

NMUN•NY 2021



5 – 8 April 2021

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Economic
Commission for Europe (UNECE) NMUN Simulation*



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TOWARDS
TOMORROW**

Conference B

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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Committee Staff

Director	Allison Baker
Assistant Director	Jacob Sarasin
Chair	Ruth Spickermann

Agenda

- I. Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation
- II. Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Ensure Sustainable Energy
- III. Promoting the Development of Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNECE/1/1	Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation	Adopted without a vote
UNECE/1/2	Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation	Adopted without a vote
UNECE/1/3	Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation	Adopted without a vote
UNECE/2/1	Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Ensure Sustainable Energy	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Promoting the Development of Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure
- II. Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation
- III. Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Ensure Sustainable Energy

The session was attended by representatives of 20 Member States. On Monday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, III, I, beginning discussion on the topic of “Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 3 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics on promoting economic growth and public-private partnerships, economic funding for emerging Member States, and aiding economies in recovery from disruptive events through technical cooperation. On Wednesday, the committee worked in a highly collaborative, open-minded manner, with working groups cooperating continuing diplomatically throughout the entire conference.

On Thursday, four draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, two of which had amendments. The committee adopted four resolutions, all of which received unanimous support. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues including expanding the membership of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, building on currently existing special economic zones in Europe and partnering with non-governmental organizations to create a Global Sister Business Programme (GSBP). The body was guided by their desire to implement solutions and proposals to support emerging economies and was eager to develop strategies that took into account all Member States and their unique situations.



Code: UNECE/1/1

Committee: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Topic: Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

Acknowledging the Charter of the United Nations (1945), which established the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC),

Recalling ECOSOC resolution 36(IV) (1947), which created the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),

Taking into account the UNECE Accountability Framework, which created UNECE Programme Management Unit (PMU),

Recognizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically goals 7, 8, 11, 13, and 17,

Expressing appreciation for UNECE PMU for their role in the overall coordination or planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluating all activities of UNECE,

Recalling the World Economic Situation and Prospects Report (2020) produced by United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) which details increased economic vulnerabilities exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic,

Reaffirming pre-existing efforts by Member States to improve sustainable energy production while acknowledging the progression of the climate crisis and the need for immediate action such as the Paris Climate Agreement (2015) and the International Energy Charter (1993),

Noting with approval existing examples of technical cooperation successes such as those found in the annual reports on UNECE technical cooperation,

Appreciating the role United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) plays in monitoring the climate crisis with their regional and national frameworks,

Taking into consideration the role the internet plays in providing a place to access information globally,

Expressing satisfaction with the existing platforms for knowledge sharing such as UNECE's Regional Forum for Sustainable Development (RFSD),

Believing that a greater platform for knowledge sharing regarding technical cooperation is necessary,

Noting with regret the lack of resources and knowledge that would allow emerging economies to combat some of the challenges outlined the International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook Update (2020), such as negative per-capita income growth and an overall projected economic shrink of 3.2%,

1. *Requires* UNECE PMU to work with the existing committees on Trade, Sustainable Energy, and the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Public-Private Partnership (CICPPP) to target trade and economic cooperation and integration, recovery and development of emerging economies, and sustainable energy production;
2. *Instructs* the UNECE Committee on Trade to focus on the promotion of economic cooperation and integration between Member States, with special emphasis on trade, and expands the responsibilities of this subcommittee to include:
 - a. Investing resources into research to evaluate current sustainable practices and develop innovative solutions;



