



14 March 2005

**Report on the first meeting of the (Reconstituted) European  
Environment and Health Committee  
Paris, 26-27 January 2005**

**Major decisions/actions taken:**

1. EEHC meetings shall devote at least one day to in-depth reporting on one of the CEHAPE's Regional Priority Goals, with the second day including progress made on implementing other commitments under the Budapest Conference Declaration.
2. A CEHAPE Task Force was agreed, with the officially designated Environment and Health Focal Points invited to take part, the first meeting to take place in Austria.
3. Ireland was invited to convene a meeting to take forward the strategy for youth participation on the EEHC and CEHAPE Task Force.
4. At the request of the Working Group on Environment and Health Information System, the EEHC agreed to provide policy guidance and asked for regular reporting back to the EEHC.
5. The list of the national environment and health focal points shall be made available no later than the next meeting of the EEHC (June 2005).

**Dates to remember:**

1. Second meeting of the European Environment and Health Committee, Copenhagen, 2-3 June 2005, hosted by the European Environment Agency.
2. Meeting of interested countries and organizations to take forward the strategy for youth participation, Dublin, 9-10 May 2005, co-hosted by the Irish National Children's Office and the Norwegian Directorate for Health and Social Affairs.
3. First meeting of the CEHAPE Task Force, 28-29 April 2005, Vienna, hosted by Austria.



## Contents

	Page
1. Introduction	3
2. Opening remarks	3
3. Election of officers	3
4. Rules of procedure	3
5. Terms of reference and workplan	4
6. Participation of young people	5
7. CEHAPE Task Force	5
8. Communication strategy	6
9. Operational costs	7
10. Reports by members on relevant environment and health activities of their countries/organizations	7
11. Any other business	9
Annexes	
1 List of participants	10
2. Rules of procedure of the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC) (2004-2009)	17
3. Terms of reference of the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC) (2004-2009)	20
4. Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE) - Terms of reference and rules of procedure	21



## **1. Introduction**

The first session of the “reconstituted” European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC) convened in Paris on 26-27 January 2005, hosted by the French Ministry of Health. The meeting was attended by representatives of 9 of the 10 country members<sup>1</sup>, as well as representatives of the 7 intergovernmental and international organizations, and representatives of the 4 civil society organizations which are members. Advisers to EEHC members also attended. In addition, presenters of proposals and representatives of several non-EEHC member countries attended by special invitation. The list of participants is given in Annex 1.

## **2. Opening remarks**

The meeting was opened by Mr Jean-Francois Fitou, Department of European and International Affairs, who welcomed the participants on behalf of the Minister of Health who was at that moment presenting the new national environment and health action plan for France to the Cabinet. He underlined the importance of this meeting for the follow-up of the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Budapest, 2004), noting that France had a long tradition of addressing environmental health determinants, such as poor housing conditions.

Dr Marc Danzon, WHO Regional Director for Europe thanked France for hosting this first meeting of the EEHC in follow-up to the Budapest Conference. In this regard, he pledged the full support of the Regional Office for Europe to assist Member States in meeting the commitments made at the Budapest Conference, noting the key role that the EEHC would play in facilitating the implementation process.

The provisional agenda and programme were approved.

## **3. Election of officers**

Dr Danzon briefly outlined the background to the election of a Chair and Vice-chair from the EEHC country members as set out in the rules of procedure. Professor William Dab (France), nominated by the member from Norway and seconded by the member from Bulgaria, was elected Chair. Noting that the Chair was from the health sector, Dr Danzon invited the EEHC to nominate a Vice-chair from the environment sector. Mr Zaal Lomtadze (Georgia), nominated by the member from Italy and seconded by the member from Serbia and Montenegro, was elected as Vice-chair.

