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## Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships

Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships

**Eighth session**

Geneva, 20-21 October 2016

### **Report of the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships on its eighth session**

#### **I. Attendance**

1. The Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships (TOS PPP) held its eighth session on 20-21 October 2016. Over 150 experts representing national government agencies, the private sector, academic institutions and international organizations participated in the session. They came from the following member States: Armenia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, China, Congo, Cyprus, Egypt, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
2. The European Union was also represented.
3. The following specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations participated in the session: Council of Europe Development Bank, Eurasian Economic Commission and the World Bank.

#### **II. Adoption of the agenda (Agenda item 1)**

4. Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda for the eighth session (ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/1)
5. The Team adopted the provisional agenda as proposed by the secretariat.

### III. Election of officers (Agenda item 2)

6. The Team elected Mr. Arthur Smith (United States of America) and Mr. Bernhard Muller (Germany) as the co-Chairs, and Mr. Steven Van Garsse (Belgium), Mr. Mark Romoff (Canada), Mr. Alecos Michaelides (Cyprus), Mr. Frederic Bobay (France), Mr. Sam Tabuchi (Japan), Ms. Sonia Mezzour (Morocco), Mr. Hafiz Salikhov (Russian Federation), Mr. Ibrohim Usmonzoda (Tajikistan) and Ms. Sedef Yavuz Noyan (Turkey) as Vice Chairs.

7. The Team thanked the outgoing vice-Chairpersons Ms. Angela Susanu (Moldova), Mr. Andri van Mens (the Netherlands) and Mr. Ahmet Kesli (Turkey) for their contribution to the Team as vice-Chairpersons.

### IV. People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Agenda item 3)

8. The Chairperson introduced the agenda item by informing the Team that the focus of this year's substantive segment is on:

- (i) The draft guiding principles on good governance on people-first PPPs for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;
- (ii) Case studies that illustrate people-first PPP principles; and
- (iii) The draft standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP procurement.

(i) Draft guiding principles on good governance in people-first PPPs for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals PPP

9. The participants appreciated the quality of the presentations made by the speakers and by a panel composed of eminent PPP experts representing key PPP stakeholders (from the public sector, business community and civil society), which considered the following questions:

- (i) What innovation is needed in the governance of PPPs to make them people-first;
- (ii) How could the Team help to ensure the adoption and implementation of the guiding principles by both public and private sector, as well as by civil society; and
- (iii) What are the new innovative financing techniques that could stimulate more funding for people-first PPPs.

10. The participants also discussed how the UNECE could best engage with other key stakeholders including United Nations' bodies, multilateral development banks, the private sector and civil society – in the further development, adoption and implementation of the guiding principles.

11. Delegates recognised that the concept “people first” PPP was a good and innovative way to describe the type of projects that the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires. It was also recognised that PPPs need to be innovatively designed in order to ensure that they genuinely contribute to meeting the SDGs.

(ii) Case studies that illustrate people-first PPP criteria

12. The participants listened with appreciation to the experiences and lessons drawn from fourteen PPP case studies from different countries in water and sanitation, health, education, transport, energy and urban development. The case studies focused on how these projects have increased access to services, improved environmental sustainability and exemplified stakeholder engagement as well as how these projects lend themselves to be replicated and scaled up.

13. Delegates recognised the importance of identifying projects that illustrate the people-first PPP criteria set down in the UNECE draft guiding principles on good governance in PPPs so that they can be replicated in low and middle income countries. Delegates also advised the UNECE on how to include case studies in its standards and guiding principles since they provide the empirical evidence necessary to make the UNECE standards more relevant and encourage their implementation.

(iii) Draft standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP procurement

14. Mr. Marc Frilet, Project Team leader, introduced the draft standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP procurement explaining the rationale for this standard and how the work was organized within the Project Team.

15. A panel composed of representatives from the public sector debated its relevance to governments, while addressing the following questions:

- (i) How useful was the content of the draft standard?;
- (ii) Was enough information for it to be applied by governments?; and
- (iii) What issues still needed be covered in order to make it a more comprehensive document?

16. Participants recognised that the subject matter of this standard was both very topical and urgently needed in order to ensure the transparency and integrity in public procurement practices, which will ultimately translate into better value for money for the citizens.

