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Programme of Work and Draft Strategic Framework

Draft Strategic Framework for the Biennium 2014-2015 of the Subprogramme on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This note provides the draft Strategic Framework for the biennium 2014-2015 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe subprogramme on Economic Cooperation and Integration. It defines the objective of the subprogramme, expected accomplishments, performance measures, a strategy as well as the legislative mandates for its work.

At its forty-eighth meeting on 11 January 2012, the Executive Committee took note of the revised draft of the ECE Strategic Framework 2014-2015 as contained in Informal document 2012/1, on the understanding that the secretariat would send this version to UN Headquarters at that stage and that the Executive Committee reserved the right to introduce changes to it after the completion of the review process.

This note, which is extracted from the Proposed Strategic Framework for the Period 2014-2015 (A/67/6 (Prog. 17)), is presented to the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration for information.

Objective of the Organization: To promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment more conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased knowledge of good practices and policies on financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities leading to the formulation of related ECE policy recommendations	(a) Number of policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of good practices and policy experience among member States
(b) Enhanced implementation of the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations	(b) Increased number of measures taken by Governments and other stakeholders to implement the policy recommendations
(c) Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations	(c) Increased number of country-level activities resulting from ECE capacity-building events and training materials

I. Strategy

1. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division. In order to achieve its objective, the subprogramme will take up key aspects of knowledge-based economic development, economic cooperation and integration and focus mainly on countries with economies in transition. It will facilitate the application of experience gained, lessons learned and good practices conducive to economic growth and innovative development. Building on the normative work carried out within the subprogramme and reflecting the changing needs of member States, recommendations will be drawn aimed at improving policies, as well as developing a sound financial and regulatory environment for economic development, investment and innovation. Drawing on progress achieved during the period 2010-2013, policy advisory services and capacity-building activities to requesting countries will be organized on the basis of the related policy dialogue, exchange of experiences and good practices, as well as guidelines and other policy-related documents. Efforts will be made to raise further the profile of technical cooperation activities under the subprogramme while preserving a balance between policy-oriented normative work and technical cooperation.

2. Building, inter alia, on relevant work carried out by other organizations and institutions, as well as contributions mobilized from external experts, advisers and decision makers, in particular those from countries with economies in transition, an enhanced exchange of experience and policy debate among member States and other stakeholders will be prioritized. Thematic teams of specialists and networks of experts involving representatives of Governments, international organizations, business associations and other stakeholders will provide a platform for the exchange of national policy experience and the identification of good practices. Subsequently, member States are expected to apply these outputs in drawing up relevant policy recommendations, guidelines and other regulatory and normative measures. The results of the subprogramme's work will be broadly disseminated to all interested stakeholders and will serve as the basis for technical cooperation activities organized by the secretariat in cooperation with member States, such as policy advisory services and capacity-building workshops, including within the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia. Drawing on the achievements in policy-oriented normative work and advisory technical

cooperation services, wider implementation of policy recommendations developed under the subprogramme will be pursued.

II. External factors

3. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that (a) there is active participation and contribution by specialists from Governments, academia and the private sector at expert group meetings and in expert networks created under the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, (b) Governments are willing to engage in policy debates and to take steps to implement policy recommendations adopted by the Committee, and (c) extrabudgetary resources match the increasing demand from member States with economies in transition for capacity-building, advisory services and field projects.

III. Legislative mandates

A. General Assembly resolutions

63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development
64/223	Towards global partnerships
65/125	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
65/128	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
65/141	Information and communications technologies for development
65/168	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
65/172	Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

B. Economic and Social Council resolutions

2007/30	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
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