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**Economic Commission for Europe****Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships****Seventeenth session**

Geneva, 24–26 June 2024 (am)

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda****Annotated provisional agenda for the seventeenth session**Palais des Nations, Geneva, room IX  
starting at 10:00 am on 24 June 2024\***I. Provisional agenda**

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

**A. General segment**

3. Implementation of the programme of work:
  - (a) Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies;
    - (i) Reporting on the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee;
    - (ii) Impact of the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee;
  - (b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships;
    - (i) Reporting on the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee;
    - (ii) Impact of the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee.
4. Programme of work for 2025, intersessional implementation plan for 2024-2025, and recommendations on key components of the programme of work for 2026.
5. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations.
6. Follow-up to the evaluation of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme and the Trade subprogramme by the Office of Internal Oversight.

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\* Delegates are invited to register online at <https://indico.un.org/e/ece/eci/cicppp17>. The session documents will be made available progressively at <https://unece.org/info/Economic-Cooperation-and-Integration/events/389171>. Please note that as part of its move to paperless meetings, the secretariat does not distribute paper copies of meeting documents. Additional information for delegates, including a map of the premises, is available at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>.

7. Other business.
8. Modalities for the adoption of the report.

## B. Substantive segment

9. International policy dialogue:
  - (a) Accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: the role of innovation and Party on Public-Private Partnerships;
  - (b) Accelerating the Circular Economy transition in the Economic Commission for Europe region.

## 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/2024/1	Decision

### Item 2. Election of officers

2. The Committee will be invited to elect bureau members for a term of office of two years starting from the date of this session.

## A. General segment

### Item 3. Implementation of the programme of work

#### (a) Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

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

3. The Committee will be invited to endorse the report of the fifteenth session of Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (ToS-ICP) held on 22 and 23 November 2023 (ECE/CECI/ICP/2023/2).
4. The Committee will be invited to endorse the policy document on “Digital and green transformations: exploring the strategic dynamics of experimentation and learning”, reflecting the outcomes of the international policy dialogue under the theme “Exploring the dynamics of experimentation and learning” held at the fifteenth session of ToS-ICP (ECE/CECI/2024/3).
5. The Committee will also be invited to take note of the progress on the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Ukraine (ECE/CECI/2024/INF.1) and of the results of capacity building supporting the implementation of policy recommendations from the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Uzbekistan.
6. The Committee will be invited to take note of progress on the work of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN) (ECE/CECI/2023/INF.2).
7. The Committee will 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).

**(ii) Impact of the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee**

8. 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 fifteenth session	ECE/CECI/ICP/2023/2	Decision
Digital and green transformations: exploring the strategic dynamics of experimentation and learning	ECE/CECI/2024/3	Decision
Progress report on the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Ukraine	ECE/CECI/2024/INF.1	Information
Progress of the work of the ECE Transformative Innovation Network	ECE/CECI/2024/INF.2	Information

**(b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships****(i) Reporting on the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee**

9. The Committee will be invited to endorse the report of the Working Party on its seventh session (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2023/2) and approve the guidelines on delivering Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) projects for sustainable economic recovery and reconstruction in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2023/10).

10. The Committee will be briefed on the main outcomes of the eighth edition of the UNECE International PPP Forum (Istanbul, Türkiye, 8-10 May 2024).

11. The Committee will also be briefed on the progress in the normative work on standards and practical guides on green and sustainable PPP procurement; digital transformation in PPPs for sustainable development; sustainable finance; gender equality and women empowerment; stakeholder engagement; off-grid renewable energy; small-scale PPPs; and climate resilient infrastructure.

12. The Committee will also be briefed on the progress on mandated capacity building activities to promote effective partnerships between the public and the private sectors through PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including support to requesting Governments in self-assessing PPP and infrastructure projects using the ECE PPP and Infrastructure Evaluation and Rating System (PIERS).

**(ii) Impact of the work done since the sixteenth session of the Committee**

13. 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/2023/2	Decision
Guidelines on delivering Public-Private Partnerships projects for	ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2023/10	Decision

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
sustainable economic recovery and reconstruction in support of the Sustainable Development Goals		

#### **Item 4. Programme of work for 2025, intersessional implementation plan for 2024-2025, and recommendations on key components of the programme of work for 2026**

14. The secretariat will present the draft intersessional implementation plan for 2024–2025 containing activities planned for the remainder of 2024 and until the next session in 2025 (ECE/CECI/2024/INF.3).

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

16. The secretariat will present the draft programme of work for 2025 (ECE/CECI/2024/4), including the publications programme, for decision. The draft programme of work reflects the annual format approved by General Assembly resolution 77/267 adopted on 30 December 2022.

17. 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.4).

18. 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 2026” (ECE/CECI/2024/INF.5) 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 Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme for 2026.

<i>Title of document</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>For information/decision</i>
Draft Intersessional implementation plan for 2024-2025	ECE/CECI/2024/INF.3	Information
Draft Programme of Work for 2025	ECE/CECI/2024/4	Decision
Fundraising needs and opportunities	ECE/CECI/2024/INF.4	Information
Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme for 2026	ECE/CECI/2024/INF.5	Decision

#### **Item 5. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations**

19. 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 6. Follow-up to the evaluation of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme and the Trade subprogramme by the Office of Internal Oversight**

20. 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 progress implementing the recommendations of the evaluation as they pertain to Subprogramme 4.