17. The secretariat thanked the experts who participated in the discussion and informed the Team that the conclusions and recommendations on the draft guiding principles on good governance in people-first PPPs for the SDGs, the case studies, and the draft standard on a zero tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP procurement, would be discussed under agenda item 6.

## **V. Adoption of the report of the seventh session (Agenda item 4)**

Documentation: Draft report of the seventh session (ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/3)

18. The chairperson recalled that at its seventh session in London, on 18 June 2015, the Team adopted the conclusions of the session and requested the secretariat to prepare a draft report of the seventh session to be adopted by the Team at its eighth session.

19. The Team adopted the report of its seventh session as contained in document ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/3.

## **VI. Matters arising (Agenda item 5)**

20. The chairperson recalled the discussions at the seventh session of the Team and at the tenth session of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships (CICPPP) on 23-25 May 2016 on the proposal to transform the Team into a

Working Party on PPPs. The chairperson informed the Team that the matter is now before the ECE Executive Committee for action.

21. The secretariat informed the Team that this issue was discussed at the meeting of the ECE Executive Committee on 16 September 2016 where a number of delegations expressed their support for the proposed conversion of the Team into a Working Party on PPPs. The secretariat added that one delegation requested more time to reflect on the matter and would pronounce on the issue at the next meeting of the ECE Executive Committee in November 2016.

22. The Team took note of the oral report by the secretariat on the current discussion in the ECE Executive Committee on the proposed conversion of the TOS PPP into a Working Party on PPPs.

## **VII. Review of the work of the Team since the seventh session (Agenda item 6)**

### **A. Progress report on the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence (ICoE)**

23. The secretariat informed the Team that the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its strong emphasis on partnerships and in particular PPPs, provides the UNECE PPP programme with a unique opportunity to showcase its international PPP standards for the UN SDGs: the more so because the UNECE is the only UN agency actually involved in PPPs in a substantive way and the only UN agency with an inter-governmental body devoted to promoting good practices in PPPs.

24. The secretariat reiterated that the Team has a strong mandate to identify and develop model standards and best practices in people-first PPPs for the SDGs, and to help countries with PPP implementation, focusing on low and middle income countries and putting “people first”, and that this is the focus of the UNECE’s PPP work.

25. The UNECE’s goal is to adopt a new approach to PPPs to make them fit for purpose for the UN SDGs. “People-first PPPs” is the phrase used in remodelling the PPP concept from a purely “value for money” tool to a tool, based upon effective and replicable projects, that also support social and environmental benefits such as increased access to essential services, equity, resilience, a green sustainable economy, and poverty alleviation.

26. Through the work of the Team, UNECE is becoming the world leader in developing PPP standards for the SDGs, based upon its unique intergovernmental process. It is widely recognised by its international partners, including the World Bank, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), as the leading agency developing PPP guidelines on good governance as called for in Article 48 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

27. Reporting on the International Specialist Centres, the secretariat reiterated the crucial role that they play in backstopping the work on PPP standards by providing the empirical evidence by collecting international PPP best practices and case studies, and to act as transmission belts of standards and other outputs. In this regard, the secretariat informed the Team that it continued to work with prospective hosts with a view to establishing new Specialist Centres and to making the existing Centres better prepared to support the SDGs. The following Specialist Centres were established since the seventh session of the TOS PPP:

- (i) China: International Specialist Centre of Excellence in public transport logistics hosted by Tsinghua University in Beijing and City University in Hong Kong with the support of the National Development and Reform Commission of China; and
  - (ii) Japan: International Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPPs in local government hosted by Toyo University in Tokyo with the support of the PFI Promotion Office in the Cabinet Office of Japan.
28. The secretariat also informed the Team about activities and progress in the other Specialist Centres and their contributions to the development of PPP standards, namely:
- i. France: International Specialist Centre of Excellence for PPP policy, laws and institutions in Paris, established jointly by the Confederation of International Contractors Association and by the Institute of French International Legal Experts, with the support of the Government of France; and
  - ii. Spain: International Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPPs in smart and sustainable cities in Barcelona, hosted by IESE Business School, University of Navarra, with the support of the Government of Spain.
29. The representative of the World Bank acknowledged the partnership between the World Bank and the UNECE on PPPs, and acknowledged the strong convening power of the UNECE. He reiterated the World Bank's commitment to support the UNECE in finalising the standards towards the implementation of SDGs.
30. The Team commended the progress reported by the secretariat on the work of the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence and agreed to continue its work on the development of international PPP standards and recommendations that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
31. The Team congratulated the country-hosted Specialist Centres for their work in the development of best practice guides and case studies. These provide an important basis for the development of international PPP standards. The Team also thanked the Centres for the role that they play in the standards-development process by working closely with the international Project Teams. The Team also took note, with appreciation, of the establishment of the joint International Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPPs in Public Transport Logistics in Beijing and Hong Kong, China, and the International Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPPs in Local Government in Tokyo, Japan.
32. The Team thanked the Specialist Centres in China and Japan for the financial and in-kind contribution provided to UNECE towards the development of international PPP standards and its policy advisory and capacity building activities in member States.

## **B. Development of UNECE PPP standards for the Sustainable Development Goals**

33. The Chairperson referred to the discussion under agenda item 3 on the draft guiding principles on good governance in people-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals (conference room paper ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/1) and the draft standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP procurement (conference room paper ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/3). He congratulated, on behalf of the Team, the Project Team and the secretariat for these high quality outputs. He then encouraged all parties to work together with the Bureau and the Team to finalise these outputs in the coming months. He also reminded the Team that, on their part, there was no action needed at this juncture, other than taking note of the progress made so far.

34. The Chairperson also requested the secretariat to continue working with the Team's international partners, including UN DESA and the World Bank, in order to make the guiding principles a joint contribution to the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development in response to paragraph 48 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

35. The secretariat gave a brief status report to the Team on the PPP standards under development. The secretariat also briefed the Team on the people-first PPP case studies being collected and how they are being used to support on the guiding principles and the standards. The merits of organising these case studies into an online database showcasing both people-first PPPs in different sectors and those projects seeking funding were also explained.

36. The Team took note of the draft standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in people-first PPP Procurement (ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/3), which is at a very advanced stage of development. It requested the Project Team Leader to continue working with Team Members, the Bureau and the secretariat on the next phase of the standard-development process leading to the submission of this standard to the next session of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships in 2017.

37. The Team welcomed the draft guiding principles on good governance in people-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/1). It commended, in particular, its focus on people as the main beneficiaries of PPP projects, and requested the Bureau and the secretariat to submit the final draft as an official document for approval to the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and PPPs in 2017. The Team also requested that the secretariat continues working with its international partners, including UN DESA and the World Bank, to make the guiding principles a joint contribution to the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development in response to paragraph 48 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

38. The Team requested the secretariat to expand its compendium of case studies into an online database showcasing both people-first PPPs in different sectors and those projects seeking funding.

39. The Team commended the progress of existing Project Teams in developing international PPP standards on:

- (i) Airports;
- (ii) Healthcare policy;
- (iii) Rail;
- (iv) Renewable energy;
- (v) Roads; and
- (vi) Water and sanitation.

40. It then requested the Project Team leaders and Team Members to ensure that the draft standards reach the public review stage by the end of 2016 so that they could be finalised in the first half of 2017 and submitted as official documents for approval.

### **C. Consultative meetings of the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board (BAB), policy advisory missions and capacity-building activities**

41. The secretariat provided detailed information on the policy advisory missions and capacity-building activities undertaken since the seventh session in June 2015 reporting that the International PPP Centre of Excellence has carried out capacity building and advisory

missions based upon three main activities: (a) consultative missions of the PPP Business Advisory Board with national authorities on national PPP policies, programmes and projects; (b) a PPP capacity building project in Belarus; and (c) participation in international fora and conferences for the exchange of PPP best practices and models.

42. During the reporting period, a total of twenty capacity building and policy advisory activities were organised: eight policy advisory missions and consultative meetings of the PPP Business Advisory Board; two capacity building activities as part of the PPP capacity building project in Belarus; and ten more PPP activities with a capacity building component.