## **4. Rules of procedure**

The EEHC reviewed the rules of procedure (EEHC1/5), revised in light of the Budapest Conference by the EEHC secretariat. Several amendments were made, and the agreed rules of procedure are given in Annex 2. In brief, the major changes agreed were that: selection of country representatives should reflect geographical considerations; there should be one or more youth members; the work of the EEHC should follow a consensual approach; and that operational costs of the EEHC could be provided as voluntary donation, in-kind contributions and/or support from programmatic budgets. The EEHC also noted its desire that its work be open and transparent, and therefore welcomed the attendance of other European Member States at its meetings as observers as which they could share their views on issues with the EEHC.

---

<sup>1</sup> Russian Federation was unable to attend.

## 5. Terms of reference and workplan

The issue of how best to fulfil the terms of reference agreed by the ministers at the Budapest Conference (EEHC1/6 and Annex 3) was discussed in plenary and in two parallel working groups. There was general consensus from the beginning that a pragmatic approach was needed in order for visible and measurable results of the Budapest Conference commitments to be available at the intergovernmental midterm review in 2007 and at the next ministerial conference in 2009.

### 5.1 Key roles

It was agreed after thorough discussion that the key roles of the EEHC focused on the implementation of the Budapest commitments in two main areas: reporting and monitoring, and :promotion and advocacy.

Reporting and monitoring: A number of mechanisms were discussed with a view towards not only gathering information on the implementation activities within countries but making it widely and readily available. In this regard:

- The development of web/based data was considered an attractive mechanism.
- Members agreed that the national environment and health focal points being officially designated individually or jointly by the ministries of health and of environment at the request of WHO would play a key role in informing the EEHC about implementation activities, as well as informing other countries and those within their own country who were interested in being involved. Ad hoc questionnaires might also be sent to these focal points to help monitor the implementation activities. The list of these focal points would be made available for the next EEHC meeting.
- The environment and health indicators currently under development would prove an invaluable tool. It was agreed that a report on environment and health indicators would be very useful for the intergovernmental mid-term review in 2007. It was further agreed that, at the request of the Working Group on Environment and Health Information System (see [www.euro.who.int/ehindicators](http://www.euro.who.int/ehindicators) for more information ), the EEHC would provide policy guidance and that the Working Group should report at each EEHC meeting on progress made.

Promotion and advocacy: The EEHC recognized that promotion and advocacy were critical to the successful implementation of the Budapest Conference and supported a number of activities, including:

- Sharing of case studies as an important means by which countries learned from each other and one which the EEHC could promote through its meetings.
- Development of partnerships across sectors and with relevant international organizations, local authorities, nongovernmental organizations, trade unions and business. The EEHC could also raise awareness within countries of the need for broad national processes involving NGOs, trade unions, business and industry, both to mobilize their resources and to engage them so as to help fulfil the commitments made at the Budapest Conference.

- Increasing awareness of the work of the EEHC through various communication media and engaging more countries in its meetings. The work of the EEHC should be accessible to the public, including young people. Two-way communication was important with the EEHC both collecting and disseminating information.
- Strong links with other relevant international initiatives - such as the UN's Commission for Sustainable Development, EU Action Plan, THE PEP (Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme), the Protocol on Water and Health, and the European network of environment protection agencies of the EEA's 31 member countries - were needed to help ensure the Budapest Conference commitments, and the EEHC meetings could act as a forum to help ensure synergy and avoid duplication. In doing so, the EEHC could facilitate action on Budapest Conference commitments where needed: for example, by encouraging countries to set up joint ministerial working groups or by identifying possible donors.
- Urban local authorities could be important agents of change, and if legislation were enacted in cities, including appropriate building regulations and transport policies, a multitude of environmental problems affecting human health would be addressed. The EEHC could use fora such as the Healthy Cities Network and THE PEP to further environmental health actions. Organizations on the EEHC with activities in urban issues were encouraged to ensure appropriate linkages.

## **5.2 Format of EEHC meetings**

It was agreed that topic-oriented EEHC meetings, with at least one day focused on one of the CEHAPE Regional Priority Goals and the second day including other commitments in the Declaration, could be a useful approach. The following order of topics was tentatively agreed:

- Respiratory disease due to outdoor and indoor air pollution (June 2005);
- Disease and disability from exposure to hazardous chemicals (autumn/winter 2005);
- Health consequences of accidents and injuries (spring 2006);
- Gastrointestinal disease and other health effects from unsafe water (autumn 2006).

