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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

One-hundred-and-fifteenth session
Geneva, 30 January - 2 February 2007

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-FIFTEENTH SESSION

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.00 hours on Tuesday, 30 January 2007

Addendum

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA*

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/229 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/229/Add.1

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/229 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/229/Add.1).

Item 2 Election of officers

2. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party should elect a Chairperson and possibly a Vice-Chairperson for its sessions in 2007.

* The UNECE Transport Division has submitted the present document after the official documentation deadline.

Item 3 Activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations Organizations of interest to the Working Party

3. The Working Party will be informed about the results of relevant sessions of the Inland Transport Committee and its Bureau, its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations bodies and organizations as they relate to matters of interest to the Working Party.

Item 4 Activities of other Organizations of interest to the Working Party

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/6

4. The Working Party may wish to be informed about recent activities by the World Customs Organization (WCO), the European Commission (DG TAXUD), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as by other governmental and non-governmental organizations as they relate to matters of interest to the Working Party.

5. The Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/6, transmitted by the ISO, concerning the reinforcement of door openings on containers with a view to consider if provisions such a nature would also have applicability for the Conventions under the auspices of the Working Party.

Item 5 International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982 (“Harmonization Convention”)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/14; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/13

(a) Status of the Convention

6. The Working Party will be informed of the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the Convention. A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention is available at the following website:

http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48.

Information about the status of the Convention can be obtained from the following :

<http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty17.asp>.

(b) Preparation of a new Annex on rail border crossing

7. The Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/13, transmitted by the Organization for the Collaboration of Railways (OSZhD), containing a draft new Annex 9 to the Convention dealing with facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport. The Working Party may wish to take into consideration comments provided by Contracting Parties and delegations participating in the UNECE Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2), who have considered the draft annex at its session in November 2006. The secretariat will include such comments in an informal document to be prepared for the session.

(c) Seminars on the implementation of the Convention

8. The Working Party may wish to be informed of the outcome of the two joint UNECE/OSCE seminars on the implementation of the “Harmonization” Convention that have been organized in Moscow (Russian Federation) on 17-18 October 2006 and in Belgrade (Republic of Serbia) on 14 and 15 December 2006.

(d) Consideration of amendments to the Convention

9. Based on the conclusions of the seminar mentioned under point (c) of this agenda item, the Working Party may wish to have a first exchange of views of the issues listed below which have been identified by the seminar participants as potential areas where the Convention could be amended or improved, bearing in mind that duplication of work inter alia concerning the revised Kyoto Convention should be avoided:

- Further development of modal specific issues
- Best practices
 - Templates for agreements or MoU’s for border cooperation at local level (between national authorities and cross-border)
 - Recommendations concerning establishment of tripartite border-crossing monitoring and facilitation bodies including authorities, employers and workers
 - Border infrastructure guidelines, including
 - √ Access lanes and waiting areas
 - √ Facilities and personnel
 - Vehicle weight certificate
 - √ Best practices for implementation of procedure
 - √ Electronic document
 - Security related controls
 - √ Guidelines for integration of scanners in border controls etc. in the framework of the WCO Framework of Standards
 - Cross-border data exchange

Item 6 International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage Carried by Rail, of 10 January 1952

10. The Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/14, transmitted by the Organization for the Collaboration of Railways (OSZhD, containing a draft text for a new International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage Carried by Rail. The Working Party may wish to take into consideration comments provided by Contracting Parties and delegations participating in the UNECE Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2), who have considered the draft annex at its session in November 2006. The secretariat will include such comments in an informal document to be prepared for the session.

Item 7 Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles (1954) and Commercial Road Vehicles (1956)

(a) Status of the Conventions

11. The Working Party will be informed of the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private (1954) and Commercial (1956) Road Vehicles. A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention is available at the following website:

http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48. Information about the status of the Convention can be obtained from the following s:

<http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty8.asp>,

<http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty10.asp>.

(b) Application of the Conventions

12. The Working Party will be informed about the developments with regard to preparation of new comments and best practices in relation to a number of the issues raised by the AIT/FIA.

Item 8 Rail transit

13. The Working Party may wish to be informed of the latest developments concerning this point of the agenda.

Item 9 Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975)

Documentation: [ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/5](#); [ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/4](#); [ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/2](#); [ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/17/Rev.1](#)

(a) Status of the Convention

14. A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention, as well as a list of countries in which TIR operations can be undertaken, is annexed to the report of the forty-first session of the TIR Administrative Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/83, annex) and can also be found on the following website: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48. Permanently updated information on the scope of the TIR Convention is available on the UNECE TIR website: (<http://tir.unece.org>).

