



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 July 2013

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

Sixth session

Geneva, 10–11 October 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and election of officers

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixth session¹

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on 10 October 2013

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers
2. Substantive segment: Innovation in the Public Sector
3. Review of the work of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies since the fifth session
4. Mandate and Revision of the Terms of Reference of the Team
5. Implementation plan for work in the remainder of 2013 and proposals for the programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the Report of the Session

¹ Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=28471> and transmit it to the secretariat either by email (icp@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 01 78). Prior to the session, delegates (with the exception of delegates from the Geneva-based Missions) are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, Avenue de la Paix 8-14 for the issuance of an identification badge. Additional information for delegates, including a map of the premises, is available on the UNECE website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers

Documentation: ECE/CECI/ICP/2013/1

1. The Commission will adopt its agenda.
2. The objectives of the sixth session are to:
 - (a) Discuss and address topical, substantive issues related to the programme of work of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (TOS-ICP);
 - (b) Review the outputs and activities carried out since the fifth session, including in conjunction with other relevant thematic areas under the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI);
 - (c) Review the implementation plan for the remainder of 2013; and
 - (d) Make proposals for the programme of work in the next biennium 2014-2015.

In its work, the Team will take into account the Outcome of the Review of the 2005 ECE Reform (E/2013/37 E/ECE/1464, Annex III).

3. The Team will elect its Bureau in accordance with the Guidelines on Procedures and Practices for ECE Bodies (E/ECE/1468, Annex III para.V.8. p. 18).

2. Substantive segment

4. The CECI programme of work for 2012-2013 (ECE/CECI/2011/2) includes an Innovation Performance Review of Ukraine. The draft conclusions and recommendations from this Review were discussed at the seventh session of the CECI on 5 December 2012. The final version of the Innovation Performance Review of Ukraine will be presented at this session of the Team of Specialists of Innovation and Competitiveness Policies.

5. Innovation takes place mainly at the firm level. But it is recognised that the public sector plays an important role in creating an environment conducive to innovation, including through the provision of key public services. There is also a growing interest in the contribution of innovation to improving the quality of public services and to increasing the efficiency of public institutions, particularly given tighter financial constraints in many countries in the UNECE region.

6. The CECI Programme of Work for 2012-2013, adopted at its seventh session (ECE/CECI/2012/2), identified innovation in the public sector as a topic to be considered in a policy-oriented event. Accordingly, the substantive segment of this session will be an Applied Policy Seminar on "Policies for Innovation and Knowledge-based Development in the 21st Century: Innovation in the Public Sector". The Seminar will provide a platform for international knowledge-sharing and policy-learning in this area.

7. The Seminar discussions will be structured around the following three main topics:

- (a) Innovation Policies in the Public Sector

This will cover issues such as the policy rationale for more innovation in the public sector, the ways in which innovation in the public sector differs from innovation in the business sector, and the implications of these differences for

the governance of innovation in the public sector, including incentives and barriers, horizontal policy coordination and coherence, allocation of risks, and impact measurement.

(b) New Forms of Cooperation and New Actors

This will cover issues such as co-development of services with citizens, patients, or users; public-private partnerships in the delivery of public services; innovative social entrepreneurship.

(c) Case Studies of Innovation in Specific Public Sectors.

This Seminar will provide an opportunity for a wide range of stakeholders to participate in the discussions on an equal footing.

3. Review of the work of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies since the fifth session

8. The Chairperson will brief the TOS-ICP members on key outcomes and highlights of the work carried out since the fifth session, including:

- (a) Policy document: Regional Dimension of Innovation Policies (ECE/CECI/2012/3);
- (b) Innovation Performance Review of Ukraine (ECE/CECI/15);
- (c) Fact finding mission for the Innovation Performance Review of Armenia;
- (d) Newsletters on Knowledge-based Development
- (e) Policy Dispatches on Knowledge-based Development
- (f) Expert Seminar, “Financing high-risk projects” and training on financing of innovative enterprises, Minsk, Belarus, 11-13 July 2012;
- (g) Workshop on the implementation of the recommendations of the Innovation Performance Review of Kazakhstan, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 12 October 2012;
- (h) Organization of a session on, “International experiences on support to innovative companies” within the framework of the Annual Meeting of the Russian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association, Moscow, 29 October 2012;
- (i) Joint National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on the, “Promotion and financing of innovative green technologies”, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 7-9 November 2012;
- (j) Workshop on promoting innovation as a source of international competitiveness, Minsk, Belarus 15 November 2012;
- (k) Contribution to the high-level segment of the 65th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on 9-11 April 2013 in Geneva, on the topic, “Economic developments and challenges in the ECE region: the role of innovation in creating a dynamic and competitive economy”;
- (l) Contribution to a seminar on a Methodology for the Development of Regional Innovation Systems in Kazakhstan, Astana, 19 April 2013, organized by the National Agency for Technological Development of Kazakhstan;

- (m) UNECE National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on the Promotion and Financing of Innovative Green Technologies – Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 15-17 May 2013
- (n) International conference “Entrepreneurship and Innovation – Making Things Work Better” in Dubrovnik, Croatia, 23-24 May 2013, co-organized with the Croatian Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts;
- (o) Workshop on the regional dimension of innovation, Minsk, Belarus, 30 May 2013.

9. The secretariat will brief the Team’s members on relevant work done in conjunction with other focus areas under the Economic Cooperation and Integration Sub-programme in order to put the Team’s activities into a broader perspective and help identify links and other possibilities for future cross-sectoral work.