## **6. Participation of young people**

Youth representation on the EEHC and the proposed CEHAPE Task Force, and involvement of youth in the implementation process, was supported by the ministers at the Budapest Conference. The National Children's Office of Ireland had subsequently agreed to prepare a framework strategy on how such representation and involvement could be carried out in a democratic and transparent way. Dr Aisling Gillen, Ms Janet Gaynor and Mr Jack Evans presented this strategy which was outlined in working document EEHC1/9. The strategy built on existing networks and mechanisms in countries, recognizing that not every country was at a stage of readiness to engage in the task of youth participation and that the goal of including young people in the environment and health process at local national and European level would be an incremental process which should evolve and expand over time.

In discussion, it was agreed that there was a need to include young people in democratic processes, building on existing mechanisms and structures within countries, such as national youth councils, and internationally such as the UNEP Youth Advisory Council and the European Youth Forum. In regard to support of youth involvement at local level, the representative from the REC of CEE noted that the RECs had 16 country offices that could assist; in addition the REC of CEE was willing to share its experiences gained from its young leaders training programme as well as to host a subregional meeting on youth involvement.

The EEHC agreed that two youth members on the EEHC would be preferable, that gender needed to be taken into consideration, and that the representatives selected should come from “grassroots” rather than young professionals groups, and that the age should be from 16 to 21. The EEHC further agreed to invite the Irish National Children’s Office to organize a meeting in spring 2005 of interested countries and organizations to explore how to take this strategy forward.

## **7. CEHAPE Task Force**

Dr Lucianne Licari introduced document EEHC1/8 on the implementation of the Children’s Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE). The CEHAPE, adopted by the ministers at the Budapest Conference, “invited the EEHC to establish a CEHAPE task force with the participation of Member States, international organizations and NGOs, in order to facilitate and stimulate implementation of the CEHAPE, with particular attention paid to the sharing of best practices and the dissemination of information and experiences among Member States” (paragraph 28). A central question was whether the Task Force should meet physically, or whether the work could be done by a “virtual group” through electronic means, with perhaps an annual meeting. The formal set-up needed to be decided, as well as the mechanism of reporting to the EEHC.

Discussion clearly pointed to the need for a Task Force to assist the EEHC in its overall mandate of overseeing the implementation of the Budapest Conference commitments, including the CEHAPE, and with a view that electronic liaison would not be able to replace meetings, in terms of motivating people and involvement to achieve results. The Task Force was seen by some members as an ad hoc working group and by others as a technical committee, but it was agreed that it should report to the EEHC as the policy-making body. There was clear consensus that Member States should chair and vice-chair the Task Force. In this regard, the EEHC Chair proposed that, in order to ensure a close cooperation and a clear line of reporting, the CEHAPE Task Force might wish to consider electing as its chair a country member of the EEHC. In addition to the Member States, the organizations which are members of the EEHC would be invited to participate in the Task Force.

A drafting group convened to revise the terms of reference in light of the discussion: this revision is given in Annex 4.

The EEHC considered that the Environment and Health Focal Points would be the logical invitees to the Task Force, thus linking into an established network for reporting on country activities, but recognized that countries might wish to send other representatives. In addition, appropriate use should be made of other existing mechanisms, such as THE PEP and the Protocol on Water and Health.

It was noted that funding would be needed for the participation of some countries and civil society organizations.

It was agreed that the first meeting of the Task Force should be convened before the next meeting of the EEHC, with a view towards providing input (e.g. case studies on air pollution, and child asthma) into the deliberations of that meeting.

## **8. Communication strategy**

In introducing working document EEHC1/10, Ms Vivienne Taylor Gee drew members’ attention to the number of times they had emphasized communication in the past two days as

an essential part of implementation. It was not only policy-makers who needed to know what was happening, what was possible and what worked best, but also civil society and the public. The paper set out a number of products which experience had shown worked well. The discussion which followed was very positive, two-way communication was agreed to be at the heart of implementation and it was suggested that the Environment and Health Focal Points be asked what type of information they would find useful to receive. Since time was short for full discussion of the communication strategy, it was agreed that this subject should be put on the agenda for the next EEHC meeting.

