with central UN initiatives of the last 20 years, global European ageing patterns and gave further details of preparations for the Ministerial Conference.

24 The Ambassador of Spain provided information on the status of the preparatory process for the World Assembly on Ageing to be held in Madrid in 2002, including the organization of a expert meeting in Burgos next September in preparation for the Berlin Conference. He appealed to the Commission to consider identifying activities that could be developed within the framework of a regional perspective for this event.

25 The Executive Secretary, on behalf the ECE secretariat, thanked the German Government for its cooperation and efforts as host country for the ECE Ministerial Conference. She also thanked the Governments of Austria and Spain for hosting two seminars in the process and the United Kingdom for financial support. She stressed that the Berlin preparatory process would provide the European region with the opportunity to contribute a meaningful input to global meeting to take place in Madrid in 2002.
26 The Chairman also thanked the German Government and underlined the Commission’s commitment to actively participate in the various stages of the preparations for the Berlin Ministerial Conference.

Environment, energy and transport:
Strengthening links within the ECE region
(Agenda item 5)

27 The Commission considered this item on the basis of document E/ECE/1385. The discussion was led by members of a Round Table comprising the Executive Secretary, ECE Directors, the Chairpersons of ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies (Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development, Committee on Environmental Policy, Committee on Human Settlements, Committee on Sustainable Energy, Conference of European Statisticians; Inland Transport Committee, Timber Committee) and the Vice-President, Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

28 It was felt that, while intersectoral cooperation was very much needed for policy coherence, it did not occur spontaneously but needed planning and stimulation. For such cooperation to be successful, participation on an equal footing and with a right balance was required. The vast differences in the stages of development of the countries meant that preoccupation with national development problems in some countries prevented them from being sufficiently conscious of the need to address the negative impacts of sectoral activities through an intersectoral approach. Where value added was clearly seen, the willingness of organizational units participating in intersectoral cooperation could be counted upon. Intersectoral activities should be carefully planned so as to avoid overburdening the PSBs and affecting their core activities. Overcoming sectoral resistance to intersectoral approach was a long-term process which needed to be carried out in a constructive manner. To promote intersectoral cooperation further, it was felt useful to look to partners of all kinds, including the business community and civil society.

29 The importance of the role of ECE in promoting regional cooperation on intersectoral issues, given its areas of competence, which are at the heart of key intersectoral issues, as well as its specialized intergovernmental bodies involved in these issues, was underlined.

30 The need was stressed to provide a new impetus to the work on the follow-up to the Vienna and London Conferences by identifying a number of priority issues which, among the areas covered by the Programme of Joint Action (POJA) and the London Charter, correspond to the key challenges for sustainable transport, environment and health in the ECE region. The decisions and recommendations adopted at the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health were noted and the relevant PSBs invited to take them into account.

31 The quality of work carried out by all the PSBs within their sectoral areas of expertise was commended and full support expressed for the work already developed on intersectoral issues. In particular, interest was voiced for the initiative jointly agreed by the Committee on Environmental Policy and the Committee on Sustainable Energy to create the Task Force on guidelines on energy
pricing which can greatly contribute to addressing the issues of energy market liberalization and harmonization of energy taxes.

32 Interest was expressed for the “Blue corridor” project as a way to promote environmentally friendly transport of goods in a major East-West pan-European corridor and because of its potential replication for other main arteries in Europe; the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Inland Transport Committee should consider the feasibility of the project and report back to the Commission.

33 PSBs were invited to develop intersectoral linkages further in various areas, including: (a) border-crossing and trade facilitation work on customs standards and procedures; (b) development of land registration systems and promotion of real estate markets; (c) trade, timber and environment, for promoting trade of timber and timber products while ensuring a sustainable management of forests; (d) energy and transport, in particular environmental performance reviews and ECE environmental conventions as they pertain to the energy and transport sectors; and (e) consolidation of existing ECE databases in a multisectoral framework.

34 PSBs were requested to examine the most efficient, flexible and cost-effective modalities to address intersectoral issues such as those mentioned above. These may include: joint meetings of the PSBs or their bureaux; creation of a joint group of experts or task force under their auspices; delegation of one member of a PSB to a meeting of another PSB; specific projects jointly implemented and monitored; and the establishment of a web page to facilitate the sharing of information on developments in intersectoral cooperation.

