



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TRANS/SC.2/1999/16  
19 August 1999

Original: ENGLISH

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Rail Transport  
(Fifty-third session, 6-8 October 1999,  
agenda item 13)

APPLICATION OF SUMMER TIME

Transmitted by the Governments of Armenia, the Czech Republic,  
Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of  
Macedonia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom

Please note that the distribution of documentation for the Principal Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) is no longer "restricted". Accordingly, the secretariat has adopted a new numbering system whereby all working documents will be numbered as follows: TRANS/SC.2/year/serial number. Reports, agendas, resolutions and major publications will continue to follow the previous numbering system (e.g., TRANS/SC.2/191).

Note: The Working Party and the ITC, at its fifty-second and sixty-first sessions, respectively, requested Governments to provide information on summer time arrangements concerning the following issues:

- (a) Summer time arrangements for the year 1998, if already made.
- (b) The hour at which the transition occurs (local time) at the beginning and the end of the application of summer time.
- (c) Medium-term period (number of years) for which the dates of the summer time period might be standardized.

#### **ARMENIA**

- (a) Summer time schedule for the year 1999 is ready.
- (b) Summer time schedule begins on 1 April and ends on 31 October.
- (c) Summer time schedule is in operation for a two-year period.

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

- (a) Assigning a summer time schedule in 1999

Summer time in 1999 officially begins on 28 March and ends on 31 October.

- (b) The hour of the change (local time) when summer time starts and ends

The change from winter time (central Europe) to summer time (eastern Europe) and back again is between the second and third hours of the morning.

- (c) The data for the mean time period (number of years could be standardised for the summer period)

In the Czech Republic summer time has been clearly applied and approved, and it is not expected that any problems will arise should standardisation occur. According to a ruling made by the Czech Government, summer time in the years 2000 and 2001 will be as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>The Start</u>	<u>The End</u>
2000	26 March	29 October
2001	25 March	28 October

#### **GERMANY**

- (a) For the EU region, summer time arrangements have been standardized, on UTC basis, by the 8<sup>th</sup> European Parliament and Council Directive 97/44/EC of 22 July 1997 on Summer Time Arrangements (Official Journal of the EC No L 206, pa. 62) for the years 1998 to 2002. The directive provides that summer time begins on the last Sunday in March, at 1 a.m. UTC and ends on the last Sunday in October, at 1 a.m. UTC.

This directive has been incorporated in Germany national law by the ordinance on the introduction of Central European summer time for the years 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 of 7 October 1997 (Federal Law Gazette I, p. 2471).

- (b) According to the above-mentioned directive and/or ordinance, summer time in Germany, where Central European Time (CET = UTC + 1) applies, begins on 28 March at 2 a.m. CET and ends on 31 October at 3 a.m. CET.
- (c) The dates for the beginning and end of the summer time period can, in our view, be standardized at the earliest after expiry of the currently applicable European Parliament and Council Directive for the years 1998 to 2001.

#### **HUNGARY**

- (a) Summer time arrangements take place in 1999 on the provisions of Government's relevant Decree of 1996, too.
- (b) Transition at the beginning took place on 28 March 1999 at 2 o'clock a.m. to 3 o'clock a.m. Transition at the end will take place on 31 October 1999 at 3 o'clock a.m. to 2 o'clock a.m.
- (c) There is not a time limit for the validity of the relevant Decree of the Government from 1996.

#### **LATVIA**

- (a) In 1999, the transition to summer time had been on Sunday, March 28, at 3.00; the transition to winter time will be on Sunday, October 31, at 4.00.
- (b) Yearly, the transition to summer time occurs on the last Sunday of March, at 3.00, and the transition to winter time occurs on the last Sunday of October, at 4.00.
- (c) Two years ago, i.e. on March 25, 1997, our Cabinet has amended the Regulations No. 50 of January 21, 1997 "On the Transition to Summer Time". In such a way, the procedure of transition to summer time has been standardized.

#### **LITHUANIA**

- (a) This year the transition to the summer time occurred on 28th of March in Lithuania.
- (b) Transition at the beginning and at the end of the application of summer time occurs at 2 o'clock a.m.
- (c) The dates of the summer time periods are standardised according to the EU requirements.

**SLOVAKIA**

- (a) Summer time in 1999 is valid from 28 March till 31 October.
- (b) On 28 March 1999 the time was shifted from 2:00 CET to 3:00 EET.  
On 31 October 1999 the time will shift from 3:00 EET to 2:00 CET.
- (c) Medium term is defined two years in advance.

**SLOVENIA**

- (b) In the Republic of Slovenia the summer time has been in force. It starts at 2.00 a.m. on the last Sunday in March and is in force by 3.00 a.m. on the last Sunday in October.
- (c) The summer time is co-ordinated with the EU directive and is agreed to be in force by the year 2001.

**SPAIN**

As regulated by the Eight Directive of the European Parliament, summer time arrangements for 1998-2001 are as follows:

- S** The official time is advanced 60 minutes at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday of March, i.e:
  - \* In 1998, on 29 March
  - \* In 1999, on 28 March
  - \* In 2000, on 26 March
  - \* In 2001, on 25 March
- S** In the same years, the official time will be changed from 3 a.m. to 2 a.m. on the last Sunday of October, i.e:
  - \* In 1998, on 25 October
  - \* In 1999, on 31 October
  - \* In 2000, on 20 October
  - \* In 2001, on 28 October.

**UNITED KINGDOM**

- (a) The Summer Time Order 1997, which came into force on 31 December 1997 (and which has effect in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Bailiwick and Guernsey) provides for the periods of British Summer time (BST) in the years 1998-2001 inclusivbe, which will be one hour in advance of Greenwich Mean Time.

	BST begins	BST ends
1998	29 March	25 October
1999	28 March	31 October
2000	26 March	29 October
2001	25 March	28 October

- (b) BST begins at 0100 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), when clocks should be put forward one hour. It ends at 0200 BST, when clocks should be put back to 0100 GMT.
  - (c) The Summer Time Order 1997 implements the Eighth Summer Time Directive which establishes the start and end dates and time of the periods of summer time for the years 1998-2001 in the Member States of the EU.
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