43. The main activities undertaken by the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board were:

- (i) Belarus: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Interministerial Infrastructure Board of Belarus and the Joint Parliamentary Commission on Social and Economic Affairs of Belarus, with a focus on project appraisal and identification, as well as the legal and regulatory framework, Minsk, (24-25 September 2015);
- (ii) United States: Meeting jointly organised by the PPP Business Advisory Board, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France and UNITAR to share the experiences of members of the PPP Business Advisory Board in projects that have a transformational impact on local communities, New York, (12-13 October 2015);
- (iii) Russian Federation: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Federal Center for Project Finance of the Russian Federation with a focus on sustainable PPP procurement practices in different jurisdictions around the world, Moscow, (16 October 2015);
- (iv) Moldova: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Ministry of Economy and the Municipality of Chisinau, with a focus on project preparation at the national and municipal level, Chisinau, (26 November 2015);
- (v) Poland: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Ministry of Economy of Poland to assist the Government in creating a project pipeline and improving PPP delivery, Warsaw, (1-2 December 2015);
- (vi) Ukraine: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Health to advise the Government on pilot PPP projects in the port sector, Kiev, (3-4 December 2015);
- (vii) Geneva: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with senior policy makers from Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, with a focus on project identification, risk allocation and the legal and regulatory framework, Geneva, (31 March 2016); and
- (viii) Russian Federation: Meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Ministry of Economy of the Russian Federation to advise the Government on risk allocation in PPPs and to share international best practices on the involvement of regional and local authorities in the PPP process, Moscow (12-13 October 2016).

44. The following policy advisory missions and capacity-building activities were also organized by the Team since the seventh session:

- (i) Workshop to raise awareness of how PPPs can contribute to the SDGs, Hong Kong, (21 July 2015)
- (ii) International Conference to inaugurate the International Specialist Centre on PPPs in Local Governments, Tokyo, (4 August 2015);

- (iii) International Conference on PPPs in the transport sector to identify case studies in the transport sector to include in the international best practice guide, Saint Petersburg, (15 October 2015);
  - (iv) International Forum for the promotion of PPPs for Sustainable Development (jointly organised with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, the Urban Agglomeration of Annemasse and UNITAR), to discuss the role of PPPs in the advancement of sustainable development at the level of local governments, Annemasse, (29-30 October 2015);
  - (v) Seminar on PPPs in off-grid rural electrification, organised jointly with the French Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, to discuss the scope of work of a project team to develop a PPP standard on off-grid rural electrification, Singapore, (29 October 2015);
  - (vi) International conference to inaugurate the International Specialist Centre on PPPs in Smart and Sustainable Cities and to share best practices from around the world in the area of smart and sustainable cities, Barcelona, (17-18 November 2015);
  - (vii) International PPP Forum, to discuss international PPP best practices and promote the UNECE work on the PPP standards, Qingdao, (20-21 June 2016);
  - (viii) Training Workshop, to provide PPP training to government officials in Asia, Shenzhen, (21-23 September 2016); and
  - (ix) International PPP Workshop, to showcase people-first PPP case studies in a number of countries in Asia and Europe, Bangkok, (23 September 2016).
45. Activities organised in the context of the extrabudgetary capacity-building and training project in Belarus, funded by the European Union and jointly implemented by the UNECE and UNDP included the following:
- (i) Study tour in France for senior Belarusian policy makers to visit operational PPP projects, organised jointly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance of France; Paris, (15-18 September 2015); and
  - (ii) International PPP Conference to summarise the activities carried out as part of the PPP capacity building project in Belarus, jointly organised with the Ministry of Economy of Belarus, the European Union Delegation in Belarus and UNDP, Minsk, (6 November 2015).
46. The secretariat also reported on the first UNECE International People-First PPP Forum, which was held in Geneva from 30 March to 1 April 2016. The Forum was attended by over 400 participants from 45 countries and had the following key objectives:
- (i) Addressing the pressing issue on how to advance the development of PPPs that support the SDGs through a high-level debate which was moderated by a senior producer and presenter from BBC World News;
  - (ii) Showcasing case studies from around the world of PPPs that aspire to meet the SDGs; and
  - (iii) Advancing the work of the UNECE PPP standards through physical meetings of the Project Teams.
47. Referring to the activities of the PPP Business Advisory Board, the secretariat reported that the Board established a dedicated task force to focus on issues related to the SDGs. The task force is led by Mr. Pedro Neves.
48. The Chairperson expressed his gratitude to the PPP experts participating in these activities, and especially those who did so on a pro bono basis, and to the secretariat for

organizing and servicing these activities. He also congratulated the PPP Business Advisory Board for establishing a dedicated task force to focus on issues related to the SDGs.

