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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships

Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships¹

First session

Geneva, 21-22 November 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda² for the first session³

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on 21 November 2017.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Contribution of the UNECE's People-first Public-Private Partnerships work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)
4. Cooperation with China on the "Belt & Road" (B&R) Initiative in support of the UN SDGs

¹ The Working Party of Public-Private Partnerships was established by the ECE Executive Committee on 18 November 2016 to take over the UNECE PPP work up to now conducted by the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships (TOS-PPP), which will cease its activities on 20 November 2017. The terms of reference of the Working Party, which is open to participation by all UN member States, are available at:

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/ceci/documents/2016/CECI/ECE_CECI_2016_6-en.pdf.

² Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should register online and complete an electronic registration form available at <http://www.unece.org/ppp/wpppp1.html>. 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 is available on the UNECE website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>.

³ Approved by the Bureau of the TOS-PPP.

5. Review of the PPP work since the eighth and final session of the Team of Specialists on PPPs on 20-21 October 2016
6. Implementation plan for 2017-2018
7. Cross-sector cooperation with other UNECE bodies and international organizations
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Annotated provisional agenda	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/1	Decision

1. The Working Party will adopt the agenda of its first session.

Item 2. Election of officers

2. It is recalled that the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships (TOS PPP), at its eighth session in 2016, elected Messrs Arthur Smith (United States) and Bernhard Müller (Germany) as co-Chairs of TOS PPP for a period of two years. At the same time, the Team elected the following officers to serve a two-year term as vice-Chairs: Mr. Steven Van Garsse (Belgium), Mr. Mark Romoff (Canada), Mr. Alecos Michaelides (Cyprus), Mr. Frédéric 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).

3. It should be noted that at its 87th session the ECE Executive Committee recommended to keep the Bureau composition elected by TOS PPP under the new Working Party since this had been elected recently and asked the secretariat to conduct consultations with Member states that may want to nominate Bureau members at its first session. The Working Party will elect its Bureau for the next two years at this session.

Item 3. Contribution of the UNECE's People-first Public-Private Partnerships work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Draft Guiding Principles on People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.1	Information

4. Under this agenda item, member States will have the opportunity to present their current work on how they are implementing People-first PPP criteria in their infrastructure projects and plans to demonstrate their support to the UN SDGs. Member States are further invited to submit their presentations to the secretariat in advance to be presented to the delegates in a background document.

5. The Working Party will also discuss the revised draft Guiding Principles on People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and decide on the next steps. The Working Party will also discuss draft guidelines for national development agencies on providing support for PPPs in low and middle income countries.

6. Furthermore, the Working Party will hold two debates on the contribution of the UNECE's PPP work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) on the following topics:

(a) The role of international PPP standards and the Guiding Principles to promote People-first Public-Private Partnerships for the UN SDGs; and

(b) The criteria used to define "People-first" PPP and the creation of a possible evaluation methodology to score PPPs and infrastructure projects on the extent to which they meet the UN SDGs, with the active participation of PPP units and other agencies dealing with infrastructure.

7. The detailed programme of the debate will be developed in consultation with the Bureau and will be made available to participants on the website.⁴

Item 4. Cooperation with China on the "Belt & Road" (B&R) Initiative in support of the UN SDGs

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Promoting People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for the Belt and Road Initiative and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.2	Information

8. The Working Party will have the opportunity to discuss the proposed cooperation with China on the "Belt & Road" (B&R) Initiative in support of the UN SDGs following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the UNECE and the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China and how countries may participate and shape the programme for a mutual benefit.

⁴ The programme will be available at: <http://www.unece.org/ppp/wpppp1.html>

Item 5. Review of the PPP work since the eighth and final session of the Team of Specialists on PPPs on 20-21 October 2016

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Review of the Terms of Reference of the Business Advisory Board	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/3	Decision
UNECE Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/4	Decision
Draft Declaration on a Zero Tolerance to Corruption in People-first Public-Private Partnerships	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.3	Information
Draft UNECE Standard on PPPs in Water Supply and Sanitation	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.4	Information ⁵
Draft UNECE Standard on PPPs in Renewable Energy	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.5	Information ⁵
Draft UNECE Standard on PPPs in Roads	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.6	Information ⁵
Draft UNECE Standard on PPPs in Railways	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.7	Information ⁵
Draft Guidelines for innovative approaches and new models for successful PPP project training and capacity building	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.8	Decision
Second UNECE International Forum on People-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals report	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.9	Information

9. The Working Party will review the PPP work undertaken by the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence (ICoE) since October 2016 on:

- (a) The International PPP Standards;
- (b) Issues related to the PPP Business Advisory Board; and
- (c) Other capacity building activities and initiatives.

⁵ These documents are submitted for consultation with other UNECE bodies.