## 9. Operational costs

The budget for the EEHC (EEHC1/11) differed from earlier budgets in that it included expenditure for the secretariat, an annual meeting of the Environment and Health Focal Points, travel by EEHC members to relevant meetings and communication. However, it was felt to be a modest budget that would barely cover the work needed to be done which was agreed to be important and essential for implementation of the Budapest commitments. A number of members indicated that they could contribute in the form of voluntary donations, in-kind contributions (e.g. hosting meetings, staff secondments) and/or support from programmatic budgets.

## 10. Reports by members on relevant environment and health activities of their countries/organizations

Members were invited to report on their actions to implement the relevant paragraphs of the Budapest Conference Declaration and the CEHAPE.

**Bulgaria:** The practical development of the national CEHAP as part of the NEHAP will begin in March. It is the second revision of the NEHAP to take account of the Budapest Conference commitments.

**European Commission:** The European Environment and Health Action Plan is the main instrument to implement the 2003 EU Environment and health strategy. It includes 13 action points focusing on issues where the EU has legal competence. In the February session of the European Parliament, a resolution on it was on the agenda, following a report prepared by the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee. The Council had not yet agreed a formal position on the Plan. A joint conference organized by the Netherlands Presidency and the Commission was held on 2-3 December 2004 to discuss implementation of the Action Plan, focusing mainly on integrated information systems, biomonitoring, indoor air quality and the research agenda.

### UNEP:

- A conference in October 2004 had focused on women and babies' health and the environment.
- Two books were available, *Women and Environment* (<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=67&ArticleID=4488&l=en>) and *Natural Allies: UNEP and Civil Society* (<http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=67&ArticleID=4622&l=en>).
- In December 2004 a Civil Society Forum was held in Geneva, attended by 62 NGOs: the Budapest Conference had been on the agenda, with briefings made by youth.

- On 19-20 February 2005, more than 100 civil society representatives from all around the world will attend the 6th Global Civil Society Forum, prior to the twenty-third session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum from 21-25 February 2005. There was going to be a debate on environment and health, and 54 young people were going to a youth retreat, six of whom were at the Budapest Conference.
- The theme of World Environment Day on 5 June 2005 will be Green Cities.

#### UNECE:

- On 1 March 2005 the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) would be launched. ([http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=27234&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=27234&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)) A high-level meeting will be held from 17 – 18 March 2005 between ministers of education and of environment to adopt a strategy on education for sustainable development.
- The next meeting of THE PEP (Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme) will be 11-12 April 2005.
- A website was being established for posting environmental reports on monitoring and assessment, following the Reportnet system of the EEA.
- New manuals were available in English and Russian on eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with recommendations on data collection and standards (*Environmental Monitoring and Reporting in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia*) and guidelines on integrated monitoring and assessment (*Environmental Monitoring and Assessment – Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia – CD-ROM*).
- The Working Group of Senior Officials, the Preparatory Group for the Sixth Conference “Environment for Europe” Conference (Belgrade in autumn 2007, see <http://www.unece.org/env/wgso/welcome.html>), will meet from 13-14 October 2005, following the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe, from 10-12 October.

**REC of CEE:** Environment and health and CEHAPE were being integrated into programmes already set up, including Green Pack and educational toolkit which had a section on environment and health. A brochure was being prepared to raise awareness of the Budapest Conference issues. Training courses for young environmental leaders from central and eastern Europe continued (application details from <http://www.rec.org/REC/Programs/JFellows.html>).

