

Annex I

SECTORAL INITIATIVE ON PIPELINE SAFETY

Terms of reference

I. OBJECTIVES OF THE SECTORAL INITIATIVE ON PIPELINE SAFETY

1. The specific purpose of the Sectoral Initiative is to develop common regulatory objectives (CROs) for the safety of pipelines.
2. The Sectoral Initiative will work closely with the Ad Hoc Team of Specialists on STandardization And Regulatory Techniques (START) Team. The START Team will provide assistance and guidance on policy matters for its work according to the “International Model for technical harmonization based on good regulatory practice for the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations via the use of international standards” (Recommendation L ECE/TRADE/376).

II. COMPOSITION OF THE SECTORAL INITIATIVE: MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN ITS MEETINGS

3. The Sectoral Initiative offers a platform for regulators of the participating countries to discuss their concerns and different regulatory approaches in this sector with a view to promoting improved mutual understanding and a shared framework.
4. It reaches out to experts and representatives not only from countries of the United Nations Economic commission for Europe (UNECE) region but also from other interested United Nations Member States. It works with international organizations, as well as representatives of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, particularly the International Organization for Standardization.
5. The UNECE secretariat will provide, within available resources, the necessary support and guidance to the Task Force and its teams.

III. REPORTING

6. The Sectoral Initiative shall report to the Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6) and frequently inform the START Team of its work.
7. The terms of reference and duration of work of the Sectoral Initiative will be reviewed regularly by the Working Party in accordance with UNECE rules and procedures, and will be submitted for decision to WP.6.