

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
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Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships****Sixteenth session**

Geneva, 31 May–2 June 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Annotated provisional agenda for the sixteenth session****To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on 31 May 2023
at 10:00*,******I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.

A. Substantive segment

3. International Policy Dialogue on “Digital and green transformations – The role of innovation and public-private partnerships”.

B. General segment

4. Implementation of the Programme of Work:
 - (a) Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (ToS-ICP);
 - (b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships.
 - (c) Recommendations from the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Europe: Subprogramme 4 and Subprogramme 6 by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight

* All delegates are invited to register online at <https://indico.un.org/e/CICPPP16>. Delegates are requested to present themselves with a valid identification card/passport at the Villa Les Feuillantines, Avenue de la Paix 13, for the issuance of an identification badge. Additional information for delegates, including a map of the premises, is available on the ECE website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>.

** Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the meeting website <https://unece.org/info/Economic-Cooperation-and-Integration/events/375211>. For the translation of official documents, delegates can access the public Official Document System (ODS) on the following website: documents.un.org or <https://undocs.org/>"symbol"



5. Programme of Work for 2024, Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2023–2024, and recommendations on key components of the Programme of Work for 2025.
6. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations.
7. Other business.
8. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda.

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Annotated provisional agenda	ECE/CECI/2023/1	Decision

Item 2. Election of officers

2. The Committee will be invited to elect a new Chair of its bureau, as well as other bureau members, for a term of office of two years starting from the date of this session.

A. Substantive segment

Item 3. International Policy Dialogue on “Digital and green transformations – The role of innovation and public-private partnerships”

3. “Digital and Green Transformations for Sustainable Development in the Region of the Economic Commission for Europe” is the theme of the seventieth session of the Economic Commission for Europe on 18 and 19 April 2023. A **green transformation** is urgently needed to address challenges such as energy sustainability, climate change, biodiversity loss, or plastics pollution. At the same time, we cannot ignore the economic and social dimensions of the Sustainable Development Agenda. We need a transformation that not only saves the planet, but that also creates new economic opportunities.

4. **Digital technologies** are opening up new possibilities for achieving this. They offer the potential for an improved management of resources and for changes in production and consumption patterns towards a circular economy by filling information gaps, reducing transaction costs, increasing efficiency, enabling new business models and making new forms of economic activity viable.

5. Clearly, both innovation and public-private partnerships (PPPs) have a key role to play in driving digital and green transformations, and to do so in a way that also increases economic opportunity. Digital and green transformations will require transformative innovation, i.e. the simultaneous development of innovations in many different fields that cumulatively transform entire socio-economic systems, such as mobility, the built environment, energy, or the circular economy.

6. Digital and green transformations will also require massive investments into infrastructure. This includes investments into the digital information and communication infrastructures needed to provide fast and reliable connectivity everywhere. It also includes investments into all other kinds of infrastructure to make it environmentally sustainable. And includes investments into the digital transformation of traditional infrastructure, generating

and exploiting data to manage it in a more sustainable way. PPPs will be critical as a way to bring the private sector's financial resources and technological expertise to this effort.

7. At the international policy dialogue, the Committee will build on its existing expertise and prior work to exchange experiences, share success stories, review progress, and identify knowledge gaps as a basis for further work to promote innovations and PPPs that can accelerate digital and green transformations.

B. General segment

Item 4. Implementation of the Programme of Work

(a) Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (ToS-ICP)

(i) Reporting on the work done since the fifteenth session of the Committee

8. The Committee will be invited to endorse the report of the fourteenth session of ToS-ICP held on 14 and 15 November 2022 (ECE/CECI/ICP/2022/2).

9. The Committee will also be invited to decide on the renewal of the Team of Specialists' mandate for an additional two years until 2025.

10. The Committee will be invited to endorse the policy document on "Transformative innovation for a sustainable future", reflecting the outcome of the international policy dialogue under the theme "Exploring the power of transformative innovation" held at the fourteenth session of ToS-ICP (ECE/CECI/2023/3).