49. The Chairperson also reminded the Team that its policy advisory services and capacity building programme depended on extra budgetary funding. He expressed his appreciation to the donors who had provided in-kind and financial contributions in support of the UNECE's PPP work, including the development of PPP standards and the organisation of demand-driven policy advisory services and capacity building activities of the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence, namely:

- (i) The Government of the Russian Federation;
- (ii) The European Union;
- (iii) Vneshekonombank (VEB);
- (iv) Toyo University, Tokyo;
- (v) Tsinghua University, Beijing;
- (vi) City University of Hong Kong;
- (vii) The Confederation of International Contractors' Associations (CICA); and
- (viii) The French Institute of International Legal Experts (IFEJI).

50. The Chairperson urged member States and other stakeholders to follow in the footsteps of existing donors and support the work of the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence with extra-budgetary resources and in-kind contribution.

51. The representative of Belarus highlighted the achievements as part of the capacity-building and training project in Belarus, funded by the European Union and jointly implemented by the UNECE and UNDP. He commended the role of the UNECE and the PPP Business Advisory Board in these achievements, including the appraisal of several pilot projects which are currently being implemented in Belarus.

52. The Team took note of the policy-advisory missions and capacity building activities carried out since the Seventh session in June 2015, including the consultative meetings of the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board with the Governments of Belarus, Moldova, Poland, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. It also took note of the successful conclusion of the capacity building project in Belarus which led to major legal and institutional reforms aimed at attracting private investment in infrastructure projects in Belarus. The Team expressed its appreciation to all the experts who took part in these activities for their contributions to the success of the Team's policy advisory missions and capacity building activities.

53. The Team expressed its gratitude to the secretariat for organising a very successful first edition of the UNECE International People-First PPP Forum in Geneva from 30 March to 1 April 2016 attracting over 400 delegates from all over the world to accelerate the work on the PPP standards and to showcase the first batch of "people-first" PPP case studies.

54. The Team also expressed its gratitude to the donors who have provided in-kind and financial contributions in support of the UNECE PPP work, including the development of PPP standards and the organisation of demand-driven policy advisory services and capacity building activities of the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence.

## VII. Inter-sessional implementation plan (2016-2017) (Agenda item 7)

55. The secretariat introduced document ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/4 containing a list of 30 standards in areas with strong UN development objectives that the Team is expected to start work on during the next two years.<sup>1</sup> The secretariat also informed the Team that a number of project teams are expected to be established in the coming months to develop standards in the following areas:

- (i) Financing (including impact investing criteria);
- (ii) Flood management;
- (iii) Last building standing;
- (iv) Model PPP contract and legal framework for PPP legislation;
- (v) Smart and sustainable cities;
- (vi) Sustainable PPP procurement;
- (vii) Telemedicine;
- (viii) Urban rail transit<sup>2</sup>;
- (ix) Waste to energy; and
- (x) Women's real empowerment.

56. The secretariat reported to the Team that an Outline of a UNECE PPP Sector Standard was prepared to assist Project Teams in drafting the standard.

57. The following activities are also planned in the coming months:

**(a) Policy advisory services of the Business Advisory Board (BAB):**

- (i) Belarus: meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board with the Interministerial Infrastructure Board of Belarus to discuss PPP pilot projects and issues pertaining to the legal and regulatory framework, Minsk (28 October 2016);
- (ii) Kazakhstan: meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board to discuss PPP projects in the health sector and issues pertaining to the legal and regulatory framework, Astana and Almaty (27-28 October 2016);
- (iii) China: dialogue between the PPP Business Advisory Board and government officials in China to learn from the Chinese PPP experience to be shared with countries with economies in transition in Central Asia, Beijing (December 2016);
- (iv) Georgia: meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board to assist Georgia to improve its PPP delivery, Tbilisi, (March 2017);
- (v) Moldova: meeting of the PPP Business Advisory Board to assist Moldova to improve its PPP delivery, Chisinau, (March 2017); and

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<sup>1</sup> The list is included in Annex I

<sup>2</sup> Two workshops were held in Beijing in April and June 2016 in preparation of this work. These workshops were supported by the CIECC with the participation of Chinese and international experts from the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence.