The Working Party will also review some relevant documents to “People first” PPPs prepared by the International Specialist Centre of Excellence on PPP Law, Policy and Institutions in France, which will be submitted as Conference Room Papers.

A. International PPP Standards

10. The Working Party will decide on whether to endorse the recommendation of the TOS PPP Bureau to approve the Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement.

11. The Working Party will discuss and review the Draft Declaration on a Zero Tolerance to Corruption in People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PfPPPs), and will decide on the next steps.

12. The Working Party will also have the opportunity to discuss how dissemination and promotion of the Standard on a Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in PPP Procurement can be more broadly publicized in countries with the aim of implementing it.

13. The Working Party will receive a progress report on the following draft standards prepared by project teams:

- Water Supply and Sanitation,
- Renewable Energy,
- Roads, and
- Railways.

B. Issues related to the PPP Business Advisory Board

14. The Working Party will review the work of the PPP Business Advisory Board (BAB) since October 2016. Following the decision by the ECE Executive Committee at its 92nd meeting on 23 June 2017 to extend the BAB’s mandate by a further three years until 31 December 2020, the Working Party is invited to approve the revised terms of reference of the BAB.

C. Other capacity building activities and initiatives

15. The Working Party will review the capacity building activities carried out since October, including the outcome of the second UNECE International PPP Forum in Hong Kong on 9-11 May 2017.

16. One concrete outcome of the Forum, following a discussion initiated at the eleventh session of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and PPPs (CICPPP) on 20-22 March 2017, was to set up a small group of experts under the leadership of Mr. Art Smith, co-Chair of TOS PPP, to prepare draft guidelines with the main elements for a successful capacity-building project building on the success of the PPP capacity building project implemented in Belarus. The Working Party will review the guidelines and will decide on their adoption.

17. The members of the Working Party will have the opportunity to take stock of past PPP activities, and discuss effective means for the promotion and dissemination of this work.

Item 6. Implementation plan for 2017-2018

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
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Implementation plan for 2017-2018 ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.10 Decision

Revised List of topics for PPP standards ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2017/CRP.11 Decision

18. The Working Party will discuss proposals for work to be undertaken in the remainder of 2017 and in 2018 in accordance with the Implementation Plan for 2017-2018 of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships (ECE/CECI/2017/2, Annex II).

19. The Working Party will review and decide on the latest list of topics for PPP standards development. Additionally, the Working Party will have the opportunity to hear proposals for new standards to be developed where the Working Party has a mandate on SDG related areas. Presentations will also be made to review progress on the work of international standards in urban rail and on the general framework of legal conditions for PPPs, and on the guidelines on PPPs in waste to energy.

20. There will also be a discussion on assisting countries with the implementation of the PPP standards in cooperation with Specialist Centres of Excellence, the Business Advisory Board and other organisations.

21. Participants are encouraged to communicate to the meeting any expressions of interest by member States or other stakeholders for receiving, delivering, or hosting capacity-building activities in the priority areas of the Working Party's work. Requests from member States for capacity-building activities and policy advisory services will be considered on the basis of available capacity and extrabudgetary resources.

22. Participants are also encouraged to bring to the attention of the session any expression of interest by member States and other stakeholders to provide extrabudgetary support to the work of the ICoE (such as funds or in-kind contributions, including the organization of seminars, twinning schemes or networking initiatives).

Item 7. Cross-sector cooperation with other UNECE bodies and international organizations

23. The Working Party will have the opportunity to take stock of past activities conducted by the secretariat to promote and disseminate PPP outputs to other Divisions in UNECE.

24. The Working Party will be invited to deepen cooperation with other UNECE Divisions, other UN bodies, and other International Organizations to increase joint projects and programmes.

Item 8. Other business

Dates of the next session

25. The secretariat proposes that the second session of the Working Party takes place in Geneva in the second half of 2018, subject to conference room availability at the Palais des Nations. The Working Party will decide on the dates of the next session.

Item 9. Adoption of the report of the first session

26. The Working Party will adopt the report of its first session.

III. Tentative timetable

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Tuesday,	
21 November 2017	
10:00-13:00	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Election of officers Item 3. Contribution of the UNECE's People-first Public-Private Partnerships work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 3. Contribution of the UNECE's People-first Public-Private Partnerships work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) (cont'd)
Wednesday,	
22 November 2017	
10:00-13:00	Item 4. Cooperation with China on the "Belt & Road" (B&R) Initiative in support of the UN SDGs Item 5. Review of the PPP work since the eighth and final session of the Team of Specialists on PPPs on 20-21 October 2016
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 6. Implementation plan for 2017-2018 Item 7. Cross-sector cooperation with other UNECE bodies and international organizations Item 8. Other business Item 9. Adoption of the report of the first session