



**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE
ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE
TASK FORCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION
PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA**

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**DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL AND
EASTERN EUROPE (EAP TASK FORCE) AND THE PROJECT PREPARATION COMMITTEE
(PPC)**

Third Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC, Yerevan, 16-17 November 2005

FOR INFORMATION.

Delegates will be invited to adopt the draft Summary Record of the Third Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC at their next meeting.

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THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE (EAP TASK FORCE) AND THE PROJECT PREPARATION COMMITTEE (PPC)

16-17 November 2005, Yerevan

Draft Summary Record

Opening formalities

1. Mr. Rod Matthews, Chair of the PPC and acting co-Chairs of the EAP Task Force, Mme Eldrid Nordbo (Norway) and Mr. Simon Papyan (Armenia), welcomed participants and opened the Third Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the Project Preparation Committee (PPC). They explained that the permanent co-Chairs of the EAP Task Force, Mmes Soledad Blanco (European Commission) and Aitkul Samakova (Kazakhstan), were not able to attend this meeting and that Mme Eldrid Nordbo and Mr Simon Papyan were asked to chair this meeting in their place.
2. Mr. Vardan Aivazyan, Minister of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Armenian Government. Representatives from 19 countries and the European Commission were present, as well as representatives from International Organisations, non-governmental organisations and the Regional Environmental Centres (see Annex 1 for the list of participants).
3. The EAP Task Force and the PPC adopted the draft Annotated Agenda of the Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC [ENV/EPOC/EAP/A(2005)1] without amendment.

Composition of the Bureau of the EAP Task Force and the PPC

4. The EAP Task Force and the PPC agreed on two new Bureau members: Ms. Ann-Brit Ylinen (Finland) would replace Ms. Ditte Hølse (Denmark) and Ms. Ruzanna Davtyan would replace her colleague, Mr. George Arzumanyan, who left his position in the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia.
5. Mr. Rod Matthews, Chair of the PPC, introduced Ms. Angela Crooks as the new Executive Secretary of the PPC. She took on the role on 17 November 2005, replacing Ms. Jeanette Baartman, Interim Executive Secretary to the PPC.

Adoption of the Draft Summary Record of the Second Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC

6. The EAP Task Force and the PPC adopted the Draft Summary Record of the Second Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC [document ENV/EPOC/EAP/M(2004)1] without amendment

Preparations for the Yerevan Ministerial Conference

7. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of the most recent information provided by the Armenian Government and the EAP Task Force secretariat on the status of preparations for the Yerevan

Ministerial Conference and related meetings being held in conjunction with the joint meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC.

Facilitating and Supporting the Achievement of the EECCA Environment Strategy Objectives

Assessing outcomes of the EAP Task Force work in EECCA countries

8. The EAP Task Force and the PPC discussed and broadly endorsed the preliminary report on results and outcomes of the EAP Task Force work in EECCA countries [document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)1] and agreed that it should be used to explain the work of the EAP Task Force and to be updated as work progresses. Representatives from Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic, and Moldova described the ways in which EAP Task Force work was helping to reform environmental policies and institutions and to build capacities in their countries.

9. The EAP Task Force and the PPC endorsed the use of the checklist [document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)2] for collecting the feedback from the EECCA beneficiaries on results and outcomes of the EAP Task Force projects in their countries. It was also agreed that checklist should be used to assess the outcomes of the EAP Task Force projects initiated or concluded since 2003 “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference. In this context, the EAP Task Force and the PPC invited the EAP Task Force secretariat to work together with beneficiaries in EECCA countries to collect information on the outcome of EAP Task Force projects using the checklist.

Activities of the EAP Task Force and the PPC in 2005 and 2006

10. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of the progress in implementing EAP Task Force programme of work in 2005, as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)3.

11. The EAP Task Force discussed and broadly endorsed the proposed draft Programme of Work and Budget of the EAP Task Force for 2006 [document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)4]. The secretariat took note of various comments provided by delegations and agreed to use them in further developing and implementing proposed activities.

