


The Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration: Status of Programme Implementation and Prospects



**Presentation by the Secretariat
at the Third meeting of the Team of Specialists on
Intellectual Property
Geneva, 3-4 July 2008**



Highlights of the Presentation

- 1. Implementation of the CECI Programme of Work in 2007-2008**
- 2. The Second session of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration**
- 3. Major directions of activities in 2009-2010**
- 4. Main successes and challenges**



Implementation of the Programme of Work in 2007-2008



The Sub-programme on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Mission:

To promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, knowledge-based development and higher competitiveness of countries and businesses in the UNECE region

The Sub-programme on Economic Cooperation and Integration



■ Main focus areas:

- innovation and competitiveness policies
- entrepreneurship and enterprise development
- financing innovative development
- public-private partnerships
- commercialization and protection of intellectual property rights
- other aspects of economic cooperation and integration

■ Subsidiary bodies:

- Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property
- Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies
- Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships

Commercialization and protection of IPR

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- **Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property**
 - Some 100 experts from government agencies, the private sector and academic institutions from 35 countries and international organizations
 - **Third meeting of TOS-IP, 3-4 July 2008**
 - **International Conference on Intellectual Property Rights Protection and Transforming Research and Development Outputs into Intangible Assets in Economies in Transition, 25-26 July 2007**
 - **Main outputs:**
 - Synopsis of good practices and good policies of intellectual property commercialization and protection
 - Comparative report on the commercialization of IP assets, on transforming R&D outputs into intangible assets and on the establishment of well functioning markets for such products – work in progress

Innovation and Competitiveness Policies



■ Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

- Some 100 experts from government agencies, private sector and academic institutions from 36 countries and international organizations
- First meeting of the Team, Geneva, 8-9 March 2007
- Second meeting of the Team, Geneva, 14–15 February 2008.

■ Main outputs:

- Comparative Review “Creating a conducive environment for higher competitiveness and effective national innovation systems. Lessons learned from the experiences of UNECE countries”
- Synopsis of good practices in facilitating the generation and diffusion of innovation
- Guidebook “Enhancing the Innovative Performance of Firms: Policy Options and Practical Instruments” (under preparation)

Promoting Public-Private Partnerships



- **Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships**
 - Some 120 experts from government agencies, the private sector and academic institutions from 40 countries and international organizations
 - First meeting of the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnership (TOS-PPP), Geneva, 28–29 February 2008.
 - International Conference on “Knowledge Sharing and Capacity-Building on Promoting Successful PPPs”, Tel Aviv, 5-8 June 2007 (with the support of the Government of Israel)

- **Main outputs:**
 - Guidebook on promoting good governance in public-private partnerships
 - Comparative Review of Practical Experiences of PPPs in Market and Transition Economies



Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development

- **International Conference on Reducing Barriers to Entrepreneurship and Encouraging Enterprise Development: Policy Options, 18-19 June 2007**
- **Conference on Early Stage Financing and “Investment Readiness” of Innovative Start-ups, Moscow, 23 May 2008.**
- **Main outputs:**
 - Review of policy approaches for solving problems in legal and institutional frameworks which hinder entrepreneurship and enterprise development

Financing Innovative Development



- **Meeting of Experts on Financing Innovative Development, 3-4 May 2007**
- **International Conference on Investing in Innovation: Promoting New Opportunities in the UNECE Region, Geneva, 10–11 April 2008**
- **Main outputs:**
 - Financing Innovative Development: Comparative Review of the Experiences of UNECE Countries in Early-Stage Financing
 - Synopsis of good practices in financial intermediation in support of innovation and knowledge driven development
 - “Policy Options and Instruments for Financing Innovation: A Practical Guide to Early Stage Financing” (under preparation)

Capacity-building activities



- **All CECI meetings reported under the five focus areas include a capacity-building component**
- **Targeted capacity-building activities in the field:**
 - International Conference on “Knowledge Sharing and Capacity-Building on Promoting Successful Public-Private Partnerships In the UNECE Region”, Tel Aviv, 5-8 June 2007 (supported by the Government of Israel)
 - Regional Workshop on “Broadband and ICT Development for Improved Communication in Central Asia”, Tashkent, 21-22 June 2007 (with ESCAP)
 - National Seminars on “Information and Communication Technology Policy and Legal Issues”,
 - Dushanbe, 30-31 October 2007
 - Tashkent, 1-2 July 2008

