



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

ENV/EPOC/EAP/M(2006)1  
Unclassified

**DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTH 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)**

**4th Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC, Berlin, 21-22 September 2006**

*FOR INFORMATION.*

*Delegates will be invited to adopt the draft Summary Record of the 4th Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC at their next meeting.*

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English - Or. English

**FOURTH 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)**

*21-22 September 2006, Berlin*

**Draft Summary Record**

**Opening formalities**

1. Ms Astrid Klug, Parliamentary Secretary of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany, welcomed the participants on behalf of the German Government (a copy of the statement will be circulated to the participants separately). Representatives from 23 countries and the European Commission were present, as well as representatives from International Organisations, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, non-governmental organisations and the Regional Environmental Centres (see Annex 1 for the list of participants).

2. The co-Chairs of the EAP Task Force, Ms Soledad Blanco (European Commission) and Mr Nurlan Iskakov (Kazakhstan) and the Chair of the PPC, Mr Rod Matthews, opened the Fourth Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the Project Preparation Committee (PPC). On behalf of the Task Force and PPC, Ms Blanco and Mr Matthews congratulated Mr Iskakov on taking up the position of co-Chair to the EAP Task Force<sup>1</sup>.

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(2006)1] following the agreement to swap the agenda item 5 “Preparations for the Belgrade Ministerial Conference” with the item 6 “Beyond Belgrade”.

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

4. The EAP Task Force and the PPC adopted the Draft Summary Record of the Third Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC [ENV/EPOC/EAP/M(2005)1] without amendment.

**Joint PPC/EAP Task Force Session on Mobilising Environmental Finance**

***EAP Task Force work on trends in environmental financing***

5. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of a presentation of the outline of a report on trends in environmental financing in EECCA countries. Delegates agreed that it should be one of the EAP Task Force’s inputs to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference. It was also stressed that the report should contain

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<sup>1</sup> Following the announcement of Mme Aitkul Samakova to stand down as a co-Chair of the EAP Task Force after her appointment as an Advisor to the President of Kazakhstan on gender issues at the June 2006 meeting of the Bureau of the EAP Task Force and PPC, the Bureau invited Mr Iskakov, Environment Minister of Kazakhstan, to take over the position of co-Chair of the EAP Task Force.

not just analysis but also policy recommendations on how to mobilise financial resources and utilise them in a cost-effective manner.

### ***Overview of the PPC's work on mobilising finance for environmental investment projects***

6. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of a presentation by the PPC Secretariat on the work of the PPC to mobilise donor finance for environmental investment projects in EECCA and SEE since November 2005. This covered the PPC's activities in the areas of municipal environmental infrastructure, energy efficiency and emissions trading, and biodiversity management. The PPC Secretariat also provided information on current priority investment projects which require co-financing in order to be developed further, with a view towards attracting expressions of interest from donors agencies represented at the meeting. Several delegates expressed their interest in the project activities supported by the PPC and pointed out the importance of balancing the investment priorities of IFIs with the investment needs of recipient countries. Delegates also encouraged the PPC to explore options for working with a wider range of IFIs. Eco-Forum representatives enquired about possible cooperation with NGOs when planning PPC activities. The PPC Secretariat answered that the PPC is happy to pursue closer collaboration with NGOs and that they will look for opportunities to improve communications and information sharing with civil society in the future.

### ***EAP Task Force work on financing strategies and their relevance for project identification***

7. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of a presentation of the results obtained with some of the financing planning tools developed by the Task Force. Delegates recognised that financing strategies can provide an important basis for policy dialogues within EECCA countries, as well as between EECCA and donor countries. Delegates also agreed that the strategies could provide a link between financial planning and project identification activities carried out by the PPC, and recommended that greater efforts should be made to strengthen such linkages.

### ***PPC case studies: lessons learned in financing environmental investment projects***

8. EAP Task Force and PPC delegates then participated in two parallel PPC breakout sessions, facilitated by PPC Officers, which provided more in-depth information on PPC activities. One breakout group focused on carbon financing and specifically the Multilateral Carbon Credit Fund that the PPC has helped to set up. Delegates noted that EECCA countries have great potential for benefiting from carbon financing, but that sustained political commitment and assistance for capacity building may be required to enable them to reap the full benefits. The other breakout group dealt with investments in water supply & sanitation projects in low-income countries, and the partnership between the PPC and the EBRD's Early Transition Countries Initiative. Delegates noted that there will continue to be a need for significant grant co-financing of such projects in low-income countries to make the investments affordable.

