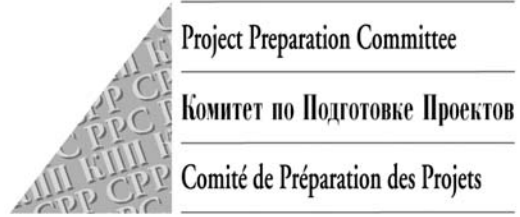


**EAP Task Force  
СРГ ПДООС  
Groupe d'Etude du PAE**



## **Meeting of the Bureau of the EAP TF and the PPC**

**16 June 2006, London**

**Draft Summary Record**

**MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE EAP TASK FORCE AND THE PROJECT  
PREPARATION COMMITTEE (PPC)**

*16 June 2006, London*

**DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD**

The joint Bureau of the Project Preparation Committee (PPC) and the EAP Task Force met in London (United Kingdom) on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2006 (see the attached list of participants).

The Bureau:

1. Adopted the draft agenda for the meeting.
2. Discussed the report on the status of work and future activities of the PPC and:
  - 2.1. took note of the number and variety of investment projects being supported by the PPC; suggested that the PPC build on this portfolio by exploring approaches for working on smaller projects, for example in rural areas.
  - 2.2. encouraged the PPC to continue to focus its efforts on EECCA countries, especially those in the Caucasus and Central Asia; suggested that the PPC should look for opportunities to work more closely with EBRD's Early Transition Countries Initiative; and recommended that the PPC should explore options for creating a PPC Officer position in Central Asia, possibly in coordination with the Asian Development Bank.
  - 2.3. welcomed the inception of the PPC's programme of Project Financing Workshops, the first of which is taking place in Georgia in July; recommended that the PPC invite representatives of international financial institutions (IFIs) other than EBRD to participate in the workshops; and encouraged the PPC to keep looking for opportunities to place PPC Officers in other IFIs including the World Bank.
3. Discussed issues related to the implementation of the EAP Task Force and PPC programmes of work, and:
  - 3.1. took note of the presentation by Mr. Pierre Hecq of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) on the on-going co-operation between the EUWI and the EAP Task Force and PPC in the area of water supply and sanitation in EECCA countries; welcomed the development of an integrated work programme; and supported National Policy Dialogues as a useful multi-stakeholder mechanism for supporting water sector reforms in EECCA.
  - 3.2. took note of the presentation by Mr. Rod Matthews, Chair of the PPC on the provision of water services in the rural areas of EECCA countries; agreed on the importance of this issue; stressed the need to integrate provision of water services in rural areas to the future work of the EUWI, EAP Task Force and PPC; underlined the relevance of National Policy Dialogues in this regard; and discussed how work in this area could be promoted, especially with IFIs, and how PPC could assist in this regard.
  - 3.3. discussed the paper presented by the EAP Task Force and PPC secretariats on their co-operation with EECCA RECs; noted that although there had been a significant number of cooperative activities, the differing mandates of the three institutions made it difficult to develop a coherent and strategic approach.
  - 3.4. took note of the paper, outlining the activities of the EAP Task Force, PPC and EECCA RECs to strengthen capacity building at the sub-national level; noted that EECCA RECs had a wide range of activities at the local level that did not generally involve co-operation with either PPC or EAP Task Force; observed that the EAP Task Force and PPC had collaborated on the issues of water supply and sanitation at the local level, and agreed that PPC's Project Financing Workshops could provide an opportunity for co-operation between PPC, EAP Task Force and EECCA RECs;