- b. Making recommendations to Member States through specific topic-oriented reports about potential new economic relationships between Member States including but not limited to the economic activities related to the:
 - i. Exchange of natural resources;
 - ii. Construction of shared transportation infrastructure;
 - iii. Construction of shared electrical infrastructure;
 - c. Generating an additional annual report containing measures of progress made by this subcommittee including, but not limited to:
 - i. A summary of new proposed economic and trade relationships recommended by the subcommittee;
 - ii. The change in trade practices by Member States;
 - d. Encouraging the role of UNECE in fostering an environment based on mutual trust, reciprocity, and technical cooperation between foreign investors and Member States by emphasizing the role of public-private partnerships in uplifting emerging economies as they cooperate with other Member States;
 - e. Collaborating and supporting existing non-governmental organizations and subcommittees, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and DESA in facilitating regional trade negotiations;
3. *Designates* the UNECE CICPPP to focus on aiding economies in recovery from disruptive events and aiding the Member States that are part of emerging markets in advancing their economies and expands the responsibilities of this subcommittee to include:
- a. Investing resources into research to evaluate current sustainable practices and develop innovative solutions;
 - b. Generating an additional annual report containing measures of progress made by this subcommittee including, but not limited to:
 - i. Changes in the standard of living through gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in Member States;
 - ii. Changes in employment in Member States;
 - iii. Changes in the GDP of Member States;
 - iv. The possible reason(s) behind these changes so future forward recommendations can be made to Member States through specific topic-oriented reports on how to bolster economic growth in an equitable and sustainable fashion;
 - c. Providing financing and advice to domestic small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in difficult-to-reach segments and in fragile markets by lending through emerging market banks and other financial intermediaries such as the Global SME Finance Facility and the International Finance Corporation;
 - d. Strengthening national and domestic capacities for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition, including, but not limited to, the capacity to:
 - i. Regulate multi-story buildings and affordable and decent housing, especially for vulnerable groups, the poor, and persons with disabilities;
 - ii. Address unpreparedness to natural hazards such as earthquakes and lack of emergency management plans;
4. *Calls upon* the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy to focus on the implementation of and transition to sustainable energy in Member States and expands its responsibilities to include:



- a. Investing resources into research to evaluate current sustainable practices and develop innovative solutions;
 - b. Making recommendations to Member States through specific topic-oriented reports about capacity-building projects regarding sustainable energy infrastructure and possible opportunities for technical cooperation between Member States;
 - c. Generating an additional annual report containing measures of progress made by this subcommittee including, but not limited to:
 - i. A summary of projects recommended by the subcommittee;
 - ii. A description of the change in renewable energy as a percentage of total energy production in Member States;
 - iii. Potential solutions proposed by both Member States and the subcommittee as a whole;
 - d. Strengthening the national capacity of countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia to enhance the contribution of the forest sector to greener economies through sustainable forest management by:
 - i. Improving monitoring and assessment of the forest sector to support sustainable forest management;
 - ii. Developing training programs and material for government officials on sustainable forest management, wood energy and data collection;
 - iii. Conducting two regional, eight national, and 32 (four per country) local capacity building workshops on these issues;
5. *Establishes* the Technical Cooperation Meeting on Sustainability, an event hosted by UNECE open to all Member States to be held every 5 years starting in 2025 and consisting of:
- a. Each subcommittee generating a report to present their progress and efficiency to the Technical Cooperation Meeting on Sustainability containing measures of progress made, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Each committee's annual report;
 - ii. Summaries of ongoing projects;
 - iii. A detailed outline of subcommittee budget to monitor its use of funding;
 - b. Workshops on Technical Cooperation project development available for the public to view created by the various subcommittees, which would encourage and facilitate knowledge sharing across Member States and subcommittees in order to benefit each Member States' populations and goals;
6. *Appeals* to UNEA to monitor the environmental impact of each subcommittee's proposed programs using their pre-established guidelines and/or evaluation index;
7. *Strongly supports* the establishment of a public database on the Internet compiling the best practices, legislation and policies, standardized norms pertaining to the topics outlined by the aforementioned committees, which will be organized topically and accessible to all Member States, ensuring that nations participating in multilateral technical cooperation projects are able to easily access information and expertise that is most relevant to them and requiring:
- a. Hosting and maintenance provided jointly by the three UNECE subcommittees in attendance, namely the:
 - i. UNECE Committee on Trade;
 - ii. CICPPP;
 - iii. Committee on Sustainable Energy;



- b. A specialized third-party task force that will be employed to compile the information and report it in a standardized manner to eliminate potential bias or skewing of results by generating information from subcommittees and Member States;
- c. Information to be shared with all Member States, including, but not limited to:
 - i. A compilation of information based on national reviews conducted internally within each Member State;
 - ii. Emerging technologies and research performed by all subcommittees and Member States;
- d. Subcommittees and Member States to update the database on at least a yearly basis through methods including, but not limited to:
 - i. Performing new research;
 - ii. Generating new reports;
 - iii. Providing workshop Materials from workshops performed at the Technical Cooperation Meeting on Sustainability;
- e. Usage of the public database for educational practical purposes for private and public sectors to:
 - i. Further allow sharing of innovative solutions and technologies, to improve the way resources are capitalized on, and to ensure their efficient use;
 - ii. Educate both public and private sectors on energy efficiency and sustainability in the areas such as solar energy and hydroelectric energy;
- f. The involvement of United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business to facilitate sharing of trade recommendations through projects and standards.



Code: UNECE/1/2

Committee: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Topic: Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the sovereignty of Member States, especially in relation to their individual economies,

Viewing with appreciation General Assembly resolution 58/230 requesting the Economic and Social Council to establish a Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and implementing this committee insight on tax free economic zones, as well as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) 2019 *World Investment Report on Special Economic Zones*,

Guided by the work that the sub-regional organization Innovation Policy Outlook (IPO) has done to monitor and improve the performance of existing special economic zones (SEZs) in Eastern Europe and Southern Caucasus (EESC),

Applauding the Central Asia Energy-Water Development Program (CAEWDP) for its work in collection of data regarding alternative energy usage and carbon emissions of the Central Asian region,

Keeping in mind the commitments to environmentalism and sustainable energy made by Member States in the 2030 *Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Expressing its satisfaction with regards to Sister Cities International (SCI) for its efforts in establishing diplomatic relations between cities of various cultures, regions, and countries since its inception in 1956,

Affirming the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting project that offers developing nations opportunities to strengthen international legal protection for tax incentives,

Appreciating the important role of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) International PPP Center of Excellence (ICoE) for emerging economies in providing adequate economic flexibility to Member States following unexpected economic downturns while maintaining sufficient investor protection,

Expressing its appreciation for regional research conducted by the European Regions Research and Innovation Network,

Noting with gratitude the efforts of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in creating global dialogue on pertinent issues of technological development and its capacities to change policies,

Emphasizing the improvement of information sharing and cooperation for technological cooperation as well as commitments made in General Assembly resolution 72/228,

Reaffirming the sentiments in General Assembly resolution 58/129 to utilize both private and public sector means to mobilize developing Member States resources so as to ensure their sustainable development,

Considering European Parliament resolution COM/0497 (2015) on communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the regions on establishing relations with new Member States and inviting them to trading collaboration,

Committing to solutions that involve both private and public actors in order to ensure developing Member States eventual financial independence,

1. *Recommends* the creation and expansion of SEZs within and by developing Member States in accordance with research reported by UNCTAD and the recommendations of the IPO to the ends of compensating for a lack of economic funding, increasing cooperative trade between developed and emerging Member States, and elevating emerging economies to the capacity to self-sustain by:



- a. Attracting long-term private partners and foreign investors to collaborate and innovate in SEZs with land provisions, as well as exemptions from taxes and production-related customs payments for participants in the zones, while basing the time frame of these privileges and exemptions upon the initial investments from private partners;
 - b. Allowing foreign partners within SEZs to purchase production-related goods and services within the borders of the host nations with foreign currency;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to protect trade and investments that promote private partnerships;
 - d. Citing biannual economic research published by the UNCTAD in the *World Investment Report* that encourages foreign direct investment and private investment in emerging economies through SEZs;
 - e. Forming a partnership with the IPO to continue reviewing and reporting on SEZs in the EESC region, and providing the funding necessary to expand the reach of the IPO to other ECE regions;
2. *Invites* SCI to develop a Global Sister-Business Program (GSBP) that promotes trade and cooperation between businesses of developed and emerging economies by:
- a. Partnering businesses within emerging economies with businesses in developed economies based upon the industries served by each;
 - b. Funding the GSBP with annual membership fees based upon the number of employees within a participating business;
 - c. Allowing participating businesses to receive the same services and resources provided by SCI at the discretion of individual Member States;
 - d. Giving participating businesses the option to attend an annual virtual meeting with other businesses to discuss the benefits of the program and what can be improved to increase trade and cooperation between economies;
3. *Requests* the expansion of the European Regions Research and Innovation Network in economic, technological, and scientific research to promote cooperation by individual member states through:
- a. Collaboration on shared problems to promote innovation on mutually beneficial topics between Member States and organizations such as the Partnership of Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area, which promotes collaboration on regionally beneficial technology, in order to specifically expand technological development;
 - b. Development of globally efficient methods of energy production and the sharing of resources in reference to these developments and the continued monitoring of guidelines surrounding new energy sources provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency;
 - c. Bridging of the technological divide between and within Member States through international technology diffusion to enhance economic growth;
4. *Encourages* the establishment of an overseeing committee, the Sustainable Development Committee for Emerging Economies, to ensure sustainable development and implementation of technological advances within the developing regions that will:
- a. Be comprised of representatives elected by developing as well as funding donor Member States, who will meet virtually biennially;
 - b. In cooperation with the CAEWDP, create recommendations for methods for Member States of the region to improve conditions as technological infrastructure is realized;



- c. Recommend sustainable energy goals that are in line with the 2030 Agenda and promote regional renewable energy expectations that fit within regions' culture and climates;
 - d. Working with CSTD, exchange information regarding the region's technological development and goals with this larger network in order to provide the world stage with current situations and opportunities for international development and programs within developing Member States;
 - e. Appeal to the CSTD to utilize pre-existing regionally collected and contributed data in regional Member States to present efficiently and publicly to the world stage at the annual intergovernmental forum for discussion on timely and pertinent issues affecting science, technology and development;
5. *Supports* Member States, especially those with emerging economies, in their participation in regional organizations that specifically seek to help European nations with emerging economies to expand regional connections and economic growth by:
- a. Encouraging and educating Member States to apply for available funding from programs created by the European Union, such as Horizon Europe program, which are accessible to all Member States as well as to encourage them to build strategy that would utilize the European Union's funding regionally;
 - b. Building support within regions in order to grow regional strength and support, through organizations such as the European Union, to maintain economic stability during times of internal economic hardships;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to adopt policies set forth by the OECD with regards to land-use and housing development;
 - d. Suggesting and informing Member States to seek economic support, through financial institutions such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
6. *Encourages* the further involvement of Member States in public-private partnerships (PPP) by coordinating with the ICoE, which seek to promote technical infrastructure, the rise in self-governance, and efficiency of developing European regions through the:
- a. Negotiation of regional importation agreements, including reasonable and favorable adjustments to current trade barriers and agreements between the governments of individual Member States in order to encourage freer markets;
 - b. Generation of opportunities for the establishment of trade incentives through import tax alleviation by Member State governments and regional bodies such as the EU to attract private investors and facilitate efficient production;
 - c. Encouragement of ICoE to introduce a new regional conference on the subject of multilateral trade policies through:
 - i. Annual conferences hosted by UNECE, in full coordination with all Member State representatives of UNECE;
 - ii. The provision of aid to Member States who have suffered disproportionately from COVID-19, in order to support the recovery of their respective economies;
 - d. Further support of PPPs within Member States in an effort to create an environment of transparency, trust, and technical cooperation among emerging economies and foreign investors;
 - e. Consistent return to and reassessment of these agreements, such as at regional conferences to be held biennially, in order to address the conditions of these developing regions with the definite goal of their economic independence.



Code: UNECE/1/3

Committee: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Topic: Supporting Emerging Economies through Technical Cooperation

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58(I) on "The Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation" (RPTC) that provides the United Nations (UN) flexibility to respond to urgent needs of developing Member States in technical assistance,

Emphasizing the importance of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 and its push towards the betterment of technology as well as the strengthening of the United Nations World Data Forum (UNWDF) to promote the growth of technology, financials and other vital areas within emerging economies, as well as build upon the already strong relationships to ensure that all Member States flourish,

Keeping in mind the importance of promoting public-private partnerships (PPPs) on trade facilitation and investments between Europe and Asia,

Noting also the *World Economic Situation and Prospects as of mid-2020* report distributed by the United Nations, which details the rise in inequality and unemployment across European Member States, such as an estimated increase of 34.3 million people falling into poverty in 2020 alone,

Further believing that PPPs will foster economic development in urban regions which contribute up to 90% of the commercial activity in many Member States,

Recognizing the positive role of the common market in the development of emerging economies and recovery of the pan-European region based on its success in boosting the recovery of Europe since the end of the Second World War,

Alarmed by the economic impact of conflict reflected by the statistic from the Institute for Economics and Peace that the aggregate economic and financial cost of conflict in 2014 was USD 13.4 billion,

Acknowledging the current presence of an economic cooperation program called Interreg in the European Union (EU),

