

## Memorandum of Understanding

between

the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

and

the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research,  
affiliated to the United Nations, Vienna

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, affiliated to the United Nations, Vienna (European Centre Vienna, ECV),

*Recalling* the León Ministerial Declaration “A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities”<sup>1</sup> of 8 November 2007 that, inter alia, (a) recommends to continue and further develop monitoring of the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA/RIS, 2002) (para. 19), (b) reaffirms the role of UNECE to assist member States in implementing MIPAA/RIS (para. 23) and (c) appreciates the collaboration of UNECE and ECV (para. 19),

*Recalling also* the resolution of the United Nations Commission for Social Development 42/1<sup>2</sup> of 13 February 2004, which decided to undertake a review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,

*Bearing in mind* the decision of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing from 1 December 2008 to include monitoring activities in its work programme<sup>3</sup>,

*Encouraged* by the successful collaboration between UNECE and ECV in supporting the implementation of MIPAA/RIS since its adoption in 2002,

*Recognizing* that the UNECE Working Group on Ageing is providing the intergovernmental framework for the implementation of MIPAA/RIS and guidance for international cooperation in the field of ageing,

Have reached an understanding of the following:

1. UNECE and ECV continue to collaborate in supporting the implementation of MIPAA/RIS in countries of the UNECE region. In particular, this collaboration pertains to

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<sup>1</sup> ECE/AC.30/2007/2 annex I, published in *A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.II.E.14), pp 1-3.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2004, Supplement No. 6 (E/2004/26), chapter I, section E.

<sup>3</sup> ECE/WG.1/2008/2 section III.A, ECE/WG.1/2008/3 section III.

monitoring the implementation of MIPAA/RIS in UNECE member States and to the exchange of experiences between them.

2. ECV will lead methodological work towards developing and selecting a list of indicators that capture essential aspects of MIPAA/RIS commitments and allow measuring the progress in their implementation. This work includes exploring international sources for data availability, collecting the data from national and international sources and disseminating the information on the indicators in an easily understandable manner. In this context, both parties will organize workshops and other events, some of which can be organized jointly by mutual agreement.

3. ECV has set up a special website ([www.monitoringRIS.org](http://www.monitoringRIS.org)) to disseminate information on activities related to MIPAA/RIS. In collaboration with UNECE, the design of the special monitoring website will be enhanced. Parties will work together to strengthen the role of this website in exchanging information on the implementation of MIPAA/RIS in the UNECE region, particularly through the closer involvement of countries in providing the material for updating.

4. UNECE will commit its staff for the implementation of MIPAA/RIS in accordance with its programme of work and budget approved by member States.

5. ECV will allocate staff in accordance with its programme of work as agreed by its Board of Directors.

6. Both parties commit to raise funds in support of their activities in the field of ageing. Depending on funding source and scheme, fundraising initiatives could either take place jointly or separately, pertaining to the specific work carried out by either party.

7. This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for the period from March 2009 to February 2014, after which the parties will undertake to review the results of the cooperation and decide upon its continuation.

Geneva, 30 March 2009



Ján Kubiš  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe

Geneva, 30 March 2009



Bernd Marin  
Executive Director  
European Centre

for Social Welfare Policy and Research