

UNECE Code of Conduct for PPP Project Teams developing International PPP Standards¹

Introduction

The work of the UNECE Working Party on PPPs (WP PPP) in the setting of international standards puts a premium on the quality of advice the secretariat will receive from a wider number of experts, some of whom have not had any contact with the UNECE before. To ensure the continuity of the quality that experts provide UNECE in the area of PPPs and at the request also of some of the new members themselves, it was considered useful to prepare a code of conduct that applies to all participants in the UNECE PPP Project Teams tasked to develop the draft standards.

Description

1. This code of conduct is applicable to all participants in the Project Teams developing international PPP standards. It is applicable in physical meetings as well as in meetings conducted virtually, e.g. e-mails and teleconferences.
2. To be in conformance with the code of conduct, the following must at all times and unconditionally be observed:
 - (a) Meet the highest standards of impartiality, integrity, objectivity and accuracy during their participation in UNECE PPP work;
 - (b) Treat everybody fairly, equally and with respect;
 - (c) Respect the right of privacy of all participants;
 - (d) Take all reasonable care that UNECE PPP work and work products cause no avoidable damage and no personal harm to anybody;
 - (e) Respect the right of all authorized parties to freedom of access to information and communication;
 - (f) Be forthright and to the extent possible realistic in stating claims and estimates;
 - (g) Communicate with everybody with civility and courtesy;
 - (h) Avoid promoting individual companies, organizations or affiliations during UNECE PPP meetings and in communications, or while representing UNECE PPP in external meetings and communications;
 - (i) Respect legitimate intellectual property rights, refrain from plagiarizing the work of others and acknowledge the contributions of other parties;

¹ The present version of the UNECE Code of Conduct for PPP Project Teams has been approved by the TOS PPP Bureau on 25 July 2014.

(j) Seek, accept and offer honest assessments of UNECE PPP work items, which must be properly acknowledged and corrected as required;

(k) Work towards the advancement of UNECE PPP objectives while engaged in UNECE PPP activities, meetings and events and avoid personal, professional or financial conflicts of interest in this regard; and

(l) Encourage other participants in UNECE PPP activities to follow this code of conduct and remain committed to observe, develop, and implement the principles expressed in this code on a diligent, consistent and rigorous manner.

3. Actions that may not conform to the code of conduct should be brought to the attention of the secretariat working under the guidance of the WP PPP Bureau, which will maintain a log of such matters. This includes potential conflicts of interest, e.g. where someone wishes to declare that such a situation may arise and withdraws from participation in a decision. In case of breaches to the code of conduct, the Bureau will decide what action is necessary following a fair and impartial review of the matter and taking into account the advice provided by the secretariat.