

**Addendum**  
**To**  
**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**between**  
**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**  
**and**  
**Organization for International Economic Relations**

This Addendum provides for an update to and addition of responsibilities in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and the Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER) on 3 November 2017. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and the Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER) will be referred to as 'Parties' hereafter.

**Objective**

1. The objective of this Addendum is to establish a Centre of Excellence for the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing. For the purposes of this Addendum, Centre of Excellence is a shared facility that provides best practices, research, support, and/or training in the area of work around smart sustainable cities.
2. The Addendum also provides a framework within which the Parties can develop and undertake collaborative activities and projects to promote the principles of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing through the Center of Excellence.

**Responsibilities of the Parties**

3. OiER, partner organization hosting the Center of Excellence, will undertake activities such as:
  - (a) Development and production of print and digital materials on smart and sustainable cities, including brochures, web-sites and through media;
  - (b) Development of curriculum for training and capacity building on smart and sustainable cities;
  - (c) Organization and hosting of international, national, and subnational meetings (symposiums, workshops, training program and seminars) to disseminate information about the Charter and UNECE role for Smart and Sustainable Cities;
  - (d) Promotion of the Charter at the international, national, and subnational level meetings and through print and social media (i.e. preparation of the articles in journals, newspapers, interview on TV and radio, dissemination through relevant newsletters etc.);
  - (e) Support to research on the potentials for the implementation of the Charter;
  - (f) Regular consultations and cooperation with international, national and local stakeholders working on related topics;



- (g) Fundraising and preparation of the project proposals, implementation of projects supporting the activities mentioned in (a) to (h) above;
- (h) Development and implementation of pilot projects to support the implementation of the Charter (advisory services to support the preparation of laws and regulations, etc.);
- (i) Provision of the financial and in-kind support, when feasible, to the network of Centers of Excellence and UNECE Secretariat, which acts as the network coordinator;
- (j) Participation in regular surveys organized by the UNECE on the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter.

In addition, OiER will also aid the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) at the city level especially through the United Smart Cities (USC) programme, including, but not limited to, the following activities:

- (a) Build on public and private partnerships through the newly established United Smart City LAB;
- (b) Promote and develop the USC Marketplace for smart sustainable city projects;
- (c) Establish a USC Industry Advisory Board for financing, finance roundtables and events;
- (d) Co-ordinate approaches in the preparation of the Smart City Profiles which is a comprehensive study on the performance of cities prepared on the basis of the U4SSC KPIs for Smart Sustainable Cities;
- (e) Support the coordination of capacity building workshops and trainings on requested topics such as city finance, data collection, urban planning and development for city officials;
- (f) Grow and foster a network of cities through the global platform: [www.unitedsmartcities.org](http://www.unitedsmartcities.org).

#### 4. UNECE will:

- (a) Facilitate the work of the Center of Excellence and exchange of information, knowledge and experience within the network as well as with relevant international and national organizations in the UNECE region, within existing resources;
- (b) Promote the goals and objectives of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing through the Centre of Excellence in Vienna;
- (c) Cooperate on the topic of smart and sustainable cities and jointly support the activities of the programme United Smart Cities according to the priorities established by the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management (CHLM);
- (d) Coordinate the cooperation and exchange of experiences between the networks of Centers of excellence.

### **Protection of Intellectual Property Rights**

- 5. The intellectual property rights for materials or products provided by UNECE shall rest entirely with UNECE as this is in accordance with UN copyright rules and regulations.

### **Limits to Agreement**

- 6. In no event shall this Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding operate to create financial or administrative or legal obligations on the part of either Party, nor does it prevent the parties from pursuing the objectives set forth in this Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding on their own or with other third parties.

### **Planning of the Activities**

7. The Parties will present their plans for specific activities to implement this Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding at the annual sessions of the Committee on Housing and Land Management.

### **Special measures for the protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse**

8. Sexual exploitation and sexual abuse violate universally recognized international legal norms and standards. Such conduct is prohibited by the United Nations Regulations and Rules. When entering into this agreement with UNECE, you agree that you accept these standards. Failure on your part to take preventive measures against sexual exploitation or sexual abuse, to investigate allegations thereof, or to take corrective action when sexual exploitation or sexual abuse has occurred are grounds for termination of any agreement with the UNECE.

### **Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation**

9. The Parties recognize the importance of monitoring and evaluating the performance of collaborative activities undertaken pursuant to this Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding. The Center of Excellence shall annually report on its activities to the Committee on Housing and Land Management. Between the sessions the Centre of Excellence should report on the current activities to the Committee on Housing and Land Management's Bureau.

### **Miscellaneous**

10. All other terms and conditions under the Original Memorandum of Understanding remain unchanged and in effect.
11. In witness whereof, the Parties hereto execute this Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding:

For the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

Olga Algayerova,

Executive Secretary



---

Date:

For the Organization for International Economic Relations

Kari Aina Eik

Secretary General



---

Date:

