

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

131st meeting

Geneva, 4 December 2023

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Informal Document 2023/53

**Note on partnerships**

(for information)

## **Note by the Secretariat**

### Partnerships at UNECE

#### **Background**

Pursuant to the introduction of the Partnership report at the 124<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2022, the UNECE secretariat has revised its partnership approach and modalities and wishes to brief the Executive Committee.

#### **Guiding principles**

1. UNECE, as an agile and future-oriented organization, aims to leverage partnerships to fulfil its mission and mandate while maximizing the impact of its work. These partnerships aim to be strategic, guided by clear expectations and in alignment with UNECE's objectives and mandate, while effectively supporting and enhancing cooperation within UNECE's intergovernmental architecture and technical cooperation projects.
2. Furthermore, partnerships play a critical role in UNECE's mission to mobilize resources and efforts necessary for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
3. In line with the above, different forms of agreements with external partners are concluded in UNECE. These include Donor Contribution Agreements, Host Country Agreements, Implementing Partner Agreements, agreements related to in-kind contributions, and Cooperation and Partnership agreements.
4. Non-financial partnerships, also referred to as Cooperation and Partnership Agreements shall not contain terms or conditions that generate financial or administrative obligations on the part of the organization. Financial contributions and grants are covered under UNECE's Resource Mobilization and Technical Cooperation strategies.

#### **Objectives of partnerships at UNECE**

1. Enhancing the Secretariat's capacity to provide cutting-edge support to member States;
2. Promoting the dissemination of UNECE's normative and analytical instruments and tools and facilitating mutual learning;
3. Facilitating the capacity development of UNECE member States and other stakeholders in the production of substantive outputs and implementation of UNECE's norms, standards and other instruments.

#### **Modalities**

1. In case a partnership needs to be formalized, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is prepared. The secretariat will inform the Executive Committee of this process prior to signature. Upon completion of a due process summarized in an internal directive, the MoU is approved by the Executive Secretary

2. All Memoranda of Understanding are publicly available on the UNECE website; they are managed by the Office of the Executive Secretary.
  3. The UNECE secretariat can provide additional information on partnerships upon request from the Executive Committee.
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