



**United Nations
ECE**



**United Nations
ESCAP**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE,
THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, AND
THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTEGRATION COMMITTEE OF THE
EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY**

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ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), hereinafter referred to as the regional commissions, and the Secretariat of the Integration Committee of the Eurasian Economic Community hereinafter referred to as the Secretariat:

- **Noting** the Statement of the Heads of State of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan on the establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community, which the Republic of Uzbekistan joined in 2006, and the Tashkent Declaration of 26 March 1998 on the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, whose members are the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, which is jointly supported and implemented by the regional commissions;

- **Taking into account** their desire to work together in economic and social areas in order to promote regional economic cooperation and support efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

- **Noting with satisfaction** the development of fruitful cooperation between the regional commissions and the Secretariat under the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, particularly in such areas as the rational and efficient use of water and energy resources in Central Asia, as well as trade and transport facilitation,

- **Stressing the importance** of strengthening further the relationships and the development of collaboration between the regional commissions and the Secretariat, adopting the present Memorandum as the basis for achieving tangible results in the implementation of joint undertakings in the interest of EurAsEC member States, and above all, of the economies of Central Asia,

Have reached an understanding on the following:

The regional commissions and the Secretariat will cooperate within the framework of their respective mandates and authority in the implementation of specific activities in different priority areas as well as in capacity-building, while making good use of their comparative advantages.

I. AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. The Secretariat will promote effective cooperation in the following areas in support of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the respective member States:

- (a) Sustainable development and environmental protection;
- (b) Rational and efficient use of water and energy resources;
- (c) Development of transport networks and the promotion of transport facilitation;
- (d) Trade policy and trade facilitation;
- (e) Business development, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and sustainable investment promotion;
- (f) Information and communication technologies.

2. The Secretariat will encourage the participation of EurAsEC member States in the implementation of activities under the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia and other initiatives aimed at strengthening international economic cooperation and integration.

3. The regional commissions will cooperate with the Secretariat in the preparation and implementation of relevant programme and analytical documents pertaining to EurAsEC member States.

4. The Secretariat will assist the regional commissions in data collection and processing regarding agreed ongoing projects.

II. FORMS OF COOPERATION

5. Depending on the availability of resources, the regional commissions will assist Secretariat in its capacity-building by undertaking the following activities:

- (a) Providing support to the Secretariat on issues concerning the preparation of the above-mentioned programme, analytical and other related documents;
- (b) Assisting in organizing joint training workshops and other institutional capacity-building activities, including, when necessary, providing the services of technical consultants, for

the benefit of the members States of EurAsEC and the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

(c) Inviting the representatives of the Secretariat to participate in the work of relevant international conferences, meetings and seminars organized within the framework of either the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, or relevant projects and activities of each of the regional commissions;

6. Any specific capacity-building activities to be provided by the regional commissions under the Memorandum will be covered by a project document or written agreement specifying clearly the source of funding, nature of the activity and duration.

7. The Secretariat will invite representatives of the regional commissions to meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops relevant to cooperation in the priority areas.

8. The Secretariat will promote cooperation between the regional commissions and the Eurasian Development Bank, as appropriate.

9. The Secretariat and the regional commissions may also strive to strengthen cooperation in other specific areas of mutual interest.

III. MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM

10. The Secretariat and the regional commissions will annually review the implementation of the Memorandum.

11. A joint mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Memorandum will be conducted at the end of 2015

12. The Secretariat and the regional commissions will review the implementation of joint activities, evaluate progress and identify future activities in agreed areas of cooperation.

V. UNITS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM

13. The Secretariat and the regional commissions agree to designate as focal points for the activities under this Memorandum:

- (a) for ESCAP: the Subregional Office for North and Central Asia
- (b) for ECE: Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division
- (c) for Secretariat: Secretariat of Integration Committee

V. TERM OF THE MEMORANDUM

14. The Secretariat and the regional commissions agree that the term of the Memorandum will be from the date of signature by both Parties until 21 May 2018.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

15. The English and Russian languages will be used as working languages in the joint activities, subject to the availability of resources.
16. This Memorandum may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.
17. This Memorandum may be terminated by any Party on three months' notice in writing.

Signed in Astana on « 22 » May 2013 in three copies in the English and Russian languages.

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(Tair Mansurov)

Secretary General of
EurAsEC

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(Sven Alkalaj)

Under-Secretary-General of the
United Nations and Executive
Secretary of
UNECE

.....
(Noeleen Heyzer)

Under-Secretary-General of the
United Nations and Executive
Secretary of
ESCAP