35 PSBs were further requested to review annually the intersectoral cooperation already ongoing and to consider potential new issues for such cooperation to be subsequently brought to the attention of other concerned PSBs, with decision thereon to be taken by the Commission. It was stressed that regular programme review and evaluation, and the timely dissemination of the evaluation results to member States, were critical to maintain ECE’s effectiveness.

36 PSBs were encouraged to find new ways to secure the means for implementing intersectoral activities, including setting aside regular resources and seeking extrabudgetary funding for these activities.

The Millennium Declaration: Challenges for Europe
(Agenda item 6)

37 The Commission held a Round Table discussion on the key policy concerns of the Millennium Declaration relevant to the ECE region: Peace, Security and Disarmament, Development and Poverty Eradication, Protecting our Common Environment, Human Rights, Democracy and Good Governance and Protecting the Vulnerable. It also discussed Strengthening the United Nations and the UNECE. The Commission considered this item on the basis of document E/ECE/1386.

38 The Commission welcomed the opportunity to discuss the objectives of the Millennium Declaration with a focus on the ECE region. The discussion focussed on identifying the most relevant economic and social objectives for ECE member States, on the progress already made and further
efforts to achieve these objectives. Follow-up mechanisms to monitor this progress were also considered.

39 The Round Table discussion was divided into six segments comprising a lead speaker and discussants:

(i) Peace, Security and Disarmament: Ambassador Spomenka Cek of Croatia was the lead speaker. Mahmud Mamed-Kuliyev, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and Ambassador Gunther Seibert of Germany acted as discussants;

(ii) Development and Poverty Eradication: Ambassador Amiran Kavadze of Georgia was the lead speaker. Ambassador Carlo Trojan, Head of the Permanent Delegation for the European Commission in Geneva; Ambassador Norbert Frick of Liechtenstein; and Dirk Jarré, Secretary-General of the German National Committee of the International Council on Social Welfare acted as discussants;

(iii) Protecting our Common Environment: Hugo von Meijenfeldt, Chairman of the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy was the discussion leader. Ambassador Pekka Huhtaniemi of Finland and Vladimir Mironovich, Counsellor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus acted as discussants;

(iv) Human Rights, Democracy and Good Governance: Mikko Elo, Vice President of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe was the lead speaker. Jakob Simonsen, Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director of the Bureau of Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Adrian Mara, Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva acted as discussants;

(v) Protecting the Vulnerable: Ambassador Yaakov Levy of Israel was the lead speaker and Ambassador Kálmán Petöcz of Slovakia acted as discussant;

(vi) Strengthening the United Nations and in particular the UNECE: Ambassador Michael Bartolo of Malta addressed the role of the United Nations in implementing the Millennium Declaration and Danuta Hübner, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, discussed six areas where UNECE was strengthening its capacity to respond to the Declaration’s objectives.

40 The Chairman observed that the discussion under this item had provided the Commission with an opportunity to discuss the objectives contained in the Millennium Declaration. It had heard from a mix of speakers from within and outside the United Nations. The discussion had reflected the variety of country situations and perspectives. The Chairman highlighted the main points that had emerged from the discussion.
The Chairman proposed eight means to assist ECE member countries in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration objectives and in monitoring progress made:

- The Commission, particularly at its annual meetings and Seminars, or through ad hoc initiatives, will periodically review progress made towards implementing the Millennium Declaration, as it is invited to do by the General Assembly. In addition, the Commission may wish to occasionally devote one of its seminars to one of the policy concerns of the Millennium Declaration, such as poverty, protecting the vulnerable, environmental protection, and socio-economic aspects of conflict prevention and peace-building;

- The ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies will be invited to consider what contribution they can make to the implementation process, and how to integrate the Millennium Declaration concerns and objectives into their programmes of work;

- The Executive Bodies of ECE’s Environmental Conventions will be invited to report to the Commission on progress made towards implementation of the objectives of the Millennium Declaration;

- In the framework of the follow-up of the Millennium Declaration, and taking into account Assembly Resolution 45/190, the Commission would consider the possibilities of participation in international efforts in the sphere of elimination of negative consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

- A dialogue with the relevant stakeholders, i.e. non-governmental organizations, representatives of academia, business community, will be held to raise awareness and promote public-private partnership in support for the follow-up to the Millennium Declaration;

- Through inter-agency cooperation at the regional level the ECE will promote coordinated initiatives for joint follow-up to the Millennium Declaration;

- By comparing national experiences and disseminating best practices in monitoring of the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, implementation of these commitments will be facilitated, including through development of guidelines on the economic dimension of some of the areas of the Declaration, such as governance;

- Information sharing and better communication on the policies undertaken at the national and regional levels for implementing the Millennium Declaration will be promoted, using available tools and technologies with a view to stimulating the effectiveness of the peer dialogue and public awareness. This in particular could be used to encourage implementation of ECE’s legal instruments.
ECE strategic directions
(Agenda item 7)

42 The Executive Secretary reported on an informal brainstorming open to all member States that had taken place on Wednesday, 9 May 2001, with the participation of the ECE Bureau, chairpersons of PSBs, the Executive Secretary and ECE Directors. All who took part felt it was very useful.

43 The first topic discussed at that meeting was how to meet the growing demands on ECE in an environment of zero growth budget. Various points were made about how to attract funding, including: that long-term projects were more attractive than requests for funding ad hoc activities; that the private sector was a possible source of financing to be tapped; and that it would be useful to circulate to member States and other potential donor agencies a list of projects for which funding was needed. A suggestion was made that the Commission might wish to consider the possibility of adopting a decision calling on donor countries to include ECE on their lists of eligible institutions for development assistance funding and that the decision could be further submitted to ECOSOC for endorsement. Some delegations supported the draft of the decision presented by the secretariat and noted that this proposal was timely and appropriate. Given the need for some other delegations to consult with capitals, it was decided to postpone a decision on this matter and to discuss it at a future ad hoc informal meeting.

44 The second topic considered was the need to strengthen overall policy coherence and communication in the ECE. It was suggested to establish a Steering Group made up of the ECE Bureau members, the PSB chairpersons, and the Executive Secretary, at which interested members could participate, which would meet in the context of the Annual Session and discuss and articulate the overall policy and direction. The results of discussion would be considered by the Commission. The Commission also decided to request the Group of Experts to continue its discussions on the strategic directions of the ECE.

45 A number of economies in transition of the ECE eastern region, namely Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine, jointly emphasized the importance of active involvement of ECE in supporting the transition process to a market economy. To this end, they urged the Commission to strengthen its operational activities addressing the issues of economies in transition. These countries considered it to be necessary to strengthen fundraising activities in order to provide new extrabudgetary resources for operational activities and to improve the strategy planning and implementation of such activities accordingly.

Matters arising from the work of the subsidiary bodies requiring decision by, or meriting the attention of, the Commission
(Agenda item 8)

46 The Commission endorsed the decisions and recommendations adopted at the High Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health on 4 May 2001 contained in document E/ECE/1389.

47 The Commission's attention was drawn to four Conference Room papers that had been prepared for the session. They included papers on:
Sustainable energy production and use;
- The policy challenges, monitoring social and development policies in the ECE region;
- Activities of ECE in support of the UN Initiative for Information and Communication Technology for Development; and
- HIV/AIDS epidemic in the ECE region.

48 The Executive Secretary recalled that the General Assembly had invited all UN entities, including the regional commissions, to be involved in the preparatory activities leading up to the Special Session on HIV/AIDS to be held in June 2001. She pointed out that although UNECE had not been involved in the process, it had prepared the latter Conference Room paper on HIV/AIDS Epidemic in the ECE Region in order to draw member States’ attention to the European dimension of the problem. A representative of UN/AIDS addressed the Commission in this regard. He invited ECE member States to provide assistance and support for the Special Session.

Other business
(Agenda item 10)

49 The secretariat was requested to ensure that, for all ECE meetings, invitations to capital-based experts are copied to the missions in Geneva. It was also suggested that member States be provided regularly with information on extrabudgetary resources and their origin and use. In addition, the secretariat was invited to report on ECE activities in the Mediterranean region at the next annual session.