Appreciating the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) *Trade Facilitation Agreement* (TFA) (2014), while still acknowledging that work needs to be done given that 70% of developing Member States, as defined by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, request technical assistance and capacity building,

Concerned that the costs in international trade can reach up to 322.9% average tariff on the value of traded goods between the Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) according to the *Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation UNECE report* (2019),

1. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to work closely with developing economies to ensure that they take advantage of available economic opportunities and promote economic growth by:
 - a. Cataloguing the resources available in developing economies and how they can best be used for trade in a shared online database managed by UNECE and the four other United Nations regional economic commissions;
 - b. Identifying opportunities for resource use, partnership, and trading potential to maximize developing Member States' economic growth;
 - c. Promoting innovation by working with Top Sector Alliance for Knowledge and Innovation through funding including but not limited to tax benefits, innovation credit, and grants to gain access to new markets and create opportunities;



2. *Commends* any efforts to strengthen the UNWDF through furthering cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to:
 - a. Provide a voluntary system to help localities secure necessary resources such as electricity, water, and Internet;
 - b. Create opportunities for local citizens as they undergo training to implement these programs in their countries;
 - c. Update these new systems, advising regular checkups for stability and, if needed, improvements to quality and access to information and communication technologies, water, electricity and other necessities;
3. *Recommends* stronger international relationships and joint communication between Europe and Asia to build upon the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) by:
 - a. Expanding the countries of SPECA from mainly Central Asian countries to Member States in Europe and the rest of Asia to create a unified and stronger program;
 - b. Promoting an internal market to ease the movement of goods, services, and capital across borders to stimulate long term fiscal sustainability;
 - c. Working with organizations such as the European Structural and Investment Funds and the Investment Facility for Central Asia to provide financing along with other PPPs;
 - d. Establishing sustainable and economically efficient trade routes by sea, air, and rail to strengthen connectivity and security;
 - e. Creating rules and regulations to create an environment for open investments and an equal playing field implemented by sub-committees in respective Member States that are an expansion of the SPECA Governing Council;
4. *Supports* the continuance and further enlargement in range of application of PPPs between Member States and private companies to increase employment in emerging economies through methods including but not limited to:
 - a. New and expanded government contracts for private companies to capacity-build infrastructure in emerging economies to help facilitate trade and commerce;
 - b. Increased monetary incentives for small businesses to establish themselves in emerging economies that would benefit from more activity in those businesses' niches;
 - c. Private companies from developed countries investing in emerging economies to foster economic growth and governance building of local authorities, specifically the marginal regions and fields beyond the governance in existence;
5. *Affirms* its support of the idea of providing Members States with the opportunity to develop urban centers by:
 - a. Encouraging private investment through the United Nations Capital Development Fund;
 - b. Calling for Member States to maximize private and public cooperation in trade in order to expand sustainable economic growth to emerging economies;
 - c. Proposing the expansion of the EU's Interreg Cooperation System so as to serve all Member States' economies in addition to those of the EU;



- d. Supporting efforts to collaborate with the four other United Nations regional economic commissions in facilitating economic cooperation;
6. *Suggests* the enlargement of the existing common market in the region and field by:
 - a. Recommending that Member States form a system of common standards on capacity building assistance under the principle of UNDP *Capacity Development Approach* and the *Charter of United Nations* (1945), in which the boundary between assistance and interference of sovereignty is to be precisely stated;
 - b. Hosting a joint Conference on capacity building standards in cooperation annually with the other four regional economic commissions that includes a recurring forum for Member States to discuss those capacity building assistance standards;
 - c. Promoting the mutual recognition on the EU standards throughout the pan-European region on consumer goods and means of production;
 - d. Encouraging sharing of the joint initiative of the Eastern Partnership, as a paradigm for bilateral and multilateral cooperation proving successful;
 7. *Invites* all UNECE Member States recovering from economic downfall due to border and/or civil conflict to participate in a joint learning program on “Recovering Economies from Conflict” that is:
 - a. Created in partnership with willing Member States, which is hosted and funded by the RPTC;
 - b. Focused on methods of implementing infrastructure development projects to create employment opportunities and improve infrastructure including, roads, electricity, and technology;
 - c. Oriented towards encouraging international cooperation to stimulate economies by means such as tourism and collaborative infrastructure projects;
 8. *Welcomes* efforts by Member States with developed economies to collaborate with Member States that have emerging economies to produce systems to diminish the economic impact of natural crises and local wars through the:
 - a. Creation of government stimulus programs for the circulation of capital in the case of an economic crisis;
 - b. Preparation of capital for distribution through multi-national economies to help impacted economies recover necessary flows of capital;
 9. *Encourages* Member States to assist in the implementation process of the International Organization for Standardization’s Standards Information Gateway on technical trade barriers as part of the WTO TFA by:
 - a. Introducing a task force within the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies that assist the member states within this process;
 - b. Establishing an interagency partnership on trade and logistics with a focus on achieving the WTO trade facilitation agreement similar to the program facilitating international trade in Ukraine;
 10. *Directs attention* towards the possibilities of reducing trade cost using technical cooperation to enhance digital trade facilitation through the strengthening of the UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) by:
 - a. Proposing increased funding to existing digital identification projects such as existing UN/CEFACT projects;



