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## Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration

### **Eighth session**

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Item 8 of the agenda

Programme of Work and Draft Strategic Framework

## **Draft Programme of Work of the Subprogramme on Economic Cooperation and Integration for 2014 - 2015**

**Note by the secretariat<sup>1</sup>**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the subprogramme on Economic Cooperation and Integration (“the subprogramme”) for 2014–2015. The Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (“the Committee”) is invited to consider the programme and adopt it at its sixth session. It will then be submitted to the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Executive Committee for formal approval. The Committee will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium and such adjustments will be reflected in a separate document.
2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises for each cluster of activities an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2014–2015. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.
3. The grouping of activities into clusters is exactly the same as used by the Committee for the biennial evaluation of its subprogramme performance. The correlation between the ECE Strategic Framework and the cluster framework used for the subprogramme biennial evaluation for 2014–2015 is shown in Annex II to the present document.
4. Furthermore, the outputs/activities listed in this document correspond with the ECE proposed programme budget for 2014–2015 and are complemented by additional items to

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<sup>1</sup> This document has been submitted on the above date due to the need to await the results of a meeting of the UNECE Executive Committee held on 4 December 2013, at which member States discussed the date and format of the eighth session of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration.



reflect the more recent developments and needs of ECE member States. For easy reference, such new outputs/activities have been clearly indicated as “additional”.

5. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including, seminars, workshops, training sessions, advisory services.

6. The relevant indicators of achievement, together with baseline and target data, against which performance will be measured are presented in Annex II to this document in order to facilitate the task of the Committee to assess whether all outputs which are necessary to achieve the expected result have been included in the plan.

7. Finally, Annex I to the present document lists the ECE overall legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme.

## **II. Objective and strategy**

8. The objective of the subprogramme is to promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment more conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities in the ECE region.

9. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division. In order to achieve its objective, the subprogramme will take up key aspects of economic development and integration and focus mainly on countries with economies in transition. It will facilitate the application of experience gained, lessons learned and good practices conducive to economic growth and innovative development.

10. Building on the normative work carried out within the subprogramme and reflecting the changing needs of member States, recommendations will be drawn up aimed at improving policies, as well as developing a sound financial and regulatory environment for economic development, investment and innovation.

11. Drawing on progress achieved during the period 2010-2011, policy advisory services and capacity-building activities to requesting countries will be organized on the basis of the related policy dialogue, exchange of experiences and good practices as well as guidelines and other policy-related documents. Efforts will be made to raise further the profile of technical cooperation activities under the subprogramme while preserving a balance between policy-oriented normative work and technical cooperation.

12. Building, *inter alia*, on relevant work carried out by other organizations and institutions, as well as contributions from external experts, advisers and decision makers, in particular those from countries with economies in transition, an enhanced exchange of experience and policy debate among member States and other stakeholders will be prioritized.

13. Thematic teams of specialists and networks of experts involving representatives of Governments, international organizations, business associations and other stakeholders will provide a platform for the exchange of national policy experience and the identification of good practices.

14. Subsequently, member States are expected to apply these outputs in drawing up relevant policy recommendations, guidelines and other regulatory and normative measures. The results of the subprogramme’s work will be broadly disseminated to all interested stakeholders and will serve as the basis for technical cooperation activities organized by the secretariat in cooperation with member States, such as policy advisory services and capacity-building workshops, including within the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

15. Drawing on the achievements in policy-oriented normative work and advisory technical cooperation services, wider implementation of policy recommendations developed under the subprogramme will be pursued.

### III. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2014–2015 biennium

#### Cluster 1

#### Formulation of policy recommendations and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in the UNECE region

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased knowledge of good practices and policies targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities leading to the formulation of related CECI policy recommendations

#### Outputs/activities

(a) *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*

1.1 Eight (12-14 February 2014) and ninth (2015) annual sessions of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI) (10).<sup>2</sup>

*Documentation:*

Reports of the sessions of the CECI (2) and other documents (10), in particular: Capacity-building reports (2), Synopses of good practices, policy recommendations and guidelines (4), Draft programme of work for 2015-2016 (1), Biennial Evaluation Report (1), Biennial Evaluation Plan (1), Publications Programme (1).