(b) Revision of the Convention

(i) Implementation of Phases I and II of the TIR revision process and examples of best practices

15. The Working Party may wish to be informed of new developments regarding this issue.

(ii) Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

16. The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its ninety-sixth session, it had decided to start work on Phase III of the TIR revision process, which would include a study of the following elements (TRANS/WP.30/192, para. 33):

- Revision of the TIR Carnet, including the insertion of additional data elements (ID number, HS code, value of goods, etc.);
- Use of new technologies in TIR operations also with a view to reducing the delay in notification of non-discharge.

17. The Working Party also decided to consider questions in relation to the application of Article 38 of the Convention under this agenda item.

– Revision of the TIR Carnet

18. The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-thirteenth session, it decided to consider at its future sessions the question of revision of the TIR Carnet, in particular the introduction in the TIR Carnet of the HS code bearing in mind the considerations by the TIR Administrative Committee to adopt a Recommendation on the use of the HS code in the context of the TIR Convention. In this context, the Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/4, transmitted by the Government of Turkey.

– Use of new technologies

19. The Working Party may wish to take note of the report of the tenth session of the Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (ExG) took place on 25 and 26 September 2006. The report is contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2006/10.

20. The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-fourteenth session, the IRU had put forward a number of questions in relation to the proposals contained in documents ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/8 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2006/9. The Working Party may wish to consider the replies to the questions contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/2, transmitted by the authors of the above-mentioned documents.

– Article 38

21. The Working party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/17/Rev.1, prepared by the secretariat, containing a revised proposal example, developed by the TIRExB, of best practice for the communication of exclusions according to Article 38.

(iii) Amendment proposals for the Convention

22. The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-fourteenth session, it had considered various amendment proposals submitted by Contracting Parties to the Convention contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2006/5, prepared by the secretariat. The Working Party had reached an agreement on the amendment proposals regarding new Article 1(q) and (r) of the Convention.

23. The Working Party had requested Contracting Parties to the Convention to transit to the secretariat additional proposals for amendments to the Convention. The Working Party may wish to take note of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/5, prepared by the European Community, containing a number of proposals regarding various provisions of the Convention.

24. The Working Party may wish to continue its considerations of the amendment proposals.

(c) Application of the Convention

(i) Control system for TIR Carnets - IRU SafeTIR

25. The Working Party may wish to be informed by the IRU about developments concerning the issue.

(ii) Settlement of claims for payments

26. The Working Party may wish to be informed by Customs authorities and the IRU of the present situation with regard to the settlement of claims for payments made by Customs authorities against national guaranteeing associations.

(iii) Issues relating to technical provisions

27. The Working Party may wish to be informed about developments concerning the issue.

(iv) TIR Handbook

28. The TIR Handbook contains the text of the Convention and its annexes, including the amendments to the Convention and Explanatory Notes, as well as all relevant comments adopted by the Working Party and the Administrative Committee.

29. The 2005 version of the Handbook is available in the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish language versions both in hard copy, CD-ROM and in electronic version for download from the UNECE TIR website: <http://tir.unece.org>. Hard copies and CD-ROM's can be obtained from the secretariat.

30. The 2007 version of the Handbook is scheduled to be released in March 2007.

(v) Other matters

31. The Working Party may wish to consider any other issues and difficulties in the application of the Convention faced by Customs authorities, national associations, the international insurers or the IRU.

Item 10 Prevention of the abuse of Customs transit systems by smugglers

32. As in the past, the Working Party may wish, on a restricted basis, to exchange views concerning any special cases, devices and facilities used to abuse the TIR transit system.

Item 11 Other business

(a) Dates of the next sessions

33. The Working Party may wish to decide on the dates for its next sessions.

34. The secretariat has already scheduled the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of the Working Party to be held in the week from 30 January to 2 February 2007 in conjunction with the forty-third session of the TIR Administrative Committee.

35. The Working Party has made arrangement for the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of the Working Party in the week of 11 to 15 June 2007.

(b) Restriction on the distribution of documents

36. The Working Party should decide whether there shall be any restrictions with respect to the distribution of documents issued in connection with its current session.

Item 12 Adoption of the reports

37. In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the report on its one-hundred-and-fifteenth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. Given the present resource restrictions with regard to translation facilities, parts of the final report may not be available at the session for adoption in all working languages.