#### EPHA:

- The “NGO Strategy Workshop: Taking the environment and health agenda forward in Europe”, held in Egmond aan Zee, Netherlands on 1 December 2004 back-to-back with the above-mentioned EU meeting, discussed how to strengthen the EU Action Plan, putting more focus on vulnerable groups and children. Recommendations included more financial support to non-EU members for CEHAPE implementation and ensuring information systems currently being developed respond to citizen’s needs. The report and presentations are available on the EPHA Environment Network (EEN) website ([www.env-health.org/a/1522](http://www.env-health.org/a/1522)).
- A workshop on advocacy and communication in environment and health, organized by EEN and Physicians for Social responsibility, will take place on 31 January-2 February 2005 in Brussels. It is targeted for health professional and patient groups, women’s



groups, and health and environmental advocacy NGOs: for more information see [www.env-health.org/a/1525](http://www.env-health.org/a/1525).

- A series of meetings to facilitate the setting up of national public health NGO platforms in the 10 new EU member states was in progress in countries, with the first one held in Slovenia in mid-January 2005: for more information see [www.env-health.org/a/1570](http://www.env-health.org/a/1570).
- A children's health and environment manual was in preparation as part of an EU-funded project called CHEST, in collaboration with WHO and INCHEM. The first meeting will be held in Vienna on 27-28 February 2005.
- A CEHAPE website map was planned so that the public, NGOs and policy-makers can find out about environment and health implementation by country.
- A guide to different policies, processes and opportunities in environment and health in the European Region was being prepared by EPHA and EEN, funded by DG Environment.

#### **Ecoforum:**

- One session at the NGO conference in the Netherlands mentioned above was on risk communication and it was interesting that citizens said they preferred to hear that governments were uncertain rather than have information kept from them.
- The German Children's Environment and Health Alliance was planning input into the German NEHAP and Ecoforum had provided some support to the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health - Bonn Office.
- Sessions on women, environment and health were being held in several countries, the first one was in Poland.

#### **11. Any other business**

The Chair thanked the participants for a stimulating meeting of the new EEHC and confirmed that the next meeting of the EEHC would be from 2-3 June 2005 at the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen, Denmark.

## Annex 1

### List of participants

#### Country Representatives and accompanying advisers

##### **Armenia**

Dr Tatul Hakobyan (Member)  
Deputy Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
Yerevan

##### **Austria**

Mr Robert Thaler (Member)  
Head of Division  
Division V15 - Transport, Mobility  
Human Settlement and Noise  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management  
Vienna

##### **Bulgaria**

Dr Hristina Mileva (Member)  
Chief State Expert  
Directorate of Public Health Protection and Control  
Ministry of Health  
Sofia

##### **Finland**

Ms Lea Kauppi (Member)  
Director General  
Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)  
Helsinki

##### **France**

Prof William Dab (Member and Chair)  
Directeur général de la santé  
Ministère des solidarités, de la santé et de la famille  
Paris

Ms Céline Couderc (Adviser)  
Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development  
Paris

Mr Thierry Michelon (Adviser)  
Sous-Directeur  
Direction de la gestion des risques des milieux  
Ministère des solidarités, de la santé et de la famille  
Paris

Dr Georges Salines (Adviser)  
Responsable adjoint  
Département Santé Environnement  
Institute de Veille Sanitaire  
Saint Maurice cedex

Dr Anne-Catherine Viso (Adviser)  
Animation des comités d'experts spécialisés  
Relations internationales  
Agence française de sécurité environnementale  
Maisons-Alfort cedex

## **Georgia**

Mr Zaal Lomtadze (Member and Vice-chair)  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Environment Protection and  
Natural Resources of Georgia  
Tbilisi

## **Italy**

Mr Massimo Cozzone (Adviser\*)  
Senior Official  
Ministry for the Environment and Territory  
Rome

## **Norway**

Dr Jon Hilmar Iversen (Member)  
Deputy Director  
Directorate for Health and Social Affairs  
Oslo

Ms Bente Moe (Adviser)  
Senior Adviser  
Directorate for Health and Social Affairs  
Oslo

---

\* Adviser replacing a Member.