10. Members of the Team will be invited to take stock of past activities, discuss effective means for the dissemination of the Team’s outputs and reflect on how to take advantage of synergies with other focus areas.

4. Mandate and revision of the Terms of Reference of the Team

11. The UNECE Executive Committee at its sixty-second meeting on 11 July 2013 approved the extension of the mandate of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies until the end of 2015.

12. The Terms of Reference of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies were drawn up in 2006 (ECE/CECI/2006/6 Annex III, p.20f.). They contain a list of concrete activities which have since been completed. The Secretariat will circulate a conference room paper with a proposal for a revision of the Terms of Reference which reflects the progress made in the Team’s areas of work, the Outcome of the Review of the 2005 ECE Reform, and the priorities envisaged for its future work.

13. The Team is invited to adopt the proposed revision of its Terms of Reference with any modifications as necessary in light of the discussion under item 4 of this agenda. The proposed revision of the Terms of Reference of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies will then be submitted to the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration for consideration and to the UNECE Executive Committee for approval.

5. Implementation plan for work in the remainder of 2013 and proposals for the programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015

14. The secretariat will inform the Team of the main outcomes of the seventh session of CECI (5-7 December 2012) and of the Outcome of the Review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2013/37 E/ECE/1464, Annex III) and its implications for the activities of TOS-ICP.

15. The secretariat will inform the Team of the implementation plan for work in the remainder of 2013 in accordance with the 2012-2013 programme of work of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation (ECE/CECI/2011/2), including:

- (a) Preparation of a document on good practices and policy recommendations for, “Aligning Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policies”. This document will be prepared on the basis of the results of the international conference “Entrepreneurship and Innovation – Making Things Work Better” and will be

submitted to the next session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration in February 2014;

- (b) Preparation of a document on good practices and policy recommendations for, “Innovation in the public sector”. This document will be prepared on the basis of the results of the substantive segment of the sixth session of the TOS-ICP and will be submitted to the next session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration in February 2014;
- (c) Beginning work, during the fourth quarter of 2013, on a “Guidebook on Innovation in the Public Sector”. This publication will be completed in 2014;
- (d) Completion of the UNDA project "Building the capacity of SPECA countries to adopt and apply innovative green technologies for climate change adaptation“. The Team will continue to contribute to this project together with the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships;
- (e) Completion of the first draft of, “The Innovation Performance Review of Armenia”. It will then be submitted for review at the next session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration in February 2014 and will be finalized thereafter;
- (f) Organization of a roundtable on European experiences of support to innovative enterprises, as part of the Novosibirsk Venture Fair, Novosibirsk, Russian Federation, November 2013;
- (g) Organization of a workshop on innovation in the public sector, Minsk, Republic of Belarus, November 2013.

16. The Team will discuss proposals for the programme of work in the next biennium 2014-2015. Following consultations with the Bureau of the Team, proposals for the programme of work in the biennium 2014-2015 include the development of:

- (a) Good practices and policy recommendations on selected topics under the common theme, “Policies for Innovation and Knowledge-based Development in the 21st Century”. As in past biennia, the annual sessions of the Team will include substantive segments facilitating the development of these good practices and policy recommendations through an international policy dialogue. Team members are invited to propose topics for the substantive segment of the 2014 session of the Team;
- (b) A Guidebook or Comparative Review under the theme, “Policies for Innovation and Knowledge-based Development in the 21th Century” based on the policy discussions to be organized at the annual sessions of TOS-ICP in 2014 and 2015;
- (c) National Innovation Performance Reviews, subject to the demand of interested countries and the availability of resources to conduct them;
- (d) Capacity-building activities and policy advisory workshops to support the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Innovation Performance Reviews subject to demand from member States in which reviews have been conducted and subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources;
- (e) Sub-regional capacity-building and knowledge sharing conferences and workshops on policies for promoting innovative, knowledge-based development, subject to demand from member States and the availability of extra-budgetary funding. Participants are encouraged to bring to the session any expressions of interest by UNECE Member States or other stakeholders for delivering or hosting capacity-building activities in areas related to the work of the Team;

- (f) Contributions to the Newsletter on Knowledge-based Development. In addition, the Team will be invited to make new proposals regarding methods of work and mechanisms to communicate the policy messages resulting from its activities;
- (g) Any additional proposals received from Team members before or at the session.

17. Participants are encouraged to indicate any expression of intent by the UNECE member States and other stakeholders to provide extra-budgetary support (such as funds or in-kind contributions, including the organization of seminars, twinning schemes or networking initiatives) to the above activities.

18. The Team is invited to consider and agree on the proposals for its programme of work in 2014-2015. The secretariat will integrate these proposals into the draft programme of work of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration for 2014-2015 to be adopted at the next session of the Committee in February 2014. The programme of work of CECI will be subsequently submitted to the UNECE Executive Committee for approval.

6. Other business

19. The Team will decide on the date for its seventh session. The secretariat proposes 16 - 17 October 2014.

7. Adoption of the Report of the Session

20. The Report will be adopted at the end of the session.

Annex

Provisional timetable

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Thursday, 10 October 2013	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers Item 2. Substantive segment “Innovation in the Public Sector”
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Item 2. Substantive segment “Innovation in the Public Sector” (continued)
Friday, 11 October 2013	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Item 2. Substantive segment “Innovation in the Public Sector” (continued)
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Item 3. Review of the work of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies since the fifth session Item 4. Mandate and revision of the Terms of Reference of the Team Item 5. Implementation plan for work in the remainder of 2013 and proposals for the programme of work for the biennium 2014- 2015 Item 6. Other business Item 7. Adoption of the Report of the Session