50 An issue raised requiring further consideration by the Commission was the involvement of member States in the drafting of decisions taken at the annual session. The question of languages of documents both for meetings and on ECE website was also raised.

Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission
(Agenda item 11)

51 At its sixth meeting, on 11 May 2001, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 6 May 2000 to 11 May 2001.
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<th>Body and officers</th>
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<td>Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission</td>
<td>23 June 2000</td>
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<td><strong>Chairperson:</strong> Mr. H. Kreid (Austria)</td>
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<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Co-Chairmen:</strong> Ms. S. Baloh-Plahutnik (Slovenia) Mr. R. Guliyev (Azerbaijan)</td>
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<td>Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution</td>
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<td>Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution</td>
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<td><strong>Chairman:</strong> Mr. J. Thompson (Norway)</td>
<td>28 November-1 December 2000</td>
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<td><strong>Vice-Chairmen:</strong> Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland) Mr. S. Hart (Canada) Mr. D. Hrecek (Slovenia)</td>
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Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)

Chairman: Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom)
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. Grennfelt (Sweden)
Ms. M. Lesnjak (Slovenia)
Mr. R. Van Aalst (Netherlands)
Ms. S. Vidic (Croatia)
Mr. J. Schneider (Austria)

Working Group on Effects

Chairman: Mr. T. Johannessen (Norway)
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland)
Mr. V.N. Bashkin (Russian Federation)
Mr. G. Fenech (Canada)
Mr. R. Guardans (Spain)

Working Group on Strategies and Review

Chairman: Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland)
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. W. Harnett (United States)
Mr. D. Horcek (Slovenia)
Mr. V. Sokolovsky (Russian Federation)

Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol on Water and Health

Chairman: Mr. A. Pinter (Hungary)
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. V. Kukosh (Russian Federation)
Mr. A. Davis (United Kingdom)

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Chairman: Mrs. E. Mareva (Bulgaria)
Body and officers

**Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents**

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

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<td>ECE/CP.TEAI/2</td>
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<td>22-24 November</td>
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**Chairman:** Mr. E. Berger (Switzerland)

**Vice-Chairmen:**
- Mr. J. Wettig (European Commission)
- Mr. E. Gorshkov (Russian Federation)

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**Committee on Environmental Policy**

7th session ECE/CEP/74

25-28 September 2000

**Chairman:** Mr. L. Bjørnskov (Denmark)

**Vice-Chairmen:**
- Ms. H. Cizková (Czech Republic)
- Ms. S. Côté (Canada)
- Mr. R. Dimovski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
- Mr. S. Kuraev (Russian Federation)
- Mr. H. Schreiber (Austria)
- Ms. S. Vermont-Velisek (Switzerland)
- Mr. B.K. Yessekin (Kazakhstan)
- Mr. S. Côté (Canada)

**Preparatory Meeting on Environmental Monitoring**

25 September 2000 CEP/C.10/2000/2

**Chairman:** Mr. T.M. Iversen (Denmark)

**Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials “Environment for Europe”**

29 September 2000 CEP/C.11/2000/2

**Chairman:** Mr. Y. Movchan (Ukraine)

**Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**

2nd meeting CEP/W.G.5/2000/2

3-5 July 2000 Dubrovnik (Croatia)