- (vi) Brazil: dialogue between the PPP Business Advisory Board and government officials in Brazil to learn from the Brazilian PPP experience to be shared with countries with economies in transition, Brasilia, (First half of 2017).

**(b) Other capacity building and training activities, seminars and conferences**

- (i) Spain: International Conference on Smart and sustainable cities and meeting on people-first PPPs, Barcelona, (17-18 November 2016);
- (ii) The second edition of the UNECE International PPP Forum on people-first PPPs for the SDGs, (May 2017);
- (iii) China: International PPP Forum, to discuss international PPP best practices and promote the UNECE's work on PPP standards, Qingdao (June 2017); and
- (iv) Kyrgyzstan: PPP workshop, Bishkek, (first half of 2017).

58. The secretariat also reported that it was in advanced discussions with two countries to set up Specialist Centres in 2016: Portugal on PPPs in water and sanitation in Lisbon; and Lebanon on PPPs in ports in Beirut.

59. The secretariat commented on the importance of increasing the visibility of the Team's work, including the work undertaken by the Specialist Centres and the Project Teams, and reported that in partnership with ADEC Innovation, a new revamped website of the International PPP Centre of Excellence has been developed and was now publicly available.<sup>3</sup> The secretariat presented the new website.

60. The representative from City University of Hong Kong, China, reported on the cooperation agreement signed between UNECE, Tsinghua University in Beijing and City University of Hong Kong, earlier this year to host the Specialist Centre on PPPs in public transport logistics. She then offered to host the next edition of the UNECE International PPP Forum on people-first PPPs at City University of Hong Kong.

61. The Chairperson thanked the secretariat for providing this overview of future standards work, new specialist centres and the policy advisory and capacity building activities. He also congratulated ADEC Innovation for developing a very professional website for the International PPP Centre of Excellence on a pro bono basis, and thanked ADEC Innovation for their continued technical assistance to host and maintain the website. The Chairperson also proposed that the Outline of a UNECE PPP Sector Standard is annexed to the report of the session.

62. The Chairperson welcomed the offer by the PPP Business Advisory Board for its Task Force on the SDGs to prepare an evaluation matrix under the responsibility of Mr. James Stewart, Chairperson of the PPP Business Advisory Board, which would measure infrastructure projects to determine their contribution to the UN SDGs. He added that this BAB contribution would also complement the work of the project team identifying the impact finance criteria for people-first PPPs.

63. The Team took note, with appreciation, of the Project Teams that are in the process of being established to develop priority international PPP standards which are highly relevant for the UN SDGs in the following areas:

- (i) Financing (including impact investing criteria);
- (ii) Flood management;
- (iii) Last building standing;

<sup>3</sup> The website is available at: <http://www.uneceppp-icoe.org/>

- (iv) Model PPP contract and legal framework for PPP legislation;
- (v) Smart and sustainable cities;
- (vi) Sustainable PPP procurement;
- (vii) Telemedicine;
- (viii) Urban rail transit;
- (ix) Waste to energy; and
- (x) Women's real empowerment.

64. The Team agreed with the topics for the standards work to be initiated during 2017, as reflected in the table prepared by the secretariat (ECE/CECI/PPP/2016/CRP/4) The Team also requested that this table and the Outline of a UNECE PPP Sector Standard be included as annexes to the report of the session.

65. The Team took note, with appreciation, of the in-kind contribution by ADEC Innovation to develop the new website of the International PPP Centre of Excellence, and for their continued technical support to host and maintain it.

66. The Team also took note of the meetings currently planned for the PPP Business Advisory Board in the coming months in Belarus, Brazil, China, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Moldova. The Team also welcomed the offer by the PPP Business Advisory Board for its Task Force on the SDGs to prepare an evaluation matrix under the responsibility of Mr. James Stewart, Chairperson of the PPP Business Advisory Board, which would measure infrastructure projects to determine their contribution to the UN SDGs, and would complement the work of the project team identifying the impact finance criteria for people-first PPPs The Team called on interested member States wishing to cooperate with the PPP Business Advisory Board to communicate directly with the UNECE secretariat.