11. The Committee will also be invited to take note of the main results of the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Armenia and of the Interim Sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook for Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus 2023, and the progress on the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Ukraine.

12. The Committee will also be invited to take note of the results of capacity building programmes supporting the implementation of policy recommendations from the Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews of Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan, and of progress on the work of the new UN-ECE Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN) (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.4).

13. The Committee will also be informed about the progress of the work under the Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development under the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.5).

(ii) Impact of the work done since the fifteenth session

14- Representatives of member States will be invited to inform the Committee on the results and impact of the above work, and on lessons learned that can be applied to future work in this area.

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Report of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies on its fourteenth session	ECE/CECI/ICP/2022/2	Decision
Transformative innovation for a sustainable future	ECE/CECI/2023/3	Decision
Findings and recommendations from the Interim Sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook 2022: Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.2	Information

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Progress on the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Ukraine	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.3	Information
Progress of the work of the UN-ECE Transformative Innovation Network	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.4	Information
Progress of the work of the SPECA Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.5	Information

(b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships

(i) Reporting on the work done since the fifteenth session of the Committee

15. The Committee will be invited to endorse the report of the Working Party on its sixth session (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/2).

16. The Committee will also be invited to adopt two policy documents endorsed by the Working Party on the cross-cutting theme of the sixty-ninth Commission session and to support their implementation and use through demand-driven capacity building, as well as through the ECE network “CIRCULAR STEP”:¹

(a) Guidelines on public-private partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals in waste-to-energy projects for non-recyclable waste: Pathways towards a circular economy (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/3); and

(b) Guidelines on promoting circular economy in public-private partnerships for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/4).

17. The Committee will be invited to adopt the standard on Public-private partnerships/Concession model law (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/5), as renamed by the Working Party on PPPs, that is, “Standard on PPP/concession legal framework in support of the Sustainable Development Goals”. The standard, if adopted by the Committee, will be published as a UN publication in 2023. A commentary/accompanying guide to the standard is currently under preparation under the auspices of the bureau of the Working Party.

18. At its 2022 session, the Committee decided to change the name of the PPP activities to “PPPs for the SDGs”. It also decided to reissue a number of PPP documents over a period of three years in order to reflect this change, with three core PPP documents to be reissued by May 2023. Two² of the three core PPP documents have been reissued in 2022. The Committee will be invited to take note of the third core document reissued to reflect the change of name in line with the Committee decision 2022 – 4b.2 and the Working Party decision at its sixth session to find a more marketable name for the evaluation methodology: “PPP and Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS): An evaluation methodology for the Sustainable Development Goals” (ECE/CECI/2023/4).

19. Finally, the Committee will be invited to take note of the progress in the normative work and the mandated capacity building activities since the previous session.

¹ The ECE stakeholder engagement platform to accelerate the circular transition in the ECE region is available at: <https://unece.org/circular-economy/press/unece-launches-platform-policy-dialogue-circular-economy>.

² Introduction to Public-Private Partnerships in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CECI/PPP/WP/2022/6) and Guiding Principles on Public-Private Partnerships in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CECI/PPP/WP/2022/7).

(ii) Impact of the work done since the fifteenth session

20. Representatives of member States will be invited to inform the Committee on the results and impact of the above work, and on lessons learned that can be applied to future work in this area.

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Report of the Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships on its sixth session	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/2	Decision
Guidelines on public-private partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals in waste-to-energy projects for non-recyclable waste: Pathways towards a circular economy	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/3	Decision
Guidelines on promoting circular economy in public-private partnerships for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/4	Decision
Standard on public-private partnerships/Concession model law ³	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/5	Decision
PPP and Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS): An evaluation methodology for the Sustainable Development Goals	ECE/CECI/2023/4	Information

(c) Recommendations from the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Europe: Subprogramme 4 and Subprogramme 6 by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight

21. In 2022, the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) evaluated the relevance, effectiveness, coherence, sustainability, and integration of cross-cutting issues in Subprogramme 4: Economic Cooperation and Integration, and Subprogramme 6: Trade of the United Nations Economic Cooperation for Europe for the period 2018 - 2021. The evaluation was part of the UN secretariat's regular program periodically evaluating selected aspects of its operations. Delegates will be briefed on the key findings and recommendations of the evaluation as they pertain to Subprogramme 4, the associated management response, and plans on how to implement relevant recommendations.