12. The PPC and EAP Task Force took note of a presentation by the PPC on the activities it had carried out in the last year and an outline of the activities and budget estimate for 2006, as set out in document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)10. In particular, the PPC stressed the importance of ensuring that PPC Officers are based both in the SEE and EECCA regions, as well as at IFI headquarters.

13. Donors were encouraged to indicate the financial and other support they could provide to both the EAP Task Force and the PPC.

Activities of Other Facilitating Organisations to Support Specific Objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy

14. The EAP Task Force and the PPC noted the “snapshot” of activities and work-sharing arrangements between the Facilitating and Cooperating Institutions, as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)6. Delegates agreed on the importance of maintaining an overview of the activities implemented by various Facilitating and Cooperating Institutions under each objective of the Strategy, while minimising reporting requirements. To this end, the EAP Task Force and the PPC agreed that the integration of the “snapshot” into the partnership data base would be one way to enhance the utility of the information, and the incentives for international organisations to provide the information. It was also agreed that the partnership

data base should be designed as a working portal and should incorporate links to relevant websites of various international organisations in order to minimise reporting requirements.

Mobilising Finance

15. Ms Jeanette Baartman introduced the PPC session on Mobilising Finance, and stressed its objective to introduce current project preparation and investment in the region, and promote a dialogue between EAP Task Force and PPC members about constraints to mobilising finance and project preparation and financing opportunities. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of, and discussed, four presentations concerning pipelines and financing gaps in PPC projects focusing on specific geographic areas and themes: (i) South East Europe, (ii) Early Transition Countries (ETC), (iii) Biodiversity, and (iv) Carbon Finance. The PPC Secretariat took note of issues raised by several delegates with an eye to informing future work of the PPC.

16. The PPC Secretariat also presented a prototype Project Financing Workshop which it intends to implement in the region during 2006 – 07. The aim of this two-day workshop is to assist municipality representatives to develop project concepts and provide an improved understanding of the processes involved in attracting loan and grant financing. The PPC Secretariat presented a brief outline of the workshop, and invited PPC and EAP Task Force delegates to consider hosting or funding a workshop in cooperation with the PPC Secretariat.

Possible inputs to the Belgrade “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference

17. The EAP Task Force and the PPC had a first discussion on possible inputs to Belgrade Conference on the basis of document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)8. There was a broad agreement that the proposed EECCA Strategy Progress Assessment report could provide an important input to the Belgrade Conference and that the report should be prepared in close cooperation with EECCA countries, Facilitating Organisations and EECCA RECs. In addition to this report, it was agreed that the EAP Task Force should concentrate on producing a small number of reports that synthesise results from the main areas of work.

18. It was agreed that the PPC should prepare a report summarising progress in supporting project development and implementation. It is also likely that additional reports or inputs will be prepared based on the experience of PPC Officers working in the field.

Future roles of the EAP Task Force, the PPC and the EECCA Environment Strategy

19. The EAP Task Force and the PPC discussed the future of the two bodies on the basis of documents ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)9 and ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)10. During the discussion there was a broad consensus on the following points:

- There is a continued need in EECCA countries for support for environmental policy reform and capacity building beyond the 2007 Belgrade Ministerial conference, and an interest in partner countries to provide such support
- Priority areas for cooperation should be identified and should: involve strong commitment and ownership by EECCA countries; correspond with the interests of partner countries; emphasize the implementation of policies and the achievement of environmental outcomes; and take account, but not be limited to, the activities carried out by the EAP Task Force and PPC
- Future work should include elements that are common for all EECCA countries as well as elements that could be carried out at a sub-regional level; in this connection the future of the EECCA Environment Strategy should be considered

- From an institutional point of view, it would be premature to transfer the secretariat functions of the EAP Task Force and PPC to the EECCA RECs; rather a coherent and coordinated programme of work should be developed that builds on the comparative advantages of these bodies as well as the “capital” they have developed
- The financing of such a programme should also be considered to ensure that it is realistic and affordable.

20. The EAP Task Force and PPC requested the secretariats and EECCA RECs to work with the Bureau to develop a proposal along these lines for consideration at its next meeting

21. Jeanette Baartman described the PPC as an institution which provides downstream investment support. Participants generally supported the idea of continued training in environmental finance and project preparation in the EECCA region. The PPC has been increasingly involved in capacity building, in particular through project financing workshops. The pilot workshop that was held in Moscow will be rolled out, starting in Georgia in early 2006. There are a number of other initiatives currently at the concept stage.