Mr Erlend Tarnevik Dreias (Budapest Conference youth delegate)  
Afjord  
Norway

### **Serbia and Montenegro**

Mr Miroslav Spasojevic (Member)  
Assistant Director  
International Cooperation and EU Integration  
Directorate for Environmental Protection  
Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection  
Belgrade

## **Representatives of Intergovernmental Bodies and International Organizations and accompanying advisers**

### **European Commission (EC)**

Mr Michael Hübel (Member)  
Health Determinants  
JMO C5/91  
European Commission  
DG Health and Consumer Protection  
Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Mr Scott Brockett (Member\*)  
DG Environment  
Urban & Health Unit  
European Commission  
Brussels, Belgium

### **European Environment Agency (EEA)**

Prof Jacqueline McGlade (Member)  
Executive Director  
European Environment Agency  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Ms Petra Fagerholm (Adviser)  
Assistant  
Management Support  
Executive Directors Office  
European Environment Agency  
Copenhagen, Denmark

## **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

Ms Dian Turnheim (Member\*)  
OECD  
Paris Cedex, France

## **Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)**

Dr Janos Zlinszky (Adviser\*)  
Senior Adviser  
The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe  
Szentendre, Hungary

## **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**

Ms Christina von Schweinichen (Member)  
Deputy Director  
Division for Environment and Human Settlements  
UNECE  
Geneva, Switzerland

## **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

Mr Wondwosen Asnake Kibret (Member\*)  
UNEP  
Chatelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

## **World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO)**

Dr Marc Danzon (Member)  
Regional Director  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Dr Roberto Bertollini (Adviser)  
Director, Special Programme on Health & Environment  
WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Rome Office  
Rome, Italy

Dr Yves Charpak (Adviser)  
Senior Policy Adviser  
World Health Organization Office at the European Union  
Brussels, Belgium

---

\* Adviser replacing a Member.

\* Adviser replacing a Member.

\* Adviser replacing a Member.

## **Representatives of Civil Society Groups**

### **Eco-Forum**

Ms Sascha Gabizon (Member)  
Director  
European ECO-FORUM and Women in  
Europe for a Common Future  
Munich, Germany

### **European Public Health Alliance**

Ms Genon K. Jensen (Member)  
Director  
EPHA Environment Network (EEN)  
European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)  
Brussels, Belgium

### **International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)**

Mr Bjorn Erikson (Member)  
Industrial Hygienist  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions  
Oslo, Norway

### **World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)**

Dr Howard Klee (Member\*)  
Program Manager  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development  
Genève, Switzerland

## **By Special Invitation**

### **Sweden**

Ms Kia Regner (Representing National Board of Health and Welfare of Sweden)  
Chair IFEH European Group  
International Federation of  
Environmental Health  
Vaxholm, Sweden

---

\* Adviser replacing a Member.

## **United Kingdom**

Mr Gareth Jones  
Assistant Director, International Health  
Health Protection and Scientific Development  
Department of Health  
London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## **Co-chairs of Working Group on Environment and Health Information System**

Dr Luciana Sinisi  
APAT/Italian Environmental Protection Agency  
Rome, Italy

Ms Ingrida Zurlyté  
Deputy Director  
Environment and Health Division  
State Environmental Health Centre  
Vilnius, Lithuania

## **Presenters of Strategy for Youth Participation**

Mr Jack Evans (Budapest Conference youth representative)  
c/o National Children's Office  
Dublin, Ireland

Ms Janet Gaynor  
Health Promotion Department  
North Western Health Board  
Co. Donegal, Ireland

Dr Aisling Gillen  
Health Service Executive: NW Region  
Regional Children's Service  
Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, Ireland

## **EEHC Secretariat**

Ms Liz Kyed  
Programme Assistant  
Environment and Health Coordination and Partnerships  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Dr Lucianne Licari  
Regional Adviser  
Environment and Health Coordination and Partnerships  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Ms Elaine Price  
Technical Officer  
Environment and Health Coordination and Partnerships  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Ms Vivienne Taylor Gee (Rapporteur)  
Communication Officer  
Environment and Health Coordination and Partnerships  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
Copenhagen, Denmark



## Annex 2

### **Rules of procedure of the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC) (2004-2009)**

1. The Committee comprises: 10 representatives of Member States - five appointed by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and five appointed by the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy taking into consideration geographical distribution; two seats for the European Commission (one for health and one for environment); one seat each for the European Environment Agency (EEA), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), WHO Regional Office for Europe and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC); as well as one seat each for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, and one representative each for the NGO health sector and the NGO environment sector. In addition, there was general consensus among countries at the Budapest Conference for the EEHC to have one or more youth members.