Item 5. Programme of Work for 2024, Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2023–2024, and recommendations on key components of the Programme of Work for 2025

22. The Committee will consider and decide on its contribution, as appropriate, to the cross-cutting theme “Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the UNECE region”. The secretariat will present the draft Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2023-2024 containing activities planned for the remainder of 2023 and until the next session in 2024 (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.6).

23. Delegates are invited to bring to the attention of the secretariat any additional proposals.

³ The standard was renamed by the Working Party as “Standard on PPP/Concession legal framework in support of the Sustainable Development Goals”.

24. The secretariat will present the programme plan and performance information of the Economic Cooperation and Integration (ECI) subprogramme for 2024 (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.7) for information and the draft Programme of Work for 2024 (ECE/CECI/2023/5), including the publications programme, for decision. The programme plan and performance information for 2024 is an extract from the ECE proposed programme budget for 2024 which was reviewed by the ECE Executive Committee in January 2023 and submitted for consideration by the seventy-eighth session of the UN General Assembly. The draft Programme of Work reflects the annual format approved by General Assembly resolution 77/267 adopted on 30 December 2022.

25. The secretariat will also brief the Committee on requests received for bilateral and sub-regional technical cooperation, and the efforts underway to raise additional extra-budgetary resources to meet these requests (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.8).

26. The Committee will also be invited to consider the “Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme for 2025” (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.9) and provide recommendations on these components, as necessary. Those recommendations agreed by the Committee and included in its decisions will be reflected in the proposed programme plan of the ECI subprogramme for 2025.

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Draft Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2023–2024	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.6	Information
Draft Programme of Work for 2024	ECE/CECI/2023/5	Decision
Proposed Programme Budget for 2024: Part II. Programme plan and performance information of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.7	Information
Fundraising needs and opportunities	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.8	Information
Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme for 2025	ECE/CECI/2023/INF.9	Decision

Item 6. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations

27. Delegates will be briefed about areas of common interest as well as ongoing and potential collaboration with other ECE bodies and other international organizations.

Item 7. Other business

28. Delegates will decide on the dates of the next session, to be confirmed subject to the availability of conference services.

Item 8. Adoption of the report

29. After the conclusion of the session, the secretariat will prepare a draft report and distribute it to the Geneva Permanent Missions for subsequent approval by silence procedure in accordance with paragraph 21 of Appendix III of document E/ECE/1464 (Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies). Once the report is adopted, it will be published in English, French and Russian.

III. Provisional timetable

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Wednesday, 31 May 2023	
10:00-10:30	Item 1. Opening and adoption of the agenda Item 2. Election of officers
10:30-12:00	Substantive segment Item 3. International Policy Dialogue on “Digital and green transformations– The role of innovation and public-private partnerships”
12:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-17:00	Item 3. International Policy Dialogue on “Digital and green transformations – The role of innovation and public-private partnerships” (continued)
Thursday, 1 June 2023	
10:00-12:00	Substantive segment (continued) Item 3. International Policy Dialogue on “Digital and green transformations – The role of innovation and public-private partnerships” (continued)
12:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-17:00	General segment Item 4. Implementation of the Programme of Work Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships
Friday, 2 June 2023	
10:00 – 13:00	General segment (continued) Item 4. Implementation of the Programme of Work (continued) Item 5. Programme of Work for 2024, Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2023–2024, and recommendations on key components of the Programme of Work for 2025
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 6. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations Item 7. Other business Item 8. Adoption of the report