1.2 Seventh (16-17 October 2014) and eight (2015) sessions of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (8).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> In the Programme Budget Narrative, 12 half-day sessions were budgeted. This will be reduced to 10 because of the request of member States in the outcome document of the Review of the 2005 ECE Reform to hold the sessions of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration back to back with those of the Trade Committee. As a result and in accordance with the Chairman's Conclusions of the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the UNECE Executive Committee (EXCOM/CONCLU/63 p.3), both annual sessions will be reduced from 3 to 2.5 days (6 to 5 half-days).

<sup>3</sup> In the Programme Budget Narrative, 12 half-day sessions were budgeted under this cluster, 6 for the sessions of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, and 6 for the sessions of the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property. However, the mandate of the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property has expired and the annual sessions of this Team will therefore not be held. At the same time, member States decided that, in the future, reports of the sessions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be adopted at the end of the sessions rather than thereafter (E/RES/2013/1, Appendix III, p.19, para.20). To allow sufficient time for the discussion of session reports before their adoption, the number of half-day sessions of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies has been increased from 6 to 8. Relative to the Programme Budget Narrative the total number of half-day sessions of Teams of Specialists under this cluster will thus be reduced by 4 from 12 to 8.

*Documentation:*

Annotated Agendas (2) and Reports of the sessions of the Team of Specialists (2).<sup>4</sup>

1.3 Other expert group meetings (6). These will be organized as a series of policy-oriented international conferences and seminars under the common theme "Policies for Innovation and Knowledge-based Development in the 21st Century". Proposed topics of individual conferences include:

(a) Smart specialization strategies, with an emphasis on processes that enable regions to promote structural change and develop comparative advantages;

(b) Evaluation of the impact of innovation policies;

(c) Development of standard indicators for the assessment of innovation, with due regard to existing methodologies and taking into account data availability

(d) Impact of the internationalization of innovation on national and regional innovation policies;

(e) Measures to encourage collaboration between industry, universities and scientific institutions;

(f) Foresight and forecasting of innovation opportunities and priorities, including those focused on green technologies and the policies that support them.

(g) Financing of start-ups and innovative companies, including measures to provide early-stage financing, and policies to encourage angel investors and private- and state-supported venture capital, with due consideration to the ecosystem in which these companies develop.

*Documentation:*

Annotated Agendas (2) and Reports of the conferences (2).

*(b) Publications and other information material*

1.4 Innovation Performance Review of Armenia (1)

1.5 Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan (subject to availability of extrabudgetary funding) (1).

1.6 Guidebook on Innovation in the Public Sector (1).

1.7 Policy briefs on selected topics related to the knowledge-based economy, building on the outcomes of meetings (electronic only) (2).

1.8 Annual sets of newsletters on innovation-related issues, presenting the activities of the sub-programme and open to external contributions (electronic only) (2 additional).

1.9 Annual sets of press releases (electronic only) (2).

1.10 Maintenance of the website of the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division (2).

<sup>4</sup> The number of Annotated Agendas and Reports is reduced by 2 each relative to the Programme Budget Narrative because of the discontinuation of the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property.

## Cluster 2

### Formulation of policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful public-private partnerships (PPPs)

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased knowledge of good practices and policies targeting a legal and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs leading to the formulation of related CECI policy recommendations

#### Outputs/activities

(a) *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*

2.1 Sixth (23-24 June 2014) and seventh (2015) sessions of the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships (8).<sup>5</sup>

*Documentation:*

Annotated Agendas (2) and reports of the sessions of the Team of Specialists (2)

(b) *Publications and other information material*

2.2 Guidebook on Public Private Partnerships (2014) (1).

2.3 Comparative Review on PPPs (2015) (electronic only) (1).

2.4 Newsletters on PPP-related issues, presenting the activities of the sub-programme and open to external contributions (electronic only) (2).