In selecting country representatives, account will be taken of the need to ensure that those selected will be representative of the interests of the broad geographical areas of the Region. Nominees should be officials with a basic understanding of the Environment and Health process and international experience in the field; it would be an asset if candidates for membership from Member States had the support of other countries, preferably within their subregion.

2. Each member of the Committee may be accompanied by one or more advisers, who may contribute to the discussions on specific items of the agenda if requested by the committee member concerned and authorized by the Chairperson.
3. A member may appoint an alternate when unable to attend meetings.
4. As requested in paragraph 23b of the Budapest Declaration, efforts will be made to ensure proper involvement of Member States which are not members of the EEHC. Such Member States may request to attend the EEHC meetings as observers<sup>2</sup>. Organizations and institutions not represented on the EEHC may be invited to participate in meetings of the Committee on the discretion of the Chairperson when it appears that their interests are concerned.
5. According to paragraph 23b of the Budapest Declaration, the mandate of the Committee will be in effect until the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, to be hosted by Italy in 2009.
6. All members of the Committee nominated in 2004 will serve up to the mid-term intergovernmental review in 2007, at which time new elections should be held for representatives to serve up to the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2009<sup>3</sup>. It is foreseen that the Committee may wish to recommend to the respective sessions of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and the UNECE Committee on Environmental

---

<sup>2</sup> Observers may be invited to speak at the EEHC meetings at the discretion of the Chair.

<sup>3</sup> "The future of the environment and health process in Europe", Working paper EUR/04/5046267/9, paragraph 34a. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2004.

Policy in autumn 2007 that its term of office be extended, following the mid-term review, to allow continuity in the preparations for the Fifth Ministerial Conference. Changes in nomination of representatives are required to be notified in advance to the secretariat by the responsible authorities.

7. The Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Committee will be elected from among the country representatives. Should neither the Chairperson nor Vice-chairperson be able to officiate for part or all of an EEHC meeting, a country member will be nominated to do so by the Committee members.
8. The Committee will meet not less than twice per year.
9. Twelve members (or their designated alternatives) will constitute a quorum for meetings of the Committee.
10. The Committee may, as appropriate, amend its rules of procedure. Ad hoc working groups and task forces established by the Committee shall apply the rules of procedures *mutatis mutandis*.
11. The Committee will proceed by a consensual approach.
12. The WHO Regional Office for Europe will act as the secretariat of the Committee as requested in paragraph 23b of the Budapest Declaration.
13. The secretariat, in consultation with and under the guidance of the Chairperson, will prepare a provisional agenda for each session of the Committee. The provisional agenda will be communicated to all representatives at least 5 weeks before the opening of the session for comments, and the necessary technical documentation communicated to all representatives at least three weeks before the opening of the session. Any member may request the addition of a specific item to the provisional agenda. In order to ensure transparency in the work of the Committee provisional agendas and technical documentation cleared by the Chairperson, shall be put on EEHC's website ([www.euro.who.int/eehc.dk](http://www.euro.who.int/eehc.dk)) when made available to members. In this regard, Member States will be invited to send their comments on the documentation to the secretariat for consideration by the Committee; they will also be invited after each session to send their comments on the decisions taken by the Committee.
14. The Rapporteur, who will be designated from among the secretariat, will produce minutes of meetings. The minutes, initially cleared by the Chairperson, will be circulated to the Committee for comments. The final minutes, cleared by the Chairperson, shall be put on EEHC's website.
15. The secretariat will report annually to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and to the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy in accordance with paragraph 23b of the Budapest Declaration.
16. The working language of meetings of the Committee will be English. Minutes of meetings and annual reports of the work of the Committee will be in English and will be subsequently translated into Russian.
17. Operational costs for convening meetings and for the secretariat will be provided from voluntary donations, in-kind contributions and/or programmatic budgets.