Capacity-building activities (continuation)



■ **Jointly organized capacity-building events:**

- Training on IPR Enforcement “Software Applications as Intellectual Property Objects in the Republic of Belarus”, Minsk, 25 - 27 September 2007 (with Government of Belarus)
- Training on IPR enforcement for Russian IPR enforcement officers, Moscow, 13 - 14 November 2007 (with European Anti-Counterfeiting Network SNB-React)
- Training event on “Intellectual Capital Readiness: The Role of Intangibles as a Tool for Raising Finance”, Geneva on 19-20 November 2007 (with WIPO and the private sector)
- Training event on “Intellectual Capital Readiness: The Role of Intangibles as a Tool for Raising Finance”, Ljubljana, on 26-27 November 2007 (with WIPO and the private sector)

Inter-agency cooperation and cross-sectoral activities



- **Several jointly organized meetings and capacity-building activities, including:**
 - Meeting on Financing Innovative Development, in cooperation with **DESA**
 - Workshop on “Broadband and ICT Development for Improved Communication in Central Asia”, jointly organized with **ESCAP**
 - Training events on “Intellectual Capital Readiness: The Role of Intangibles as a Tool for Raising Finance”, jointly organized with **WIPO**
 - International Seminar on “Product Safety and Counterfeiting”, organized by the **UNECE Working Party 6 on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies** in cooperation with the Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property.



**The Second session of
the Committee on
Economic Cooperation
and Integration
5-7 December 2007**



Main Outcomes

- CECI reviewed programme implementation and expressed its satisfaction with accomplishments
- It thanked the Teams of Specialists and networks of experts for their active participation in programme implementation
- CECI agreed to establish a new Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships
- It adopted Programme of Work for 2008 and general orientation of work in 2009 and beyond



Major directions of activities in 2009-2010



Some planned capacity-building activities in 2008-2009

- **A knowledge-sharing and capacity-building event on Promoting Successful Public-Private Partnerships, Moscow, October 2008** (with the Government of the Russian Federation and support from UNDA project)
- **Capacity-building activities on IP commercialization and enforcement** (Turkey, Belarus, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, others)
- **Capacity-building activities on early stage financing** (Russia, Belarus)
- **Knowledge sharing on innovation and competitiveness policies (t.b.c.)**
- **Investment Forum for government and business representatives from Central Asia and Russia** (expression of interest by the Government of the Russian Federation)
- **Capacity-building events on knowledge-based development in Central Asian countries** (Azerbaijan, others)

The CECI Programme of Work for 2009-2010: some ideas



- The CECI Programme of Work for 2009-2010 will be discussed at the Third annual session of CECI, Geneva, 3–5 December 2008.
- At present the CECI Bureau is conducting consultations on the directions of future work and the activities in the next planning cycle.
- **Some ideas that are being considered at present:**
 - Greater focus on capacity-building, which should be reflected in the structure and nature of the future CECI activities and event
 - An integrating approach in some policy-oriented and capacity-building activities by addressing specific issues and topics that cut across **several Focus areas**
 - Enhanced participation of the members of the Teams of Specialists in the policy deliberations at the annual sessions of CECI as well as in the implementation of capacity-building activities and policy advisory services
 - E.g. in 2009, instead of having several separate meetings of the Teams of Specialists, these could will be integrated into a bigger international Conference, to be held in conjunction with the CECI session.



Main successes and challenges



Successes

- **The implementation of the CECI Programme of Work is well on track**
- **Programme implementation has revealed considerable interest in and demand for CECI activities, from Governments and private sector**
- **The established Teams of Specialists and expert networks are important assets and add value in programme implementation**



Challenges

- While private sector participation from developed countries is considerable, there is a potential to increase the participation of developed countries' Governments
- The high demand for CECI activities must be matched with adequate extrabudgetary funding for capacity building activities