



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

UNECE

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The Structure of PPP within UNECE

- PPP activities are currently organized as a Team of Specialists (TOS)
- A Team of Specialists, as defined by ECE/EX/2/Rev1, is:
 - An expert body which addresses a specific area of activities
 - Performs an advisory and/or operational function
 - Normally established for a two-year duration (although this can be extended “after careful evaluation”)
- In short, TOS PPP has been functioning as a temporary body, with periodic re-approvals, since it was established in 2007.



UNECE's PPP Activities have Evolved since 2007

- In 2007, UNECE's PPP activities were primarily short-term capacity-building initiatives such as training, developing guidelines and best practices, and brief in-country assistance visits.
- Today's programme is very different, as UNECE supports a global network of PPP Centers of Excellence and the development of international PPP standards. These are long-term projects which require long-term commitment to be successful.
- It is clear that the temporary framework of a TOS is no longer an appropriate framework for UNECE's PPP activities.
- An applicable model is provided by UNECE's Working Part 7, which develops international agricultural standards, through a parallel process to UNECE's PPP standards.



Working Parties within UNECE

A Working Party is defined by ECE/EX/1. It is an intergovernmental body which is:

- Authorized to address a major cluster of recurrent activities within a given area
- A standing body whose mandate and extension should be reviewed every five years



Benefits of Working Party Framework

- Reduced expenditure of resources on programme justification (every five years versus every other year)
- Enhanced ability to conduct long-term planning and make long-term commitments
- No increase in cost to Member States; current Secretariat support would continue at current levels,
- But enhanced ability to attract extra-budgetary resources.



The Process to Become a Working Party

- The Bureau of TOS PPP, at its meeting of 26 March 2015, agreed that TOS PPP should recommend to the UNECE Committee on Innovation, and Competitiveness, and Public-Private Partnerships that TOS PPP be converted to a Working Party.
- Today I present this recommendation to you, on behalf of the Bureau, and invite your comments and decision. Please remember that for us this is a technical decision; political issues will be addressed at the ExCom level.
- IF TOS PPP makes that recommendation today, the Committee will consider whether to make this recommendation to ExCom.
- ExCom, which is comprised of all the UNECE Member States, will be the ultimate decision-maker.