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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ninety-fifth meeting  
Geneva, 11 December 2017

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

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**Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2018  
Draft Programme**

**Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region  
International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), 1-2 March 2018**

**Programme (draft 7 December 2017)**

<b>Thursday, 1 March 2018</b>	
10:00 – 11:00	<p><b>OPENING</b></p> <p><i>Opening remarks by:</i></p> <p><b>Ambassador Michael Gerber</b> Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development of Switzerland</p> <p><b>Ambassador Marie Chatardova (tbc)</b> President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York</p> <p><b>Ms. Amina J. Mohammed (tbc)</b> Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations</p> <p><b>Ms. Olga Algayerova</b> UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General</p> <p><b>Mr. Liu Zhenmin (tbc)</b> Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs</p> <p><b>Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu (tbc)</b> Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Europe and the CIS, UNDP Chair of the Regional UNDG Team for Europe and Central Asia</p> <p><b>Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake (tbc)</b> UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth</p>
11:00 – 12:30	<p><b>HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT</b></p> <p><b><i>“Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies in the UNECE Region”</i></b></p> <p>The focus of the High-level Policy Segment will be on SDG progress and challenges in the region. High-level participants from governments and other stakeholders will share experiences on SDG implementation. This will include countries that have already presented Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF). They are invited to speak about the impact of VNRs on SDG implementation in their country. The discussion will also include the science perspective on SDG implementation in terms of evidence-based identification of bottlenecks and involving the science community in policy-making. The segment will include keynote addresses and interventions from high-level participants from the floor.</p>

	<p>Keynote speaker:</p> <p><b>Mr. Peter Messerli (tbc)</b>          Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Bern          Co-chair of the UN Global Sustainable Development Report</p>				
12:30 – 13:00	<p><b>INTRODUCTION OF THE PEER LEARNING SEGMENT</b></p> <p>Overview of organization and expected outcomes of the peer learning round tables</p>				
13:00 – 15:00	<p><b>LUNCH BREAK</b> – Side and special events</p>				
15:00 – 18:00	<p><b>PEER LEARNING SEGMENT</b>          - <i>Parallel Round Tables</i> -</p>				
	<p><b>Round Tables – first set: 15:00-16:30</b></p>				
	<p>Sustainable Water-1  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Energy-1  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Cities and Communities-1  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns-1  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Forests and Ecosystems-1  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>
	<p><b>Round Tables- second set: 16:30-18:00</b></p>				
	<p>Sustainable Water-2  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Energy-2  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Cities and Communities-2  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns-2  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>	<p>Sustainable Forests and Ecosystems-2  <i>Possible topics to be determined</i></p>
18:30	<p><b>Reception for participants offered by Switzerland</b></p>				
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday, 2 March 2018</b></p>				
8:30 – 10:00	<p>Side and special events</p>				
10:00 – 12:30	<p><b>REPORTING BACK</b></p> <p><b>“Connecting the Dots: Sustainable Resource Management and Lifestyles in the Region”</b></p> <p>The plenary will hear reporting back from the round tables in an interactive panel discussion. The discussion will stress interlinkages between the respective SDGs and pathways for integrated policy-making.</p>				
12:30-13:00	<p><b>CLOSING</b></p>				