- b. Consolidating UN/CEFACT projects such as Encouraging Private Sector Participation In National Trade Facilitation Bodies and the Internet of Things for Trade Facilitation;
- c. Updating recommended standards for the use of the United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce, and Transport Standard previously outlined in *Recommendation N.25* adopted by the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (1995) to allow for quicker exchanges of digital trade.



Code: UNECE/2/1

Committee: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Topic: Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Ensure Sustainable Energy

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

Acknowledging the United Nations (UN) and the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* that establishes the provision of high-quality and sustainable energy as the chief goal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),

Guided by the voluntary framework of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21),

Appreciating UNECE's Regional Advisory Program on Energy's efforts to better coordinate United Nations agencies and Member States,

Alarmed that transportation is the third largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in many Member States,

Reaffirming the *Paris Agreement* and the common goal of carbon neutrality before 2050,

Recognizing that zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) are an affordable way to promote sustainable energy and recognizing the existing Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) program to build a single European transport network,

Believing in the urgency of transfer of technology, governance, and management in the energy sector from developed Member States to the economies in transition,

Expressing appreciation for the successes of the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) and EU4Energy Programme, in addition to the proclamation of the *European Green Deal*, the *European Climate Law* and the *European Energy Charter Treaty*,

1. *Strongly supports* the idea of Member States expanding on the TEN-T program for creating a single European transport network by voluntarily cooperating to build an e-highway across the European continent to:
 - a. Provide a sustainable and eco-friendly mode for the transport of goods across national borders;
 - b. Reduce transportation emissions for Member States;
 - c. Incentivize ecotourism across Europe and increasing regional cooperation between Member States;
2. *Urges* Member States to set investment and sales targets for ZEVs in order to:
 - a. Evaluate the current state of ZEVs development within each Member State;
 - b. Promoting the transition to ZEVs in a public transportation system across UNECE Member States;
 - c. Increase efforts to transition away from fossil fuel based transportation and to ZEVs;
3. *Recognizes* the European Commission's existing sustainable transport forum as a venue for Member States in the pan-European area to:
 - a. Exchange ideas for the construction of eco-friendly transportation infrastructure;
 - b. Coordinate resources for the construction of sustainable transportation;



- c. Provide Member States a platform where all voices have an equal footing;
4. *Recommends* the expansion of the existing EU ETS with standards in line with the international consensus, under the evaluation or limitation of:
 - a. The International Energy Agency;
 - b. The *European Green Deal*;
 - c. The *European Climate Law*;
 - d. The *European Energy Charter Treaty*;
5. *Further Recommends* that Member States work together to:
 - a. Resolve the restrictions on energy import and export by establishing trade facilitation policy system;
 - b. Set up reasonable energy reserves;
 - c. Control the exploitation of energy, so as to maintain the international energy prices at a stable level;
6. *Calls upon* the international community to introduce more feasible measures to the world for:
 - a. Dispatching the global energy properly;
 - b. Speeding up the energy trading to improve the post-pandemic energy market;
7. *Reminds* Member States of the importance of practice learning and the possibilities of reproduction of the success of the EU4Energy Programme;
8. *Supports further* the improvement of physical energy infrastructure in developing Member States to:
 - a. Emphasize efficiency;
 - b. Invest in research that introduces highly efficient energy resource innovations, such as lithium ion batteries and hydrogen fuel;
 - c. Develop nuclear energy production and safe utilization of nuclear energy waste.