



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
17 June 2013

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Twenty-sixth session

Geneva, 10–12 September 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session^{1, 2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 10 September 2013.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Joint, Euro-Asian Transport Links project - Trans-European Motorways (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects – and Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics, workshop on “Financing Transport Infrastructure”.
3. Workshop on Ports Hinterland connections: the case of the South East Transport Axis project.
4. Monitoring developments in pan-European transport networks:
 - (a) The European Commission briefing on the progress made in developing the Trans-European Transport Network;
 - (b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects.

¹ 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). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat two weeks prior to the session by e-mail (maria.mostovets@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).

5. Euro-Asian Transport Links:
 - (a) Progress in Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) work;
 - (b) The GIS challenge of infrastructure projects;
 - (c) Other Euro-Asian transport initiatives.
6. Transport in the Mediterranean Region:
 - (a) Report of the Mediterranean Transport Study Centre;
 - (b) The Euro-Mediterranean transport network;
 - (c) Report of the Union for the Mediterranean.
7. Climate Change and Transport:
 - (a) Group of Experts on climate change impacts and adaptation to International Transport networks;
 - (b) Climate Change mitigation: presentation of UNECE ForFITS tool;
 - (c) Diesel engine exhausts.
8. Review of the transport situation, transport trends and economics in ECE region:
 - (a) Transport Trends and Economics 2012–2013: Urban transport and mobility;
 - (b) Transport Trends and Economics 2013–2014: Financing Transport Infrastructure;
 - (c) Transport Trends and Challenges in a UNECE member State: the case of Lithuania;
 - (d) Transport Trends and Challenges in the road sector;
 - (e) Transport Trends and Challenges in the rail sector;
 - (f) Transport Trends and Challenges in the inland waterways sector.
9. Transport and Competitiveness.
10. Technical assistance to countries with transition economies.
11. Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2014–2015
12. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party.
13. Other business.
14. Date of next session.
15. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is its adoption.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/53

2. **Joint, Euro-Asian Transport Links project - Trans-European Motorways (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects – and Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics, workshop on “Financing Transport Infrastructure”**

The revised TEM and TER Master Plan reflected the changes in the road and rail backbone network as well as the forecast of traffic flows on articular sections of the TEM (motorway/road) and TER (rail) networks. The Master Plan lists the road and rail projects, comprising 294 motorway/road construction and/or rehabilitation and 191 rail projects with a total cost of approximately 188 billion euros.

The EATL project Phase II resulted in a multi-country transport investment plan, which is the outcome of the review and prioritization of 311 priority projects. The total cost of these projects is over 200 billion United States dollars. Out of them 188 projects have been identified as high priority requiring special attention. Their estimated costs are US \$ 78 billion.

Financing of these projects requires not only the commitment by Governments of participating countries but also concerted involvement and assistance by international financial institutions and donors. To this end, UNECE is organizing this Joint Workshop on “Financing Transport Infrastructure”.

At this workshop, experts from TEM and TER as well as EATL participating States, in total 39 countries, will have the opportunity to present their countries' transport infrastructure projects that have been identified as high priority to representatives of various international financial institutions, donors and international organizations.

The Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics may wish to consider presentations by invited experts. The Working Party may wish to review, discuss and adopt conclusions that reflect the presentations and subsequent discussions of workshop participants.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

3. **Workshop on Ports Hinterland connections: the case of the South East Transport Axis project**

The last few decades have seen rapid growth in port throughput resulting from the liberalization of international trade and the geographical dispersion of manufacturing. Considerable strain has been placed on port hinterland connections, with consequent economic, environmental and social problems. In particular, inefficient hinterland links lead to increased supply chain costs and inefficiencies and greater environmental impacts.

Following the work done by the Group of Experts on Hinterland Connections of Seaports, the Working Party may wish to consider presentations by experts from the South East Transport Axis (SETA) project. The SETA project refers to the optimization and small scale investments for improving railway connections between Vienna-Bratislava - northern Adriatic ports. The Working Party may wish to review, discuss and adopt conclusions that reflect the presentations and subsequent discussions of workshop participants.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2

4. Monitoring of the developments in pan-European transport networks

(a) The European Commission briefing on the progress made in developing the Trans-European Transport Network

The European Commission will brief the Working Party about the recent progress of TEN-T activities and extending the network to countries neighbouring the European Union (EU).

Documentation

Informal document No. 3

(b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects

The manager of the TEM and TER projects will inform the Working Party about the activities implemented over the reporting period 2012–2013.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/1

5. Euro-Asian Transport Links

(a) Progress on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) work

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about the progress of the work of the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) and the recent developments of the EATL project Phase III (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/2013/1). The Working Party may wish to consider, discuss and provide guidance on the effective implementation of the Group of Experts work plan.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/2013/1

(b) The GIS challenge of infrastructure projects

The Working Party may wish to recall that at its twenty-fifth session, following a proposal made by the representative of the Centre for Transportation Studies for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) asked the representatives of TEM and TER, the EATL project and the Trans-Mediterranean and 5+5 Transport network to present their geographic information system (GIS) initiatives and activities and explore possibilities for cooperation.

The Working Party may wish to consider the presentations of the three GIS projects/initiatives and provide guidance regarding possible cooperation.

(c) Other Euro-Asian transport initiatives

Representatives of other Euro-Asian transport initiatives/projects will brief the Working Party about their activities and cooperation with the EATL Expert Group.

