PROPOSED PPC REPORTS FOR THE BELGRADE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

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

Agenda item 5(i).

ACTION REQUIRED: Delegates will be invited to:
- discuss and endorse the papers that the PPC is planning to prepare for the Belgrade Conference
- provide comments on the focus and proposed content of these two reports

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PROPOSED PPC REPORTS TO THE BELGRADE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The PPC intends to prepare two reports for submission to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference:

1. Mobilising finance for environmental priorities: recommendations for the future;
2. Work of the Project Preparation Committee 2003-07: report to the Sixth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference.

The PPC’s plans to prepare these two reports were submitted to the EfE Secretariat at the UNECE after the second meeting of the Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO) in Geneva in June 2006. A decision on the reports to be submitted to the Belgrade conference will be taken at the third WGSO meeting in October 2006. Subject to this decision, the PPC will proceed with preparing the reports in the autumn.

1. Mobilising finance for environmental priorities: recommendations for the future

This report will focus on the financing of environmental priorities under the Environment for Europe process beyond 2007. It will present proposals on how existing mechanisms for mobilising finance under the Environment for Europe process could be strengthened and updated in order to reflect the evolving context and challenges in EECCA and SEE countries. The report will be prepared by the PPC, with inputs from the EBRD, World Bank and others. The content of the report will draw upon the findings and recommendations of the 2006 PPC review, the updated survey of donor environmental financing (to be conducted by the PPC during winter 2006-07) and existing analytical work by the World Bank, Global Water Partnership and others.

Subject to the agreement of the Working Group of Senior Officials, this report will be submitted to the Belgrade conference as a Category I document (i.e. for consideration by Ministers). It is anticipated that a draft report will be prepared by March 2007, when it will be presented at the 5th Joint Meeting of the EAP Task Force/PPC before being submitted for the Belgrade conference.

2. Work of the Project Preparation Committee 2003-07: report to the Sixth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

As at previous Environment for Europe Ministerial Conferences, the PPC will produce a progress report on its activities. The report will detail the achievements of the PPC since the Kiev Ministerial Conference in 2003 in mobilising finance for environmentally-related investment projects in EECCA and SEE. It will also highlight the PPC’s work on project identification and preparation, networking and coordination with donors and IFIs, and capacity building at local levels. Project-level work will be presented in terms of the number of investment projects facilitated, the cumulative amounts of finance leveraged, as well as an assessment of the environmental benefits.

This report will be submitted to the Belgrade conference as a Category II document (i.e. for information). A draft report will be prepared, in consultation with the PPC donor network and the joint Bureau of the PPC and the EAP Task Force, and a final version of the report will be submitted for the Belgrade conference in September 2007.