67. The team warmly thanked City University of Hong Kong for their offer to host the next edition of the UNECE International PPP Forum on people-first PPPs for the SDGs and requested the Bureau and the secretariat to make all the necessary preparations for a successful second edition of the UNECE PPP Forum in 2017.

68. The Team took note, with appreciation, of the request by Portugal and Lebanon to set up Specialist Centres in water and sanitation and ports respectively, and encouraged the secretariat to finalise the formalities in the coming weeks so that these Centres could become operational by the end of 2016.

## **VII. Other business (Agenda item 8)**

### **Dates of the next session**

69. The Team agreed that its next meeting be held in the second half of 2017.

70. The secretariat will fix the dates in consultation with the Bureau and the conference room services at the *Palais des Nations* in Geneva.

## **VIII. Adoption of the report (Agenda item 9)**

71. The Team adopted the report of its eighth session and requested that it be published in English, French and Russian.



## Annex I

### List of proposed standards

Sector	No.	Standards/Recommendations	Status <sup>4</sup>
Empowerment of women through PPPs	1	Empowering women through PPPs	
Governance and compliance	2	Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in “People-first” PPP Procurement (formerly Zero Tolerance to Corruption)	√
	3	Model Concession Law	
	4	Model Concession Contract Provisions	
	5	Arbitration	
	6	Self-assessment for public agencies to ensure conformity with the recommendations in the standard on a Zero Tolerance approach to corruption in People-first PPP procurement	√
	7	Sustainable PPP Procurement	
	Health	8	PPP in Health Policy
9		Telemedicine and Digital Health	
10		Organizational Strengthening of Public Hospitals	
11		Primary Care/Polyclinics	
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	12	On-grid renewable energy (Solar, Wind, Hydroelectricity, and Biomass)	√
	13	Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings	
	14	Off-grid rural electrification	
Resilient Infrastructure	15	Developing a “Last Building” standing facility to coordinate relief in natural disasters	
Smart and Sustainable Cities	16	Models for developing smart and sustainable cities	
	17	Social housing/urban regeneration	
Transport Infrastructure	18	Airports	√
	19	Ports	
	20	Railways	√
	21	Roads	√
	22	Urban Rail Transit	
Water	23	Water Supply and Sanitation	√
	24	Rural Water	

<sup>4</sup> Project Teams have already been established and draft standards are in development

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<b>Sector</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Standards/Recommendations</b>	<b>Status<sup>4</sup></b>
	25	Water Management	
Waste Management	26	Waste management (Waste to energy)	
Others	27	Education	
	28	ICT and broadband	
	29	Increasing food security through PPPs involving the water, energy and agriculture nexus	
	30	Impact Investing Criteria	

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## Annex II

### Outline of a UNECE PPP Sector Standard

#### 15 pages Maximum / 20 Project Cases Annexed

- I. Introduction
  - II. Objectives of the Standard
  - III. Scope of the Standard
  - IV. Central Question

What the UN SDGs say in this sector and in general terms how appropriate is the PPP model to meet this goal or other goals if there are more than one.
  - A. Project Types and Examples (in the Sector)

Global experiences with the model, especially in low income countries. These should objectively review what has happened in the sector by looking at projects, countries' strategies, etc. and the types of models which have been typically used. Mention can be made to any projects which have had a real transformational impact.
  - B. Pros and Cons of PPPs (in the Sector)

Identify the pros and cons of models in the sector.
  - C. PPPs Meeting People First Objectives – Replicability, Scalability, Equity, Efficiency, Sustainability, Effectiveness Demonstrated

Identify the suggested model(s) and propose, if appropriate, a model that is best fit for purpose for the UN SDGs.
  - V. Delivering the Models:
    - A. Project Selection / Baseline requirements for Private interest (for the Sector)
    - B. Financing (for the Sector)
    - C. Legal Requirements (for the Sector)
    - D. Feasibility for low and middle income countries (for the Sector)
    - E. Other Issues (related to the Sector)
  - VI. Indicators of Compliance (for the Sector and SDGs)
  - VII. Credits and References
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