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National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on Promotion and Financing of Innovative Green Technologies

Ashgabat, 15-17 May 2013

Information notice

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The increased application of green technologies is an essential part of Central Asia's climate action. To succeed, the right enabling conditions and policy capacity to support the take-up and diffusion of these technologies need to be in place. Regional cooperation also can play an essential role in this process.
2. The United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project "Building the capacity of SPECA countries to adopt and apply innovative green technologies for climate change adaptation" aims to build capacity of the five SPECA member countries (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) to adopt and apply innovative green technologies for climate change adaptation and sustainable knowledge-driven growth.
3. This project, which will be implemented in 2012-2013, seeks to strengthen national policymakers' capacity to design effective innovation policy for green technology take-up and diffusion that mainstream climate change considerations into the policy mix; and to understand the different financial mechanisms to facilitate the adoption of such technologies, including through the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) model. Project implementation will be led by UNECE, in collaboration with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) within the framework of SPECA.
4. A number of participatory learning, knowledge exchange and network-building activities are planned within the framework of this project. These activities are tailored to the specific situation of the participating countries, on the basis of national assessments carried out prior to these capacity-building activities.

5. This Information notice provides details on the National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting to be held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan from 15 to 17 May 2013. It is organized jointly with the Government of Turkmenistan.

II. Objectives and scope

6. The National Seminar will cover two substantive aspects of the project, namely: innovation policy for climate change adaptation and financing aspects for green technology through the PPP model. The aim of this Seminar is to increase the skills and knowledge of policymakers to enable them to better:

(a) Design and develop effective innovation policies that mainstream climate change considerations into the relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policy mixes to stimulate and develop countries' scientific potential, encourage innovative entrepreneurship, and increase demand for green technology innovation through market and public policy instruments; and

(b) Access new types of financing through PPPs for the take-up and diffusion of green technologies tailored to the circumstances of each country to enhance their climate change adaptation response.

7. The National Seminar will target policymakers, including senior representatives of institutions, and academia. The National Seminar will be followed by a Stakeholder Meeting which will invite a broader range of representatives from public and private organizations.

8. The aim of the Stakeholder Meeting is to facilitate networking of participants working on the two substantive aspects of the project. It will enhance dialogue between policymakers and other stakeholders, develop further linkages and strengthen contacts. This will improve their capacity to design and implement effective innovation policies for climate change adaptation and the access to financing for green technology projects through PPPs.

III. Organization

10. The National Seminar will take place on 15 and 16 May 2013. It will be followed by the Stakeholder Meeting on 17 May 2013. The two events will take place at the same venue, which will be communicated at a later stage. Annex provides a tentative schedule for these events.

IV. Participation

11. The National Seminar targets mainly policymakers and other stakeholders from Turkmenistan. Participants of the National Seminar are requested to participate in the Stakeholder Meeting.

12. In addition to the participants of the National Seminar, the Stakeholder Meeting will invite a broader range of stakeholders from public and private organizations, including representatives from the financial community, academia and NGOs.

13. Participation is also open to other interested parties from UNECE member countries, in particular, the SPECA member countries, representatives of the United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations.

V. Participation fee

14. No fee is charged to participate in the National Seminar and the Stakeholder Meeting.

VI. Interpretation and visual aids

15. Simultaneous interpretation into English and Russian, slide projector, as well as computer facilities for computer-aided presentations (e.g. Power Point) will be provided.

VII. Further information

16. Further information on the National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting can be obtained from:

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Annex

Tentative programme

Time

**National Seminar on
Promotion and Financing of
Innovative Green Technologies**

Wednesday, 15 May 2013

9.00 – 9.30	Registration
9.30 – 10.00	Welcoming statements
10.00 – 17.00	Substantive segment on innovation policy in support of innovative green technologies

Thursday, 16 May 2013

10.00 – 17.00	Substantive segment on financing innovative green technology projects through PPPs
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**Stakeholder Meeting on
Promotion and Financing of
Innovative Green Technologies**

Friday, 17 May 2013

9.30 – 10.00	Registration
10.00 – 16.30	Stakeholder meeting
16.30 – 17.00	Concluding statements
