



**UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMIES OF CENTRAL ASIA  
(SPECA)**

**Sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council**

**(Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 19 November 2021)**

**Timetable: 10:00 am – 17:00 (Tashkent time, CET+4)**

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**1. Opening of the session**

Opening of the sixteenth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) by a high-level representative of the Government of Uzbekistan, followed by opening statements by high-level representatives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Heads of Delegation of the SPECA participating countries.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Governing Council will consider the adoption of the agenda of its sixteenth session.

**3. Outcomes of the 2021 SPECA Economic Forum “Sustainable Transport and Trade for a Green and Inclusive Economy after the Pandemic”**

Report by the UNECE and ESCAP secretariats followed by a discussion. The Governing Council will consider the adoption of the concluding document and recommendations of the 2021 SPECA Economic Forum.

**4. Implementation of the SPECA Work Plan for 2020-2021: Progress Reports of the SPECA Thematic Working Groups on the activities since the last session of the Governing Council (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan – online - 21 November 2020)**

Progress reports of the SPECA Thematic Working Groups will be circulated in advance of the session. Progress reports of the SPECA Thematic Working Groups followed by a discussion:

- Working Group on Water, Energy and Environment
- Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity
- Working Group on Trade
- Working Group on Innovation and Technology
- Working Group on Gender and SDGs

The Governing Council will take note of the progress made in the implementation of the activities of the SPECA Thematic Working Groups since the fifteenth session of the Governing Council and provide guidance for the effective implementation of its remaining activities in 2021.

In compliance with Decision 2 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2019/2) of its fourteenth session, the Governing Council adopted the “Ashgabat Initiative” on reducing barriers to trade and transport using United

Nations norms, standards and recommendations while bolstering connectivity in the SPECA region, and requested the SPECA countries to implement its recommendations. The sixteenth session of the Governing Council will review the implementation of these recommendations.

In compliance with Decision 10 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2019/10) of its fourteenth session, the Governing Council adopted the SPECA Innovation Strategy for Sustainable Development. The 16<sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Council will consider adopting a roadmap (action plan) for the implementation of this Strategy.

In compliance with Decision 11 (SPECA/GC/Dec/2019/11) of its fourteenth session, the Governing Council adopted the SPECA Trade Facilitation Strategy, roadmap for its implementation and SPECA Principles of Sustainable Trade. The 16<sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Council will review the implementation of these documents.

The Governing Council will review other issues related to the implementation of the SPECA Work Plan for 2020-2021.

## **5. SPECA Fund, SPECA Secretariat and other organizational issues<sup>1</sup>**

The Governing Council will consider the establishment of a SPECA Fund and a SPECA Secretariat, as well as other related organizational issues.

## **6. Adoption of the SPECA Work Plan for 2022-2023**

The draft SPECA Work Plan for 2022-2023 will be circulated in advance of the session. Representatives of the UNECE and ESCAP secretariats will make a brief presentation on the SPECA Work Plan for 2022-2023, followed by a discussion. The Governing Council will consider the adoption of the SPECA Work Plan for 2022-2023.

## **7. Election of the next Chair country of SPECA**

## **8. Date and venue of the 2022 SPECA Economic Forum and seventeenth session of the SPECA Governing Council**

## **9. Other business**

## **10. Adoption of decisions**

## **11. Closing of the session**

Closing statements by the Heads of Delegation of the SPECA participating countries, the high-level representatives of the UNECE and ESCAP secretariats.

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<sup>1</sup> The SPECA Governing Council reiterates at all its sessions the request to the SPECA participating countries to nominate SPECA Focal Points and Focal Points for each Working Group in writing to the ESCAP and UNECE secretariats. Upon request from the SPECA Governing Council at its 13<sup>th</sup> session, the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan prepared a note on its offer to host the secretariat of SPECA in the new United Nations common premises in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has also made an offer to host the secretariat of SPECA.