

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

134th meeting
Geneva, 1 July 2024

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Informal document No. 2024/17

**Preparations for the seventy-first session of the
Economic Commission for Europe:**

Cross-cutting theme for the high-level segment

Following informal consultations among the membership, the Executive Committee (EXCOM) is invited to adopt the below draft decision on a cross-cutting theme for the high-level segment of the seventy-first session of the Economic Commission for Europe to be held on 9 - 10 April 2025,

The EXCOM,

- *Recalling* that at its seventieth session, the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) noted that the designation of a high-level theme has effectively facilitated closer collaboration across the secretariat, the intergovernmental architecture and the broad expert community of the Commission and made their collective expertise available to the deliberations at the session of the Commission,
- *Recalling also* that at its seventieth session, the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) requested the Executive Committee – in line with its responsibilities to prepare the session of the Commission – to designate a future cross-cutting theme for the high-level segment of the upcoming seventy-first session of the Commission,
- *Acknowledging* that international cooperation for climate action is necessary to address multiple sustainable development challenges,
- *Recognizing* that appropriate risk management and increased resilience in infrastructure is essential for future economic development,
- *Recognizing also* that infrastructure development contributes to better connectivity within the UNECE region,
- *Designates* “**Climate action and resilient infrastructure for a sustainable future**” as cross-cutting theme for the high-level segment of the seventy-first Commission session, to be held on 9 – 10 April 2025,
- *Invites* relevant subsidiary bodies of the UNECE and the secretariat to consider how they may contribute, as appropriate, to the cross-cutting theme of the seventy-first Commission session within their respective mandates, ongoing work and existing resources,
- *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a background document on the cross-cutting theme, detailing a number of relevant UNECE activities and their impact, for discussion at the seventy-first Commission session.