**Chairman:** Mr. F. La Camera (Italy)

**Vice-Chairmen:**
- Mr. V. Koester (Denmark)
- Mr. J. Jendroska (Poland)

**Working Group on Compliance and Rules of Procedure**

1st meeting CEP/W.G.5/A.C.1/2001/2

12-16 February 2001

**Chairman:** Mr. A. McGlone (United Kingdom)

**Vice-Chairman:** Ms. D. Kubinova (Czech Republic)

**Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers**

1st meeting CEP/W.G.5/A.C.2/2001/2

28 February-2 March 2001

**Chairman:** Mr. K. Blaha (Czech Republic)

**Vice-Chairman:** Mr. G. van Grootveld (Netherlands)

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**TRANSPORT**

**Inland Transport Committee**

63rd session ECE/TRANS/136
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference/Meeting</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a European Agreement concerning the</td>
<td>22-26 May 2000</td>
<td>ECE/TRANS/ADN/</td>
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<td>International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ad Hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels</td>
<td>10-11 July 2000</td>
<td>TRANS/AC.7/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st session</td>
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<td>2nd session</td>
<td>10-11 October 2000</td>
<td>TRANS/AC.7/4</td>
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<td>3rd session</td>
<td>20-21 March 2001</td>
<td>TRANS/AC.7/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Party on Road Traffic Safety</td>
<td>3-6 October 2000</td>
<td>TRANS/W P.1/74</td>
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<tr>
<td>35th session</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th session</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Party on Transport Statistics</td>
<td>24-26 October 2000</td>
<td>TRANS/W P.6/139</td>
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<td>51st session</td>
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<tr>
<td>68th session</td>
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<td>Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport</td>
<td>11-15 September 2000</td>
<td>TRANS/W P.15/</td>
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<tr>
<td>of Dangerous Goods</td>
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<td>AC.1/82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman: Mr. A. Johansen (Norway)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Rein (Germany)</td>
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**Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)**

Chairman: Mr. H. Rein (Germany)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Rak (Czech Republic)

**Working Party on Combined Transport**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mr. H. Maillard (Belgium)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34th session TRANS/W P.24/89</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 September 2000</td>
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<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mrs. M. Masclee (Netherlands)</th>
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<tr>
<td>35th session TRANS/W P.24/91</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 April 2001</td>
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**Joint Meeting of the Working Parties on Combined Transport and Rail Transport**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mr. G. Szabo (Hungary)</th>
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<tr>
<td>121st session TRANS/W P.29/735</td>
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<td>4-7 July 2000</td>
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<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation)</th>
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<td>122nd session TRANS/W P.29/743</td>
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<td>7-10 November 2000</td>
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<th>Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)</th>
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<tr>
<td>123rd session TRANS/W P.29/776</td>
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<td>6-9 March 2001</td>
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**Working Party on Noise**

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<td>33rd session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>20-23 February 2001</td>
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**Working Party on Lighting and Light-signalling**

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<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mr. G. Meekel (Netherlands)</th>
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<td>45th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>2-6 October 2000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>46th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>27-30 March 2001</td>
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**Working Party on Pollution and Energy**

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<th>Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)</th>
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<td>40th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>22-25 May 2000</td>
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<td>41st session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>16-19 January 2001</td>
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**Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear**

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<tr>
<th>Chairman: Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)</th>
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<td>48th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>11-13 September 2001</td>
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<th>Chairman: Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)</th>
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<td>49th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>29 January 2002</td>
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<th>Chairman: Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)</th>
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<td>50th session TRANS/W P.29/</td>
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<td>11-13 September 2001</td>
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<td>Working Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Safety Provisions</td>
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<td>Passive Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Customs Questions affecting Transport</td>
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<td>TIR Convention 1975</td>
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<td>TIR Convention 1982</td>
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<td>Road Transport</td>
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<td>Rail Transport</td>
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<td>Inland Water Transport</td>
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</table>
Chairman: M. H. Van Doorn (Netherlands)

Chairman: M. D. Anissin (Russian Federation)

Session 20

7-9 June 2000

Chairman: Mr. H. Van Doorn (Netherlands)

Chairman: Mr. D. Anissin (Russian Federation)

Diplomatic Conference organized Jointly by CCNR, the Danube Commission and ECE for the Adoption of a Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway

Chairman: Mr. S. Segura (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. A. Prandler (Ungary)
Mr. A.S. Cucu (Romania)

Chairman: Mr. S. Longva (Norway)
Paris (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. Martín-Guzmán (Spain)
Mr. D. Murphy (Ireland)
Mr. T. Toczynski (Poland)
Mr. H. Snorrason (Iceland)

Chairman: Mr. M. Turner (Canada)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey)
Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic)

Chairman: Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey)
Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic)

Chairman: Mr. H. Van Doorn (Netherlands)

Chairman: Mr. D. Anissin (Russian Federation)

Session 21

14-16 March 2001

Chairman: Mr. H. Van Doorn (Netherlands)

Chairman: Mr. D. Anissin (Russian Federation)

Diplomatic Conference organized Jointly by CCNR, the Danube Commission and ECE for the Adoption of a Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway

Chairman: Mr. S. Segura (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. A. Prandler (Ungary)
Mr. A.S. Cucu (Romania)

