

UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Bureau Meeting

2 November 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

Report on the Meeting

Present:

Bureau: Mr. M. Pietarinen, Finland, Chair of CECI
Mr. A. Popov, Belarus, Vice-Chair of CECI
Mr. C. Reilly, United States, Vice-Chair of CECI
Mr. S. Zecchini, Italy, Vice-Chair of CECI

Secretariat: Mr. R. Dobrinsky, Director, ECID
Mr. G. Hamilton, Chief of Section, ECID
Mr. J. Palacin, Chief of Section, ECID
Mr. I. Adjoubei, ECID

Item 1 - Adoption of the agenda

1. The agenda was adopted.

Item 2 - Results of the sixth session of CECI

1. Reflecting on the conclusions of the Substantive Segment, the Bureau deliberated on the possible options of presenting the outcomes of the discussion, including lessons learned from past experiences and problems to be addressed in the future. To give more visibility to the substantive results of this part of the Committee session, the Chairman's conclusions also could be transformed into the Committee's conclusions. The Bureau agreed to revisit these options at another meeting.
2. The Bureau also deliberated on ways of mainstreaming the results and effects of the Innovation Performance Reviews into follow-up activities including such aimed at assessing their impact. This would strengthen the continuity in the work of the Committee.

Item 3 - Preparations for the review of CECI at the next ExCom meeting

3. The Bureau agreed that the presentation of the Committee's activities should answer the questions of whether these activities are efficient and whether they are useful for member States. The CECI review report has to provide convincing evidence to ExCom that CECI's work is helpful to countries. For this, it might be practical to insert into the presentation also some slides summarizing the countries' feedback from the biennial evaluation review. In broad terms, the presentation should address the issues of efficiency, effectiveness, the role of intellectual property rights in programme implementation and the Committee's vision of the future activities. Detailed notes accompanying slides might be also useful.

4. In the area of intellectual property rights, WIPO develops policies to strengthen the IPR protection worldwide. In its turn, CECI disseminates these policies, as well as good practices and relevant experience to transition economies of the region.

5. There is a certain overlap in the mandates of WIPO and CECI. However, overlap is not duplication; it also offers new opportunities for achieving complementarities. This requires a better coordination of activities between the two organizations to jointly satisfy the demand for capacity-building activities in this area, which is very strong. CECI can't disregard the IPR issues when implementing the knowledge-based economy cluster of its programme. One slide in the presentation should clearly show the respective roles of WIPO and UNECE in this area, and prospects for cooperation.

6. The Bureau requested the secretariat to revise the presentation for ExCom in accordance with the proposals made and to circulate once again for further comments.

Item 4 - Other business

7. Chairman of the Committee informed the Bureau of his retirement in 2013. The Bureau asked the secretariat to take this information into account in order to assure a smooth transition to the new chairmanship. The Director of ECID also informed the Bureau about his forthcoming in August 2012 retirement from the UNECE.