2.5 Annual sets of press releases (electronic format) (2).

## Cluster 3

### Implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in the UNECE region

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Enhanced implementation of CECI policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities

#### Outputs/activities

(a) *Technical cooperation*

The following policy advisory activities are envisaged:<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Together with the sessions under Cluster 1, this brings the total number of half-day sessions to 10, 2 less than in the Programme Budget Narrative for the reasons explained in footnote 2 above.

- 3.1 Field-based policy advisory workshop to present and discuss the main findings and conclusions of the Innovation Performance Review of Armenia (1).
- 3.2 Field-based fact-finding mission to prepare the Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan (subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (1).
- 3.3 Field-based policy advisory workshop to present and discuss the main findings and conclusions of the Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan (subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (1).
- 3.4 Policy advisory seminar in follow-up to the Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan (subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (1).
- 3.5 Field-based fact-finding mission to prepare an Innovation Performance Review of a country with economy with transition (subject to expression of interest by a requesting country and availability of extrabudgetary funding) (1)

#### Cluster 4

#### **Implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs**

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*Description of cluster (optional)*

*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*

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Enhanced implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a legal and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs

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#### **Outputs/activities**

##### *(a) Technical cooperation*

The following policy advisory services and seminars are envisaged<sup>7</sup>:

- 4.1 National consultative visits of the PPP Business Advisory Board to advise governments on existing challenges in the development of PPPs in countries with economies in transition and developing countries (2).
- 4.2 National policy advisory workshops in countries with economies in transition on the results of their respective PPP assessment undertaken by the UNECE (2).
- 4.3 Delivery of demand-driven policy advisory services in the area of PPPs (1).

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<sup>6</sup> The total number of policy advisory activities is reduced by 2 relative to the plans reflected in the Programme Budget Narrative because of the discontinuation of the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property and the reduction of posts available to service the subprogramme, which was decided after the submission of the Programme Budget Narrative.

<sup>7</sup> Subject to demand from member States and the availability of extrabudgetary funding.

## Cluster 5

### Building national capacity to adapt, adopt and implement CECI policy recommendations and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in ECE member States

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement CECI policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities

#### Outputs/activities

(a) *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*

5.1 Sixth and seventh sessions of SPECA Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development (2 additional)

*Documentation:*

Reports of the sessions (2 additional)

(b) *Publications and other information*

5.2 Training materials and toolkits on policies to promote innovative, knowledge-based development, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding (electronic only) (1 additional).

(c) *Technical cooperation*

The following capacity-building and training courses are envisaged:

5.3 Ongoing series of seminars and workshops to enhance the capacity of policymakers and other innovation stakeholders to promote innovative, knowledge-based development and implement policy recommendations (subject to demand from member States and the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (5).<sup>8</sup>

The following field projects will be implemented:

5.4 Projects related to the Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development of SPECA (in cooperation with ESCAP) (1).

<sup>8</sup> The number is reduced by 2 relative to the plans reflected in the Programme Budget Narrative because of the discontinuation of the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property and the reduction of posts available to service the subprogramme, which was decided after the submission of the Programme Budget Narrative.

## Cluster 6

### **Building national capacity to adapt, adopt and implement CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs**

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement CECI policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs

#### **Outputs/activities**

(a) *Publications and other information material*

6.1 Development of training materials in the area of PPPs (electronic only) (1 additional).

(b) *Technical cooperation*

The following capacity-building and training courses are envisaged:

6.2 Sub-regional and national capacity-building and knowledge sharing consultative visits, conferences, seminars, master classes and workshops on policies for promoting efficient PPPs (subject to demand from member States and the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (3).

6.3 Awareness raising activities and familiarisation visits to promote the further development of PPPs in countries with economies in transition (subject to demand from member States and the availability of extrabudgetary funding) (2).