Chairman: Mr. S. Longva (Norway)
Paris (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. Martín-Guzmán (Spain)
Mr. D. Murphy (Ireland)
Mr. T. Toczynski (Poland)
Mr. H. Snorrason (Iceland)

Chairman: Mr. M. Turner (Canada)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey)
Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic)

Chairman: Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey)
Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic)

STATISTICS

Conference of European Statisticians

Chairman: Mr. S. Longva (Norway)
Paris (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. Martín-Guzmán (Spain)
Mr. D. Murphy (Ireland)
Mr. T. Toczynski (Poland)
Mr. H. Snorrason (Iceland)

Joint ECE/Eurostat Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Technology

Chairman: Mr. M. Turner (Canada)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. K. Zeila (Latvia)
Mr. E. Giovannini (Italy)

Joint ECE/Eurostat/FAO/OECD Seminar on Agricultural Economic Statistics

Chairman: Mr. D. Heath (Eurostat)

TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development

Chairman: Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)

Vice-Chairmen: Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey)
Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic)
Chairman: Mr. H. Martre (France)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Walker (United Kingdom)

Body and officers

Chairman: Mr. K. Itoh (Japan)
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. S. Mila (IAPH)
Mr. R. Colcher (Brazil)
Ms. T. Sorrenti (United States)

Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice
Chairman: Mr. D. Winter (United Kingdom)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Colodeiuc (Romania)

49th session
OPA/AC.23/1
4-6 December 2000

Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies
Chairman: Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden)
Vice-Chairmen: Ms. M. Saunders (United States)
Mr. V. Koreschik (Belarus)

10th session
TRADE/W P.6/2000/20
6-8 November 2000

Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development
Chairman: Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)
Vice-Chairmen: Mrs. O. Vorovenci (Romania)
Mr. D.L. Priester (United States)

56th session
TRADE/W P.7/2000/11
6-8 November 2000

Meeting of Specialized Section on Coordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
Chairman: Mr. D.L. Priester (United States)
Vice-Chairman: Ms. U. Bickelmann (Germany)

46th session
TRADE/W P.7/G.E.1/
23-26 May 2000
2000/25

Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)
Chairman: Mr. W. Staub (Germany)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Scianniella (Italy)

47th session
TRADE/W P.7/G.E.2/
19-22 June 2000
2000/17

Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Early and Ware Potatoes
Chairman: Mr. J. Debaveye (Belgium)
Vice-Chairman: Ms. K. Zgorska (Poland)

15th session
TRADE/W P.7/G.E.5/
19-21 March 2001
2001/8

Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes
Chairman: Mr. P.G. Bianchi (Italy)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. P.A. Miauton (Switzerland)

31st session
TRADE/W P.7/G.E.6/
12-14 March 2001
2001/8

Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat
Chairman: Mr. B. Carpenter (United States)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. King (Australia)

10th session
TRADE/W P.7/G.E.11/
25-27 April 2001
2001/13
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Chairman: Mr. H. Ch. Blanc (France)
Vice-Chairmen:
- Mr. B. Zluwa (Austria)
- Mr. S.R. Brunborg (Norway)
- Mr. B. Varnavskiy (Russian Federation)
- Mr. G. Rafajlovski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
- Ms. E. Aybar (Turkey)
- Mr. M. Greenbaum (United States)

3rd session
ENERGY/GE.1/2000/3
30 October 2000

Chairman: Mr. M. Greenbaum (United States)
Vice-Chairmen:
- Mr. N. Liciu (Romania)
- Mr. S. Klimov (Russian Federation)

Working Party on Gas

Chairman: Mr. B. Rey (Poland)
Vice-Chairmen:
- Mr. N. Coupaye (France)
- Mr. C. Simeoni (Italy)

Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources

Chairman: Mr. M. Kosinowski (Germany)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Skorobogatov (Russian Federation)
Chairman: M. Zedelj (Croatia)  
Vice-Chairman: M. T. Sao Pedro (Portugal)  

Chairman: M. R. Bowes (United States)  
Vice-Chairmen: M. T. Dahlsveen (Norway), M. Z. Genchev (Bulgaria), M. M. Persutto (Italy), M. V. Shakhin (Russian Federation)  

