

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Ms. Fatoumata Ndiaye, Under-Secretary-General  
For Internal Oversight Services

Ref.: 2024/OES/022

From: Tatiana Molcean, Executive Secretary,  
Economic Commission for Europe

Date: 30 January 2024



Subject: **Draft Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the Evaluation of the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation (RPTC)**

1. I refer to your memorandum dated 19 January 2024, on the evaluation of the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation (RPTC), expressing ECE appreciation for OIOS continuous support for our efforts in improving operations and assistance provided to member States.

2. As indicated before, the RPTC is a core funding source for ECE to deliver technical cooperation assistance on ECE instruments, in response to the demands from Member States and in close cooperation with UN Country Teams and other Implementing entities. In many instances, the activities initiated with RPTC are leading to larger scale projects, with substantial funding from other sources. I am pleased to note that this aspect and many ECE good practices are reflected in the draft report.

3. Referring specifically to the recommendations, ECE accepts the three addressed to Implementing entities; noting, at the same time, two major concerns, which may delay the full implementation.

4. First, despite the General Assembly approving an additional \$1.5m under RPTC for 2024, due to the worsening liquidity situation, it is not clear whether a full allotment could be expected this year. If such would be the case our programmatic delivery will be severely impacted.

5. Second, I would recall that many Regional Advisers positions funded from RPTC, despite being on General Temporary Assistance (GTA) budget line, have fixed term or continuing contracts. In this regard, ECE would appreciate the support of the Department of Management, Strategy, Policy and Compliance before devising any guidance relating to the discontinuation of existing positions.

6. I take this opportunity to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Report and to commend the professionalism of the OIOS team led by Mr. Juan Carlos Peña.

cc: Ms. Catherine Pollard, USG, DMSPC  
(Eddie) Yee Woo Guo, Director, OIOS