## Annex I

### Legislative mandates

#### A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

##### 1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
61/210	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
64/193	Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/217	Women in development
64/236	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/223	Towards global partnerships
66/228	The Future We Want
67/7	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

**2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council**

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/14	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council
2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2011/6	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

**3. Economic and Social Council decisions**

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
1997/224	Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action

**4. Economic Commission for Europe decisions**

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
E/ECE/1434/Rev.1	Work Plan on ECE Reform
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

**B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme****1. Resolutions of the General Assembly**

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development
64/214	Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International

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	Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
66/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
67/195	Information and communications technologies for development
67/199	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
67/225	Industrial development cooperation

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## 2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

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<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2013/10	Science, technology and innovation for development
2013/44	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

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## Annex II

### Correlation between the ECE strategic framework and the cluster framework used for subprogramme biennial evaluation 2014 – 2015

**Table A.**

*Expected accomplishment of the Subprogramme:* Increased knowledge of good practices and policies on financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities leading to the formulation of related ECE policy recommendations

*Indicators of achievement:* (a) Number of policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of good practices and policy experience among member States

*Performance measures:*<sup>9</sup>

2010-2011: 8 policy recommendations

Estimate 2012-2013: 8 policy recommendations

Target 2014-2015: 6 policy recommendations

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Cluster level expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
1. Formulation of policy recommendations and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in the UNECE region	Increased knowledge of good practices and policies targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities leading to the formulation of related CECI policy recommendations	(i) Number of policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of good practices and policy experience among member States  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 5 Target 2014–2015: 4  (ii) Per cent of questionnaire respondents who find these recommendations useful  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 89 Target 2014–2015: 80
2. Formulation of policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful public-private partnerships (PPPs)	Increased knowledge of good practices and policies targeting a legal and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs leading to the formulation of related CECI policy recommendations	(i) Number of policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of good practices and policy experience among member States  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 4 Target 2014–2015: 2  (ii) Per cent of questionnaire respondents who find these recommendations useful  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 81

<sup>9</sup> Performance measures are taken from the document “Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015” (A/68/6 (Sect.20)).

Target 2014–2015: 80

**Table B.***Expected accomplishments of the Subprogramme:* Enhanced implementation of the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations*Indicators of achievement:* (b) Increased number of practical steps taken by Governments and other stakeholders to implement the policy recommendations*Performance measures:*

2010-2011: 8 practical steps

Estimate 2012-2013: 10 practical steps

Target 2014-2015: 12 practical steps

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Cluster level expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
3. Implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in the UNECE region	Enhanced implementation of CECI policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities	(i) Number of cases where countries have implemented policy recommendations or have taken practical steps to implement them  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 9 Target 2014–2015: 8
4. Implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs	Enhanced implementation of CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a legal and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs	(i) Number of cases where countries have implemented policy recommendations or have taken practical steps to implement them  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 4 Target 2014–2015: 2

**Table C.***Expected accomplishments of the Subprogramme:* Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations*Indicators of achievement:* (c) Increased number of country-level activities resulting from ECE capacity-building events and training materials*Performance measures:*

2010-2011: 10 follow-up activities

Estimate 2012-2013: 12 follow-up activities

Target 2014-2015: 13 follow-up activities

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Cluster level expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
5. Building national capacity to adapt, adopt and implement CECI policy recommendations	Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement CECI	(i) Number of country-level follow-up activities  <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 23

and good practices on innovative, knowledge-based development in ECE member States	policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities	(ii) Target 2014–2015: 18 Per cent of questionnaire respondents finding the capacity-building activities useful for their work <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 85 Target 2014–2015: 85
6. Building national capacity to adapt, adopt and implement CECI policy recommendations and good practices targeting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs	Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement CECI policy recommendations targeting a financial and regulatory environment conducive to successful PPPs	(i) Number of country-level follow-up activities <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 9 Target 2014–2015: 7  (ii) Per cent of questionnaire respondents finding the capacity-building activities useful for their work <i>Performance measures:</i> Baseline 2013: 83 Target 2014–2015: 85