18. Facilities for meetings are expected to be provided free of charge by hosting governments, organizations or institutions.
19. In principle, the expenses of each representative will be covered by the respective country or organization. Pending funding, special arrangements may be made to cover the expenses of representatives from countries in transition and major groups.

## Annex 3

### **Terms of reference of the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC) (2004-2009)**

1. To oversee coordination and implementation of the outcomes of the European Environment and Health process (for example, the Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe), taking into account other relevant processes and programmes, and to help promote and ensure reporting back on the implementation of actions decided by the Budapest Ministerial Conference.
2. To foster the exchange and dissemination of information among relevant actors in the field of environment and health and to propose regional activities, encouraging the involvement of all Member States in the Region as well as other relevant stakeholders, thereby increasing interest in the Environment and Health process.
3. To promote cooperation and coordination with associated organizations and related processes, and in particular the links between the Environment and Health process, the Environment for Europe process and the European Commission's Environment and Health Strategy, taking into account the recommendations of the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development.
4. To assist in identifying environmental health issues that require collaborative action or further study, including the possible promotion of subregional activities, and to make recommendations for further action to the WHO Regional Office for Europe (including its related bodies such as the Regional Committee and the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee), as well as to other appropriate organizations/bodies.
5. To further develop the Environment and Health process in Europe by facilitating and promoting partnerships with relevant stakeholders and intersectorality in the field of environment and health that lead to sustainability.
6. To report annually to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and to the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy on achievements and areas needing greater efforts, as well as on the Committee's activities, work plan and financial requirements.
7. To provide all Member States in 2007, through the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy, with a detailed proposal for the agenda of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2009, to be hosted by Italy<sup>4</sup>.

---

<sup>4</sup> As agreed at the 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, 6-9 September 2004.

## Annex 4

### **Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE) Terms of reference and rules of procedure**

On the basis of the decision of the Fourth Ministerial Conference, in Budapest in particular paragraph 28 of the CEHAPE:

“We call upon WHO, and we ourselves undertake, to ensure an adequate follow-up mechanism to the CEHAPE. To this end we invite the European Environment and Health Committee to establish a CEHAPE task force with the participation of Member States, international organizations and NGOs, in order to facilitate and stimulate implementation of the CEHAPE, with particular attention paid to the sharing of best practices and the dissemination of information and experiences among the Member States.”

the EEHC has decided to establish a CEHAPE task force with the following terms of reference.

#### **Terms of reference**

1. To promote the implementation of the four Regional Priority Goals and identify Member States who may wish to take a leadership role in this process;
2. To serve as a source of knowledge and practical experience and to provide a platform to share policies, good practices and tools that facilitate the implementation of Regional Priority Goals in the Member States;
3. To identify new research needs and to promote the coordination of research programmes on children's health and environment among Member States;
4. To propose international and intercountry projects on children's health and environment and to provide assistance in identifying partners and donors;
5. To promote advocacy, information, education (including capacity-building) and communication, of the environment and health impacts on children's health;
6. To report to each EEHC meeting on the above terms of reference;
7. To be responsible for the preparation of a comprehensive report and a position paper for the midterm review meeting in 2007, indicating progress made, difficulties encountered, gaps in policy-making identified and future recommendations on the further development of the CEHAPE.

#### **Rules of procedure**

Regarding the rules of procedure, which the Task Force may wish to extend, the EEHC decided that:

1. The Task Force should be invited to prepare and initiate a two-year programme of activities.
2. The Chair and Vice-chair should come from the Member States.
3. The officially designated national environment and health focal points will comprise the Task Force, although countries may wish to designate other representatives. All members of the

EEHC may participate in the Task Force. Youth representation will be ensured in accordance with the decision of the EEHC.

4. The Task Force will meet at least once a year and perhaps back-to-back with the EEHC:
5. WHO would serve as secretariat to facilitate the work of the Task Force.