6. Transport in the Mediterranean Region**(a) Report of the Mediterranean Transport Study Centre**

CETMO had been asked to prepare a report on CETMO activities for the twenty-sixth session of the Working Party. The information on recent activities of CETMO will be circulated for consideration by the Working Party.

Documentation

Informal document No. 4

(b) The Euro-Mediterranean transport network

The European Commission will brief the Working Party on its activities in developing the Euro-Mediterranean transport network.

(c) Report of the Union for the Mediterranean

The Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) secretariat will brief the Working Party on its activities in developing the Mediterranean transport network.

7. Climate Change and Transport**(a) Group of Experts on climate change impacts and adaptation to International Transport networks**

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about the results and main decisions taken during the last sessions of the Group of Experts on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks. In addition the secretariat will present the final report - publication of the Group of Experts (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/2) for consideration and adoption by the Working Party.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/2 and UNECE publication

(b) Climate Change mitigation: presentation of UNECE ForFITS tool

The Working Party will be informed by the secretariat about the 2012–2013 developments in the For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS) project, funded by the United Nations Development Account. The project aims at developing and implementing a monitoring and assessment tool for carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in inland transport, including a transport policy converter to facilitate climate change mitigation. The assessment tool, including the policy converter, may pave the way For Future Inland Transport Systems, hence its name: ForFITS. The Working Party may wish to note of the following achievements of the project:

- Organization of an International Expert Meeting (IEM) to raise awareness, avoid duplication and solicit contributions towards the design of the For FITS toolkit;
- Peer review discussion;
- Global status assessment and report;

- Preparation of the ForFITS toolkit.

Next steps will include specific pilot projects in two countries for each of the five different regions, the development of an internet based user manual, capacity-building workshops and training activities for policymakers and technical experts.

(c) Diesel engine exhausts

Based on sufficient evidence that exposure is associated with an increased risk for lung cancer, the International Agency on Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded in 2012 that diesel engine exhaust is carcinogenic to humans. IARC thereby changed its finding from 1988, when it classified diesel exhaust as probably being carcinogenic to humans.

The secretariat, following an initiative of the UNECE Environment Division prepared a document (Informal document No. 5) with the objective to provide basic information about some recent and important developments in transboundary air pollution; illustrate the results of recent studies on the harmful effects of diesel exhausts to public health; and inform WP.5 about technological developments of diesel engines or their replacement by electric ones that minimize or even remove any harmful effects to public health.

The Working Party may wish to consider the document prepared by the secretariat and provide guidance regarding its improvement and finalisation.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

8. Review of the transport situation, transport trends and economics in ECE region

(a) Transport Trends and Economics 2012–2013: Urban transport and mobility

The Working Party will be informed by the secretariat about the transport trends and economics 2012–2013: Urban transport and mobility publication (UNECE publication), prepared by the secretariat on the basis of country inputs.

Documentation

UNECE publication

(b) Transport Trends and Economics 2013–2014: Financing Transport Infrastructure

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about next year's transport trends and economics publication theme (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/4). The Working Party may wish to consider and adopt the theme of the next transport trends and economics publication.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/3

(c) Transport Trends and Challenges in a UNECE member State: the case of Lithuania

A representative of the Ministry of Transport of Lithuania will make a presentation on the recent transport developments, trends and challenges in the country. The Working Party may wish to discuss the country's experience and indicate whether it would appreciate another national report from another UNECE member country in 2014.

Documentation

Informal document No. 6

(d) Transport Trends and Challenges in the road sector

A representative of the International Road Transport Union will present recent road transport trends and challenges.

Documentation

Informal document No. 7

(e) Transport Trends and Challenges in the rail sector

A representative of the International Union of Railways will present recent rail transport trends and challenges.

Documentation

Informal document No. 8

(f) Transport Trends and Challenges in the inland waterways sector

A representative of an International Organization will present recent inland waterways transport trends and challenges.

9. Transport and Competitiveness

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about the progress of the UNECE project “Supply Chain Challenges for National Competitiveness through Transport” approved by the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) at its seventy-second session in February 2010.

Documentation

Informal document No. 9

10. Technical assistance to countries with transition economies

The Working Party will be informed about activities of the Regional Adviser and the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) during the biennium 2012–2013. The Working Party may wish to invite governments, international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE TFACT and indicate the type of assistance.

Documentation

Informal document No. 10

11. Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2014–2015

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its twenty-fourth session in September 2011, it had approved indicators of achievement for the measurement of its expected accomplishments in 2012 and 2013 (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/50, para. 48). In accordance with the decision of the ITC to review its programme of work every two years, the next review being in 2014, the Working Party may wish to review and adopt its programme of work for 2014–2015 as well as the relevant parameters for its biennial evaluation. The draft programme of work for 2014–2015 and the expected accomplishment indicators are contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/6.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2013/4

12. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party

The Working Party will be informed about the main decisions of the seventy-fifth session of the Inland Transport Committee (26–28 February 2013) on issues of interest to the Working Party.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/236

13. Other business

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.

14. Date of next session

The Working Party's twenty-seventh session is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva from 16 to 18 September 2014.

15. Adoption of the report

In accordance with the decision of the Working Party taken at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chair and Vice-Chair with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to the Inland Transport Committee.
