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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Group of Experts on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks

Second session

Geneva, 8 November 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the second session^{1, 2, 3}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 8 November 2011

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Detailed programme of work.
3. Climate Change and International Transport Networks: Presentations of initiatives at national and international levels.
4. Review of scientific background, existing literature and identification of the issues pertinent to climate change impacts on transport infrastructure in the ECE region.

¹ This document was submitted late due to the timing of the session.

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat two weeks prior to the session by email (anastasia.barinova@unece.org) or by fax (+41-22-917 0039). Delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on our website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm).

³ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by email (anastasia.barinova@unece.org) or by fax (41 22-917 0039).

5. Partners and expected contributions.
6. International conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change”.
7. Outline of the contents of the final report of the Expert Group.
8. Questionnaire for collection of information on existing and potential climate change impacts on transport as well as degree of preparedness and relevant policies for adaptation.
9. Other business.
10. Date and place of next meeting.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, the Working Party is invited to adopt its agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/3

2. Detailed programme of work

At its first session the group approved its programme of work (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2011/1) and requested the secretariat to elaborate a more detailed one, based on the results of the discussions and recommendations made during the meeting, to be considered by the group at its next session.

The group may wish to consider the detailed programme of work and scheduled activities prepared by the secretariat.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

3. Climate Change and International Transport Networks: Presentations of initiatives at national and international levels

The members of the group will inform the meeting about initiatives at national and international levels on climate change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks.

The group may wish to consider how this information could be better utilized in the framework of its work.

4. Review of scientific background, existing literature and identification of the issues pertinent to climate change impacts on transport infrastructure in the ECE region

The group will be informed about the review of scientific background and existing literature by the external consultant (Informal document No. 2) and additional information provided by the secretariat.

The group may wish to consider the information regarding the:

- Review of the scientific background of climate change and its implications on a global scale and the ECE region, with an emphasis on its potential impacts on international transport networks;
- Identification of the issues pertinent to climate change impacts on transport infrastructure in the ECE region, taking into account different modes of transport, on the basis of selected existing information / studies;
- Review of the available literature on climate change impacts in international transport networks and adaptation solutions aimed at identifying possible existing best practices and national policies in place focused on inland modes of transport.

The group may wish to provide guidance to the consultant and the secretariat on the follow up to this work.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2

5. Partners and expected contributions

At its first session, the group discussed potential partners for its work and possible collaboration efforts. The group is recalled that at the same session, recognizing that climate change impacts and adaptation on international transport networks is a global issue that concerns countries globally and not only the UNECE member states, the unique character of the work of this group, and the importance of the issues at stake had invited: UNCTAD secretariat and its member states to take an active role in the work of the group; other United Nations regional commissions to consider their active participation and contribution; TEM and TER Projects and UNECE secretariat to explore practical ways ensuring operational interaction of the TEM and TER Projects; governments, international government and non-governmental organizations, international financial institutions, businesses and donors to consider co-funding future project activities; the secretariat to consider ways and means that the work of the group be aligned with and or benefit from other related United Nations activities, particularly the processes and mechanisms developed under the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC); and explore cooperation with United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (UNCSD), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the European Commission.

The secretariat will inform the group about the results of its efforts to explore possible collaboration with the above mentioned bodies. The members of the group may also wish share their own information on achieving this goal.

6. International conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change”

At its first session, the group noted that the organization of an international conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change” had been proposed by the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) at its twenty-third session and that the Hellenic Chambers Transport Association (HCTA) had informed WP.5 that if there was no offer from governments, the Greek Chambers of Commerce and Industry would be ready to explore the possibility of hosting such a UNECE-UNCTAD event.

At the same session the group appreciating the offer of HCTA requested it to inform the group if this can be materialized, and the secretariat, in close collaboration with other partners and key stakeholders, to explore ways that the organization of such a conference can be financed.

The secretariat will inform the group on the progress made on organizing the international conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change”.

The group will be informed by the secretariat on the proposed structure of the conference. A draft outline of the proposed topics and sessions will be circulated to the members of the group as Informal document No. 3.

The group may wish to consider the matter and provide guidance to the secretariat.

Documentation

Informal document No. 3

7. Outline of the contents of the final report of the Expert Group

At its first session, the group following an exchange of views on the possible structure of its final report, requested the secretariat, with the help of the consultant, to prepare an outline of the contents of the final report for its consideration at the next session.

The group may wish to consider and approve the outline of the contents of the final report prepared by the secretariat and the external consultant (Informal document No. 4).

Documentation

Informal document No. 4

8. Questionnaire for collection of information on existing and potential climate change impacts on transport as well as degree of preparedness and relevant policies for adaptation

According to its approved programme of work, the group should take stock of the available data and analysis of climate change impacts on international transport networks in the ECE region and beyond and collect information on all relevant planning, management, organizational and other initiatives for adaptation of transport networks to climate change.

The group, noting the importance of gathering information, may wish to consider and approve the questionnaire prepared by the secretariat and the external consultant. The questionnaire is to be sent to UNECE member States and other parties concerned for collection of the required information. The draft questionnaire will be circulated as Informal document No. 5.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

9. Other business

The Group of Experts may wish to discuss other issues of interest.

10. Date and place of next meeting

The Expert Group may wish to consider and decide upon the venue and dates of its next meeting.