## **Implementation of the activities of the PPC and EAP Task Force in 2006 and 2007**

### ***(i) Activities of the PPC***

9. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of a presentation by the PPC Secretariat on the PPC's activities since November 2005. This included information on the recruitment of new PPC Officers in St Petersburg and Tbilisi, and progress with the implementation of the Project Financing Workshops. It also provided an outline of the PPC's proposed activities up to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference in October 2007. Delegates asked for more regular updates on the PPC's activities, and noted that the Project Financing Workshops provide an opportunity to reconcile country priorities and IFI priorities with regard to the selection and development of environmental investments. In response to a question on why the PPC

was planning to recruit new PPC Officers in advance of the finalisation of the PPC review, the PPC Secretariat explained that the PPC has to continue to respond to current demands, even though a longer-term decision on the future of the PPC will not be taken until Belgrade next year.

***(ii) Activities of the EAP Task Force***

10. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of the progress in implementing EAP Task Force programme of work in 2006, as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)1. During the discussion, the importance of ensuring full ownership of Task Force work by EECCA countries as a fundamental principle for the work of the Task Force was reiterated. In this context, the secretariat was invited to work together with EECCA country representatives to collect information on the impacts and outcomes of Task Force activities with a view to updating a report on results and outcomes of the EAP Task Force work in EECCA countries.

11. The EAP Task Force broadly endorsed the proposed draft Programme of Work and Budget of the EAP Task Force for 2007 [ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)2]. The secretariat took note of specific comments provided by delegations and agreed to use them in further developing and implementing proposed activities. Delegates also took note of the budget estimates and posed a number of questions with regard to the financial resources that would actually be available in 2007 and those that were still required to be raised. In this context, the secretariat was requested to provide detailed information on the funds that still need to be raised in 2007<sup>2</sup>. It was also noted that the overall budget foreseen for the activities in 2007 will be approximately 25 percent less than in 2006.

**Facilitating and Supporting the Achievement of the EECCA Environment Strategy Objectives**

***(i) Assessing progress in achieving EECCA Environment Strategy Objectives***

12. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of the concept, process and structure of the 2007 Progress Assessment Report (EECCA Report), as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)3. The EAP Task Force endorsed the structure and process for preparation of the EECCA Report. The EAP Task Force reiterated the importance of the Report which will be its “flagship” input to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference. The secretariat took note of various suggestions provided by delegates and agreed to take them into account in finalising the Report.

***(ii) Activities of other Facilitating Organisations to support specific objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy***

13. The EAP Task Force and the PPC noted presentations of the UNECE, WHO and Eco-Forum on their activities in supporting the achievement of specific objectives of the EECCA Strategy. It was also agreed that the EAP Task Force secretariat should coordinate its communication activities with those of the ECE/EfE secretariat for the Belgrade Ministerial Conference.

***(iii) Progress on overall facilitation of the EECCA Environment Strategy and proposed future activities***

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<sup>2</sup> The estimated resource requirement for activities in 2007 is EUR 2 341 702. About EUR 938 892 in grant support is already available, leaving EUR 1 402 810 that would still need to be raised. However this figure does not take into account the resources that will be carried over into 2007 from the 2006 budget. This is difficult to calculate but a rough estimate is that this could be in the range EUR 550-775K. If this estimate is correct, the actual amount that would actually need to be raised in 2007 is in the range EUR 625-875K.

14. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of progress in implementing EAP Task Force programme of work to facilitate and support the achievement of EECCA Strategy objectives overall in 2006 [ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)1].

## **Beyond Belgrade**

### ***(i) Findings of the PPC Review: options for the PPC after the Belgrade Ministerial Conference***

15. The EAP Task Force and the PPC took note of a presentation of the preliminary findings of the PPC review. Delegates welcomed the review as an important step in securing stakeholder engagement in decisions on the PPC's future to be taken at Belgrade next year. A number of points were made on the issues raised that included the deployment of PPC Officers and the additionality of these positions within IFI banking teams, PPC cooperation with IFIs other than EBRD, and the future geographical focus of the PPC. Delegates were given a deadline of 15 October for further comments on the draft report. It will then be finalised by the consultant and a final synthesis report will be submitted by the PPC Secretariat to the PPC/EAP Task Force Bureau on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

### ***(ii) Priority areas for environmental co-operation with EECCA countries after the Belgrade Ministerial Conference***

16. The EAP Task Force took note of a document outlining priority areas for environmental co-operation with EECCA countries after the Belgrade Conference [ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)5] and discussed the possible support that the EAP Task Force could provide in addressing these priorities. Delegates appreciated the document as a useful basis for discussion and agreed to continue discussions at their next meeting. The secretariat was also requested to distribute the official statement by the Kazakh Environment Minister to the participants of the meeting.