- 3.5. took note of the information provided by Ms. Annika Agerblad, EC DG ENV, on the status of re-establishing a REC in Ukraine.
  - 3.6. took note of the presentation by Dr. Helen Marquard of the UK DEFRA on the UK-based PECE (Partners for Environmental Co-operation in Europe) Initiative; agreed that the EAP Task Force, EECCA RECs share common objectives with PECE; encouraged the organisations to seek opportunities to strengthen co-operation in this regard;
  - 3.7. took note of the presentation made by the PPC and EAP Task Force secretariats on transferring expertise from new EU member states to EECCA countries; noted the variety of ways in which EAP Task Force had involved experts from CEE countries in its work; and agreed that the financing of such arrangements, in particular, secondments from CEE governments, still remained a major challenge and encouraged PPC to examine ways to do so.
4. Discussed the preparatory process for the Belgrade Ministerial Conference, and in particular:
    - 4.1. took note of PPC secretariat presentation on the progress with the PPC review and other inputs to the Belgrade Conference; endorsed the process by which the PPC Secretariat plans to conduct the review and present its findings; and supported the PPC Secretariat's proposal to submit a paper on the future of the PPC, based on the review findings, to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference, in addition to its usual report on PPC activities.
    - 4.2. discussed the presentation by the EAP Task Force secretariat on preparations of the 2007 EECCA Strategy Progress Assessment (EECCA Report); agreed that it should be the key input of the EAP Task Force to the Belgrade Conference; endorsed its overall structure and templates for the chapters; stressed the importance of involving EECCA countries in its preparation; recommended that national seminars be held to discuss the draft and means found to support organisation of such seminars, e.g. through EECCA REC network; requested the secretariat to distribute the final version of the report as early as possible; took note of the on-going co-operation between the EAP Task Force secretariat and EECCA RECs in preparing the Report;
    - 4.3. noted the paper outlining the main EAP Task Force reports to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference; agreed that the EECCA Report would be the "flagship" publication of the EAP Task Force; further agreed to recommend to the WGSO that this report should be treated as a stand-alone publication with its own cover, in the same way as the EEA's 4th Assessment Report; agreed that the appropriate category for the "Guiding Principles for Environmental Integrated Permitting" should be determined after the agenda for the Belgrade Conference and main outcome documents for the Conference were identified; agreed that other EAP Task Force reports identified in the Document 7 should be proposed as Category 2 – i.e. background - documents;
    - 4.4. discussed preparations of the upcoming WGSO meeting in Geneva on 29-30 June and agreed that the agenda for the Ministerial conference should make adequate provision for a discussion of the future of the Environment for Europe process.
5. Discussed the document prepared by the EAP Task Force secretariat outlining the priority areas for environmental co-operation with EECCA countries after the Belgrade Ministerial Conference; noted that this was a secretariat document that did not engage the Bureau in any way; invited the secretariat to submit a similar paper to the next joint meeting of the EAP Task Force and PPC in September 2006; agreed that Bureau members may submit comments on the paper to the secretariat by the 7th July; and took note of the resolution of the Fifth Expanded Meeting of the International Coordination Committee of EECCA RECs network, held in Almaty on 26<sup>th</sup> April.
6. Discussed the preparations of the next joint meeting of the EAP Task Force and PPC; and:
    - 6.1. thanked Germany for their kind offer to host the next joint meeting in Berlin on 21-22 September 2006.
    - 6.2. broadly agreed on the proposed draft agenda and made some editorial suggestions.

7. Agreed:
  - 7.1. to recommend to the EAP Task Force and PPC to hold their final joint meeting before the Belgrade Ministerial Conference on 15-16 March 2007, back-to-back with a meeting of the environmental policy network, REPIN, which would include a special session on future environmental policy and institutional challenges in EECCA countries; noted that the venue is still to be determined.
  - 7.2. to hold another Bureau meeting in between the joint meetings in September 2006 and March 2007 and requested the secretariats to suggest the dates and location.
  
8. Noted the announcement of Mme Aitkul Samakova to stand down as a co-Chair of the EAP Task Force following her appointment as an Advisor to the President of Kazakhstan on gender issues. Ms. Soledad Blanco, EAP Task Force co-Chair, warmly thanked Mme Samakova on behalf of the Bureau for the leadership and support that she provided to the work of the EAP Task Force since 2003. The Bureau agreed to invite the Environment Minister of Kazakhstan to chair the next joint meeting of the EAP Task Force and PPC on 21-22 September 2006 in Berlin.

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16 June 2006, London, UK

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