22. In addition to the immediate benefit of promoting projects, the transfer of skills to the region would also help to sustain to the work of the PPC if it were to be phased out in the future. Participants were supportive of the PPC’s continued work in the region.

23. The following PPC-related interventions were made by participants:

- Germany expressed the need for more public-private partnerships. Germany also announced its funding for the project preparation workshop.
- The Netherlands plans to extend the term of the energy efficiency officer (this has already happened).
- Switzerland is interested in rolling out the project preparation workshops.
- Uzbekistan requested that information be disseminated in paper format, since Internet access can be scarce in the region.

Date of the Next Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC

24. The EAP Task Force and the PPC agreed to hold the 4th Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC back-to-back with the Conference on Environmental Policy Reform. It was proposed that these meetings take place during the week of the 18th September 2006. The exact dates and the venue of the meetings will be discussed at the next Bureau Meeting.

THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE EAP TASK FORCE AND THE PPC
16 November 2005 - 17 November 2005, Yerevan

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ANNEX 2

**LIST OF MAIN DOCUMENTS FOR THE THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME (EAP TF) AND THE PROJECT PREPARATION COMMITTEE (PPC)
Yerevan, Armenia, 16-17 November 2005**

<i>Agenda Item No.</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>DOCUMENT NO.</i>	<i>AVAILABILITY</i>	
			English	Russian
1.	Draft Annotated Agenda	ENV/EPOC/EAP/A(2005)1	x	x
3.	Draft Summary Record of the 2 nd Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC	ENV/EPOC/EAP/M(2004)1	x	x
5 (i)	Preliminary Report on Results and Outcomes of the EAP Task Force Work in EECCA Countries	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)1	x	x
5 (i)	Checklist for Identification of Outcomes of the EAP Task Force Projects in EECCA Countries	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)2	x	x
5 (ii)	Progress Report on the Implementation of the EAP Task Force Programme of Work in 2005	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)3	x	x
5 (ii)	Draft Programme of Work and Budget of the EAP Task Force for 2006	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)4	x	x
5 (iii)	PPC Strategy, Progress Report and Budget (2005-2006)	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)5	x	x
5 (iv)	Snapshot of Activities Carried Out by Different International Organisations under objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)6	x	x

<i>Agenda Item No.</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>DOCUMENT NO.</i>	<i>AVAILABILITY</i>	
			English	Russian
6 (i) and (ii)	Mobilising Finance	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)7	x	x
7.	Possible inputs to the Belgrade Conference (PPC, EAP Task Force, inputs related to the EECCA Strategy)	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)8	x	x
8.	The Future of the EAP Task Force after the 2007 EfE Ministerial Conference	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)9	x	x
8.	The Future of the PPC after the 2007 EfE Ministerial Conference	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2005)10	x	x

**LIST OF ROOM DOCUMENTS FOR THE THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME (EAP TF) AND THE PROJECT PREPARATION COMMITTEE (PPC)
Yerevan, Armenia, 16-17 November 2005**

<i>Agenda Item No.</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>CODE</i>	<i>AVAILABILITY</i>	
			<i>Eng.</i>	<i>Rus.</i>
	Summary of Key Outcomes of the 7th Annual Meeting of the REPIN Network, 17 – 18 October, 2005, Moscow, Russia	Information document 1	x	x
	Guiding Principles of Effective Environmental Permitting	Information document 2	x	x
	Summary Record of the Second Meeting on Facilitation and Support for the Implementation of the EECCA Environment Strategy	Information document 3	x	x
	Summary Record of the Expert Meetings on Progress in Implementing the EECCA Environment Strategy in the countries of the Western Part of EECCA, Caucasus and Central Asia	Information document 4	x	x
	Policy Dialogue for Institutional Strengthening – Framework, Results and Evaluation of the Pilot with the Ministry of Environment of Georgia	Information document 5	x	x