Chairman: M. W. Jamet (France)  

Chairman: M. R. Hoefle (Germany)  
Vice-Chairmen: M. V. Korobov (Russian Federation), M. D. McAree (Ireland)  

Chairman: M. H. Hoefle (Germany)  

Chairman: M. J. Yüksel (Turkey), M. H. C. Basar (Turkey), M. R. Heinrich (Austria), M. P. Vantomme (FAO), M. N. Demidova (Russian Federation)  

Chairman: M. C. Ferreira (Portugal)  

Chairman: M. J. Zetter (United Kingdom)  
Vice-Chairmen: M. W. Förster (Austria), M. D. Grabmüllerova (Czech Republic), M. B. Emmerich (Netherlands), M. A. Starovoytov (Russian Federation)  

**TIMBER**

**Timber Committee**  
ECE/TIM/95  
Co-Chairmen: M. A. Bergquist (Sweden), M. P. Csóka (Hungary)  

Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training  
Chairman: M. H. Hoefle (Germany)  
Vice-Chairmen: M. V. Korobov (Russian Federation), M. D. McAree (Ireland)  

Steering Committee of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training  
Chairman: M. H. Hoefle (Germany)  

Seminar on Harvesting of Non-wood Forest Products  
Chairmen: M. J. Yüksel (Turkey), M. H. C. Basar (Turkey), M. R. Heinrich (Austria), M. P. Vantomme (FAO), M. N. Demidova (Russian Federation)  

Seminar on Women in Forestry  
Chairman: M. C. Ferreira (Portugal)  

**HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

Committee on Human Settlements  
Chairman: M. J. Zetter (United Kingdom)  
Vice-Chairmen: M. W. Förster (Austria), M. D. Grabmüllerova (Czech Republic), M. B. Emmerich (Netherlands), M. A. Starovoytov (Russian Federation)  

ECE/HBP/119  
18 & 20 September 2000
ANNEX II

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 2000/2001

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian).

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to ECOSOC, 7 May 1999 - 5 May 2000

Economic Survey of Europe, 2000 No. 1 (Sales No. 00.II.E.12) E F R

Economic Survey of Europe, 2000 No. 2/3 (Sales No. 00.II.E.28) E F R

Generations and Gender Programme. Exploring Future Research and Data Collection Options (ECE/EAD/PAU/00/17) E

Economic Studies Series

Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region: Standard Country Reports:

No. 10m - Switzerland (Sales No. 99.II.E.29) E

No. 10n - Estonia (Sales No. 00.II.E.19) E

No. 10o - Italy (Sales No. 00.II.E.18) E

No. 10p - Portugal (Sales No. 00.II.E.17) E

No. 10q - Lithuania (Sales No. 00.II.E.24) E

No. 10r - Slovenia (Sales No. 00.II.E.25) E

No. 10s - New Zealand (Sales No. 01.II.E.6) E

ENVIRONMENT

Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to
Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (ECE/EB.AIR/72) E/F/R

The Aarhus Convention: an Implementation Guide /ECE/CEP/72) (Sales No. 00.II.E.3) E R

Environmental Performance Reviews Series

No. 8 - Kazakhstan (Sales No. 01.II.E.3) E

No. 9 - Kyrgyzstan (Sales No. 01.II.E.2) E

No.10 - Armenia (Sales No. 01.II.E.7) E

No.11 - Bulgaria (Second Review) (Sales No. 01.II.E.5) E

TRANSPORT

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and Protocol of Signature, Vols I & II, (ECE/TRANS/140) (Sales No. 01.VIII.1) E F R

Reception Facilities for the Transfer of Waste Generated on Board Ships on European Inland Waterways - Addendum (TRANS/SC.3/150/Add.1) E F R

European Code for Inland Waterways CEVNI (Amendment 2) (TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.1/Amend.2) E F R

Periodic Bulletins


Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America, 2000, Vol. L (Sales No. 01.II.E.1) E/F/R

Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America, 2000, Vol. XLV (Sales No. 00.II.E.8) E/F/R

