

COOPERATION AGREEMENT
between the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations
of the Commonwealth of Independent States
and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

The Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (hereinafter – IPA CIS) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (hereinafter – UNECE), hereinafter collectively referred to as the Parties, and each individually as a Party,

based on Resolution 61/210 of the United Nations General Assembly dated 20 December 2006 advising the UN system to advance the dialogue and interaction with regional and sub-regional collaboration institutes, which include economies in transition, and to expand the support provided to them,

taking into account that one of the principal goals of the Commonwealth of Independent States (hereinafter CIS) is cooperation in political, economic, environmental and humanitarian fields on the basis of generally accepted principles and norms of international law, and that the primary goal of the UNECE is promoting integration in its region and contributing to sustainable development and economic growth of the states on the basis of political dialogue, development and approval of international legal instruments, rules and norms, exchange of advanced experience, application of knowledge and technical cooperation,

recalling the Convention on the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (1995) and the Terms of Reference of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (2009),

recognizing that the commitment to international law and improvement and harmonization of national legislation may be of crucial significance to ensuring sustainable development of member states, and

recognizing also the importance of the development of economic and social potential and building on many years' experience of IPA CIS and UNECE in developing legal instruments in the fields of economic development, transport and environment, based on dialogue and agreements of and among their members,
have agreed as follows.

Article 1

The purpose of this Agreement is to join the efforts of the Parties in creating conditions for efficient partnership in support of sound economic, and environmental policies of member states, successful implementation by member states of principles of sustainable development by means of political dialogue, exchange of advanced experience, and efforts towards the harmonization of national legislation of CIS Member Nations with respect to the best international practice in the legislative sphere.

Article 2

Cooperation of the Parties according to this Agreement shall be carried out in the following forms:

— IPA CIS use of and access to the results of UNECE work for preparation of norms, guidelines, standards and conventions with respect to issues of transport, environment, trade, innovation and competitiveness, energy, housing and land management, forests, and population in the course of drafting of IPA CIS recommendations for the parliaments of CIS Member Nations;

— provision and/or presentation of UNECE legal instruments at the meetings of specialized IPA CIS permanent commissions and IPA CIS plenary sessions;

— provision and/or presentation of documents drafted by IPA CIS at relevant UNECE meetings;

— establishment of joint expert groups, if necessary, to explore issues of mutual interest that are included in the working plans or under elaboration by IPA CIS and UNECE;

— encouraging the dialogue of representatives of legislative bodies of CIS Member Nations with representatives of executive authorities and leading experts from other countries of the world; and

— consultations of representatives of IPA CIS permanent commissions and UNECE departments on matters of mutual interest.

If necessary, the Parties may expand the forms of cooperation. However, in no event shall this Agreement or any amendment hereto operate to create financial, administrative or legal obligations on the part of either Party.

Article 3

The cooperation hereunder shall be carried out in compliance with the following terms and conditions:

— the partnership shall be built upon voluntary basis and mutual interest;

— the choice of areas and priorities in cooperation and implementation of joint activities and clarification of actions of the Parties hereunder will be carried out upon mutual agreement of the Parties;

— the Parties may engage in joint activities pursuant to the terms of a separate agreement or agreements (consistent with the UN Rules and Regulations), which shall contain the terms of engagement of the Parties, including rights, obligations and liabilities, as applicable.

Article 4

1. This Agreement is made for a period of one (1) year and shall renew automatically for successive one (1) year periods until terminated as provided in paragraph 4 hereof.

2. The working languages, used for cooperation between the Parties hereunder, shall be Russian and English. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement shall not operate to create any obligation on the part of the Parties to provide or fund translation or interpretation services.

3. This Agreement may be amended only upon mutual agreement of both Parties in writing, which shall constitute an integral part hereof.


4. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party upon a prior six (6) months written notice sent to the other Party.

5. The parties agree that they will settle by good faith negotiations any disagreements or disputes arising out of the implementation or interpretation of the present agreement.


6. Nothing herein shall limit the privileges and immunities of the Parties granted to them in accordance with international treaties, nor shall anything in or relating to this Agreement or any amendment hereof be deemed a waiver, expressed or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

Done on 31 January 2018 in the city of GENEVA and on 12 February 2018 in the city of St. Petersburg in four copies (two copies in Russian language and two copies in English language), all texts being equally authentic. The date of signing and the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be the date of the signing by the second party – 12 February 2018.

Secretary General of the Council
of the Interparliamentary Assembly
of Member Nations of the
Commonwealth of Independent States


Sergey Antufiev

Under-Secretary-General
of the United Nations,
Executive Secretary
of the United Nations
Economic Commission for Europe


Olga Algayerova