## **Item 7. Other business**

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

## **Item 8. Modalities for the adoption of the report**

22. 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.

## **B. Substantive segment**

### **Item 9. International Policy Dialogue**

23. The 2024 Regional Forum for Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region has documented that the ECE region, like the world at large, is not on track to achieve the SDGs by 2030. The international policy dialogue will be held in two parts. The first part will focus on new initiatives within the Committee's mandate that can help accelerate progress. The second part will focus in particular on one SDG, SDG 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production, where there has not only been a lack of progress, but a backsliding that has increased the gap to be covered in order to reach the goal by 2030.

#### **(a) Accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: the role of innovation and Party on Public-Private Partnerships;**

24. The 2024 ECE SDG progress report<sup>1</sup> found that the ECE region is on track to achieve only 20 of the SDG targets by 2030, down from 21 and 26 in 2023 and 2022, respectively, with 80 requiring acceleration, and 17 requiring a reversal of trend.

25. The Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region called on member States to increase momentum for the SDGs and to take strong messages forward to the High-level Political Forum in July and the Summit of the Future in September 2024 to underscore the ECE region's role as a global champion of sustainable development.

26. The Regional Forum emphasized in particular the importance of science, innovation and technology and of sustainable finance, including PPPs, in advancing key transitions and cooperation towards achieving the SDGs in the region.

27. In the international policy dialogue member States and leading international experts will discuss opportunities for the Committee to use its expertise, programs and tools to

<sup>1</sup> [Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region: Facing a Headwind in 2024.](#)

support member States to overcome existing obstacles and bottlenecks and accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

28. The policy dialogue will provide an opportunity to reflect on why policy efforts in the areas of innovation and PPPs have not fulfilled earlier promises of driving progress towards the SDGs, and what this implies for future policy efforts, in general and with respect to specific SDGs, such as SDG 16 on Climate Action. The policy dialogue will also provide an opportunity to discuss the prospects of new technological developments such as artificial intelligence to drive progress, and the attendant policy challenges.

### **(b) Accelerating the Circular Economy transition in the Economic Commission for Europe region**

30. One SDG where there has been backsliding globally and in the ECE region is SDG 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production. According to the 2024 Global Circularity Gap Report,<sup>2</sup> the world consumed almost as many materials in the past six years as in the whole 20th century, while circularity, i.e. the share of secondary materials in total materials used, has declined steadily from 9.1 percent in 2018 to 7.2 percent in 2023.

31. The bulk of the overshoot of planetary boundaries on climate gases, nitrogen, fresh water use and land use change occurs in higher income and middle income countries, many of them member States of ECE.

32. Following the decision of the 69<sup>th</sup> session of the Economic Commission for Europe, ECE has been working on accelerating the transition to a more circular economy in the region. It has created [Circular STEP](#), a stakeholder engagement platform to fill gaps and create synergies among the many practical and value-creating initiatives in the sphere of the circular economy. The platform focuses on the following eight areas: Trade, Innovation-Enhancing Procurement, Waste Management, Small and Medium Enterprises, Traceability of Value Chains, Financing, Digital Solutions, Institutional Arrangements.

33. In the second part of the Committee's international policy dialogue, member States and leading international experts will take stock of the work on the circular economy transition that has been done in the areas of the Committee's mandate as part of the Circular STEP project, i.e. in particular innovation-enhancing procurement and PPPs in waste-to-energy,<sup>3</sup> and will discuss existing obstacles and possible policies to overcome them in order to reverse the negative trend on circularity.<sup>4</sup>

## **III. Provisional timetable**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
<b>Monday, 24 June 2024</b>	
10:00-10:30	Item 1. Opening and adoption of the agenda Item 2. Election of officers
10:30-13:00	<b>General segment</b>

<sup>2</sup> [CGR Global 2024 - Report.pdf \(greenindustryplatform.org\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> See document ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/3 Guidelines on PPP for the SDGs in waste-to-energy projects for non-recyclable waste: pathways towards a circular economy, and document ECE/CECI/WP/PPP/2022/4 Guidelines on promoting circular economy in PPPs for the UN SDGs.

<sup>4</sup> This part of the policy dialogue will also form the first segment of a Circular STEP Regional Conference. The second segment will be a policy dialogue covering the other, trade-related focus areas of Circular STEP and will be held as part of the [2024 session of the UNECE Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards](#) in the afternoon of Wednesday, 26 June, also at the Palais des Nations. Interested delegates are invited to register for this latter session at <https://indico.un.org/event/1007144/>.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
	Item 3. Implementation of the programme of work
	(a) Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies
	(b) Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Item 4. Programme of work for 2025, intersessional implementation plan for 2024-2025, and recommendations on key components of the programme of work for 2026
	Item 5. Areas of common interest with other Economic Commission for Europe bodies and international organisations
	Item 6. Follow-up to the evaluation of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme and the Trade subprogramme by the Office of Internal Oversight
	Item 7. Other business
	Item 8. Modalities for the adoption of the report
<b>Tuesday, 25 June 2024</b>	
10:00-13:00	<b>Substantive segment</b>
	Item 9. International Policy Dialogue
	(a) Accelerating progress towards the SDGs: the role of innovation and PPPs
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	(a) (continued) Accelerating progress towards the SDGs: the role of innovation and PPPs
<b>Wednesday, 26 June 2023</b>	
10:00 – 13:00	<b>Substantive segment (continued)</b>
	(b) Accelerating the Circular Economy transition in the ECE region