17. The EAP Task Force and the PPC also took note of a room document presenting joint proposals by EECCA RECs on preparations for the Belgrade "Environment for Europe" 2007 Ministerial Conference and possible co-operation in the EECCA region after the Conference (ENV/EPOC/EAP/RD(2006)1). In this context, the EAP Task Force secretariat also offered to distribute a document that outlines past and ongoing joint activities of the EAP Task Force, PPC and EECCA RECs since 2003 Kiev "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference.

## **Preparations for the Belgrade "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference**

### ***(i) PPC inputs to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference***

18. Delegates took note of and endorsed proposals by the PPC to prepare two reports for the Belgrade conference. The first will be a Category I report on mobilising finance for environmental investments, which will be prepared in collaboration with IFIs, EAP Task Force and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central & Eastern Europe, and will be presented for approval at the Fifth Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force and PPC in March 2007. The second paper will be a Category II report on the work of the PPC during 2003-07, which will be finalised by September 2007. These proposals were endorsed by the delegates.

### ***(ii) EAP Task Force reports to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference***

19. The EAP Task Force discussed a paper outlining the main inputs of the EAP Task Force that could be prepared for submission to the Belgrade Conference on the basis of document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)4. Delegates broadly agreed that the EECCA Report should be a "flagship"

publication of the EAP Task Force and to make this recommendation to the Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO) preparing the Conference. The EAP Task Force also recommended that the report should be a Category 1 stand-alone publication with its own cover, in the same way as the EEA Assessment Report. The EAP Task Force also agreed to submit the “Guiding Principles of Effective Environmental Permitting Systems” [as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP/POL(2006)3] to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference. There was an agreement that the category (either 1 or 2) of the document should be determined after the agenda and main documents for the Belgrade Conference were identified.

20. The EAP Task Force agreed to recommend the following four reports that are being prepared by the Task Force (as set out in the document ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)4) as Category 2 documents:

- Financing water supply and sanitation sector in EECCA countries, including progress in achieving water-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Trends in environmental finance
- Assessment of reform of environmental compliance assurance systems in EECCA
- Progress report on partnerships

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

21. The EAP Task Force and the PPC agreed to hold their next 5<sup>th</sup> joint meeting on 15-16 March 2007, immediately after the next REPIN Meeting (EECCA Regulatory Environmental Programme Implementation Network) and a workshop on future environmental policy and institutional challenges in EECCA countries, to be held on 13-14 March 2007. Delegates welcomed the offer of the Kazakh Environment Minister to host the next meeting in Kazakhstan.

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ANNEX 2

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 4<sup>th</sup> JOINT MEETING  
OF THE EAP TASK FORCE – PPC  
Berlin, 21-22 September 2006**

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>DOCUMENT NO.</i>	<i>AVAILABILITY</i>	
			<i>Eng.</i>	<i>Rus.</i>
1.	Draft annotated agenda	ENV/EPOC/EAP/A(2006)1	x	x
2 (i)	Draft Summary record of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> joint meeting of the EAP Task Force and the PPC	ENV/EPOC/EAP/M(2005)1	x	x
2 (ii)	PPC report on mobilising finance for environmental investments: 2005-06	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)8	x	x
3 (i)	PPC report on activities during 2005-06 and planned activities and funding needs for 2006-07	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)6	x	x
3 (ii) & 4 (iii)	Progress report on the implementation of the EAP Task Force Programme of work in 2006	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)1	x	x
3 (ii) & 4 (iii)	Draft Programme of work and budget of the EAP Task Force for 2007	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)2	x	x
4 (i) & 5 (ii)	2007 Progress Assessment Report (EECCA Report) – Concept, Process and Structure	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)3	x	x
5 (i)	Proposed PPC reports for the Belgrade Ministerial Conference	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)9	x	x
5 (ii)	EAP Task Force reports for the Belgrade Ministerial Conference	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)4	x	x
5 (ii)	Guiding Principles of Effective Environmental Permitting Systems	ENV/EPOC/EAP/POL(2006)3	x	x
6 (i)	Assistance to Project Preparation Committee Review 2006	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)7	x	x
6 (ii)	The Future of the EAP Task Force after the Belgrade Ministerial Conference	ENV/EPOC/EAP(2006)5	x	x