



**DIALOGUE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARIES OF THE REGIONAL  
COMMISSIONS WITH THE UN GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY SECOND COMMITTEE**

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# Regional cooperation: a building block for multilateralism

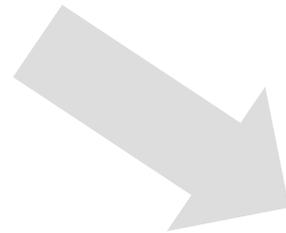


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Multilateralism is a necessity



Regional cooperation offers clear **benefits**



Reconnecting economies

Reversing the disruption of trade and transport

Addressing transboundary risks

**Building trust**

# Regional frameworks for collaboration



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- Covid-19: a crisis that had increased **uncertainty**
- **Reducing uncertainty** is key in the response to the crisis and supporting the recovery
- **Regional frameworks for collaboration** can make a critical contribution to diminish uncertainty

# UNECE's response: policy tools



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Facilitate connectivity	Address transboundary and other risks	Support a green and resilient recovery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhance cooperation and implementation of a harmonized regulatory framework for border crossing</li><li>• Promote digital implementation of existing legal transport instruments</li><li>• Facilitate trade through the exchange of electronic information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote the use of existing multilateral environmental agreements to deal with various risks.</li><li>• Foster transparency, traceability and risk management through the use of standards</li><li>• Promote and enhance statistical frameworks to improve the basis for decision-making, including in relation to disasters</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhance resilience and efficiency through improved resource use, including through circular economy approaches</li><li>• Address the implication of the crisis in urban centers and engage cities as drivers of the recovery</li><li>• Promote sustainable infrastructure, including through private sector participation</li></ul>



## Some examples of UNECE work:

- Observatory on Border Crossings Status
- Normative instruments to facilitate transport –eg. eTIR
- Standards and recommendations for trade facilitation
- Support to trade dematerialization





**Some examples of UNECE work include multilateral environmental agreements:**

- **Air:** increasing life expectancy by one year is a tangible achievement
- **Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment:** open for accession to all UN member States



# Green and resilient recovery



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## Some examples of UNECE work:

- **Increasing resilience and efficiency** : building standards and platforms for the **circular economy**- the theme of the 69th session of the ECE (April 2021)
- **Engaging new actors**: First UNECE Forum of Mayors, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020





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**Thank you!**

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