STATISTICS

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 52: Guidelines for Statistical Metadata on the Internet (Sales No. 00.II.E.10) E
Trends in Europe and North America 2001 - The Statistical Yearbook of the Economic Commission for Europe (Sales No. 00.II.E.27) E
Women and Men in Europe and North America 2000 (Sales No. 00.II.E.6) E
World Robotics 2000 - Statistics, Market Analysis, Forecasts, Case Studies and Profitability of Robot Investment (Sales No. GV.E.00.0.14) E

TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Best Practice in Business Incubation (ECE/TRADE/253) (Sales No. 00.II.E.9) E
Best Practice in Business Incubation (ECE/TRADE/265) (Sales No. 01.II.E.9) E
Simplification.com: Electronic Business and the Simplification of Administration (ECE/TRADE/254) E R
Internet Infrastructure Development in Transition Economies (ECE/TRADE/255) E

Trade and Investment Guides

No. 2: Standards and Regulations in International Trade (ECE/TRADE/248) (Sales No. 99.II.E.41) E
No. 3: Promoting Foreign Direct Investment in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS (ECE/TRADE/249) (Sales No. 99.II.E.39) E
No. 4: The Polish Experience of Transition: Accomplishments and Problems (ECE/TRADE/251) (Sales No. 99.II.E.38) E
No. 5: Eliminating Obstacles to Efficiency Trade Finance in Transition Economies: Practical Aspects (ECE/TRADE/267) (Sales No. 00.II.E.4) E

Periodic Bulletins

The Steel Market in 1999 and Prospects for 2000 (ECE/TRADE/244) (Sales No. 00.II.E.20) E
ENERGY

Guide for the Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation Regulations in Economies in Transition - Russian Federation and Central Asia (Joint ECE-ESCAP publication) (Sales No. GV.E.00.0.7) E

ECE Gas Centre Series No. 11: Reform and Restructuring of the Gas Industry in Economies in Transition 1999. Entering the New Millennium: Impact of Energy Price Developments and Market Liberalization (Sales No. GV.E.00.0.2) E

TIMBER

Timber and Forest Information Series: Timber Committee Yearbook 2000 (ECE/TIM/INF/7) E

Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers


Forest and Forest Products Country Profile: Russian Federation (ECE/TIM/SP/18) (Sales No. 00.II.E.22) E R

UNECE/FAO Timber and Forest Discussion Papers

No. 18: Multiple Use Forestry (ECE/TIM/DP/18) E

No. 19: Trade and Environment Issues in the Forest and Forest Products Sector (ECE/TIM/DP/19) E

No. 20: Forest Certification Update for the ECE Region, Summer 2000 (ECE/TIM/DP/20) E


Periodic Bulletins


No.4 Forest Fire Statistics, 1996-1998 (ECE/TIM/BULL/52/2) E/F

No.1: Forest Products Prices 1997-1999 (ECE/TIM/BULL/53/1) E/F
No.6: Forest Products Markets in 2000 and Prospects for 2001 (ECE/TIM/BULL/52/6) E/F R

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Implementation of Human Settlements Policies on Urban Renewal and Housing Modernization, Budapest Case Study (ECE/HBP/115) (Sales No. 00.II.E.4) E
Implementation of Human Settlements Policies on Urban Renewal and Housing Modernization, Ljubljana Case Study (ECE/HBP/116) (Sales No. 00.II.E.15) E
Country Profiles on the Housing Sector - Lithuania (ECE/HBP/117) (Sales No. 00.II.E.13) E
ECE Strategy for a Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the 21st Century (ECE/HBP/120) (Sales No. 01.II.E.10) E/F/R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe and North America, Vol. XL, 2000 (Sales No. 00.II.E.14) E/F/R

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION

Provisional agenda E/ECE/1384/Rev.1
Intersectoral cooperation in the ECE E/ECE/1385
The Millennium Declaration: The challenges for Europe E/ECE/1386
Decisions and recommendations adopted by the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health E/ECE/1389

Reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

Committee on Environmental Policy ECE/CEP/74
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Inland Transport Committee</td>
<td>ECE/TRANS/136</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference of European Statisticians</td>
<td>ECE/CES/58</td>
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<td>Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development</td>
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<td>Timber Committee</td>
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<td>Committee on Human Settlements</td>
<td>ECE/HBP/119</td>
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