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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting

Transport

(23-26 October 2001, agenda item 8 bis)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION OF  
THE WORKING PARTY ON CUSTOMS QUESTIONS AFFECTING TRANSPORT**

**Addendum 1**

Add the following agenda item:

**8 bis            Programme of work for 2002 to 2006**

The Working Party may wish to consider its programme of work covering the years 2002 to 2006. On the basis of its present programme of work (2001-2005) as reproduced in Annex 1 to this agenda, and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Inland Transport Committee and the Commission, the Working Party may wish to review its future activities taking into account that (a) the output to be expected within the next two years (or earlier) of each work element should be indicated, (b) work elements with a permanent character and those to be executed within a limited time period should be listed separately and (c) the programme of work should be streamlined as much as possible and the broad objectives and the measures to be carried out should be clearly stated.

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Annex

Programme of work for the years 2001-2005<sup>22</sup>

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.10: CUSTOMS QUESTIONS  
AFFECTING TRANSPORT**

**Harmonization and simplification of requirements for border crossing procedures concerning modes of inland transport** **Priority: 1**

Description:

- (a) Preparation, review, implementation and, where appropriate, modification of international legal instruments.
- (b) Simplification of administrative formalities, documents and procedures.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport will pursue the following activities:

**CONTINUING ACTIVITIES**

- (a) Study of specific legal and other measures to combat fiscal fraud resulting from simplified Customs and other border crossing procedures, such as the TIR regime, including periodic review of the status of implementation of resolution No. 220 (prevention of the abuse of Customs transit systems by drug smugglers). Setting-up of mechanisms and administrative procedures for the regular exchange of information with other Governmental and non-governmental organizations to combat such fraud.

Priority: 2

Output expected in 2001:

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<sup>22</sup>Text in bold characters indicates newly proposed text; text in square brackets ([...]) refers to text proposed for deletion.

Preparation of adequate instruments and measures to improve international cooperation among Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975 and concerned national and international organizations to prevent fraud.

Activities towards implementation of the Recommendation adopted by the TIR Administrative Committee on 20 October 1995 on an international EDI control system for TIR Carnets.

Exchange of intelligence among Customs authorities of Contracting Parties to relevant ECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation on abuses with a view to identifying measures to combat such occurrences.

- (b) Study of the possible extension of relevant ECE conventions on border crossing facilitation to other regions, particularly relating to legal and administrative aspects. Priority: 3

Output expected in 2001:

Preparation of regional and/or national workshops, possibly in cooperation with ESCAP and ESCWA, on the implementation of relevant ECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation in Asia and the Middle East.

- (c) Periodic review of relevant ECE conventions on border crossing facilitation in order to ensure their coherence with other international or sub-regional treaties and to keep them in line with modern transport and border control requirements. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2001:

Analysis of the application of the following ECE conventions on border crossing facilitation: TIR Convention 1975; Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private (1954) and Commercial (1956) Road Vehicles; Customs Convention Concerning Spare Parts Used for the Repair of EUROP Wagons; and Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers Used in International Transport.

- (d) Study to facilitate formalities for container pools in international transport and follow-up activities within the framework of the Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers Used in International Transport. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2001:

Preparation and negotiation of two model container pool agreements providing guidance to the transport industry and the Contracting Parties on the implementation of the provisions of the "Customs Container Pool Convention" covering international rail and international maritime transport.

- (e) Analysis of difficulties encountered relating to border crossing formalities with a view to devising administrative procedures eliminating such difficulties. The analysis will cover health, phytosanitary, veterinary and quality controls, application of standards, public safety controls, etc.), including the promotion of the implementation and extension of the scope of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods of 1982 (Harmonization Convention). Priority: 1

Output expected in 2001:

Study of the possibilities to prepare and negotiate a new annex to the "Harmonization Convention" on road transport, including possibly an international lorry weight certificate, in close cooperation with the Working Party on Road Transport.

Study of concrete measures facilitating border crossing procedures for railway transport in cooperation with the Working Party on Rail Transport.

- (f) Study of Customs questions with a view to simplification of Customs formalities and documents in the field of transport, in particular taking account of the possibility of electronic data interchange solutions, including UN/EDIFACT messages. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2001:

Analysis of the impact on the TIR regime of the New Customs Transit System (NCTS) to be applied in the countries of the Common Transit System (European Community, EFTA and Visegrad countries) and coordination of work with the relevant bodies within the European Community on this subject.

## ACTIVITIES OF A LIMITED DURATION

(a) Revision of the TIR Convention, 1975 with a view to stabilizing the TIR Customs transit procedure.

Priority: 1

### Output expected in 2001:

[Completion of phase II of the TIR revision procedure and] Initiation of work on phase III of **the TIR revision procedure**, focusing on the revision of the TIR Carnet and on provisions for a modernized, possibly EDI-based Customs administration and control system.

(b) Study to facilitate railway transit traffic on the basis of the CIM and the SMGS Consignment Notes, including the preparation of a new Customs transit regime allowing the use of the CIM and the SMGS consignment notes as a Customs document.

Priority: 2

### Output expected in 2001:

Study on legal and administrative requirements for using the CIM and SMGS consignment notes as a Customs document (2001).

Preparation of a draft Customs transit convention covering international rail transport in all COTIF and SMGS member States (2001).

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