



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/SC.2/195
6 August 2001

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Rail Transport
(16 - 18 October 2001)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION*

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday 16 October 2001

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda | TRANS/SC.2/195 |
| 2. | Activities of ECE bodies of interest to the Working Party | |
| | (a) Economic Commission for Europe | |
| | (b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies | ECE/TRANS/136 |
| 3. | Follow-up to the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment | JMTE/2001/15 |

* By decision of the UNOG Conference Services and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly asked to bring copies of the documents referred to in this provisional agenda with them to the fifty-fifth session of the Working Party on Rail Transport. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room. Any missing documents may be obtained from the Documents Distribution Section of the United Nations at Geneva (room C.111, 1st Floor, Palais des Nations).

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Therefore, delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division: <http://www.unece.org/trans/Welcome.html>) and to transmit the duly filled-in form at the latest two weeks before the session to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (helena.petersen.dyggve@unece.org). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, phone the ECE secretariat (int. 72458).

4. Study of the situation of the railways in member countries TRANS/SC.2/2001/10 and Add.1
5. Aspects of rail transport policy TRANS/SC.2/2001/11
6. Determination of railway infrastructure capacity including aspects related to the fee for the use of the infrastructure TRANS/SC.2/2001/12 and Add.1
TRANS/SC.2/2001/13
TRANS/SC.2/2000/2
TRANS/SC.2/2000/2/Add.1 and Corr.1
TRANS/SC.2/2000/2/Add.2-5
7. Railway safety: risk assessment techniques TRANS/SC.2/2001/14 and Add.1
8. Facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport
 - (a) Monitoring of progress made in the facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport TRANS/SC.2/2001/15 and Add.1
 - (b) Border-crossing facilitation project in the SECI (South-east European Co-operative Initiative) region
9. The role of railways in the promotion of combined transport TRANS/SC.2/2001/9 -
TRANS/WP.24/2001/8
10. European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC)
 - (a) Situation regarding the application of the AGC
 - (b) Amendments proposed to Annex I of the AGC Agreement TRANS/SC.2/2001/16
 - (c) Data collecting efforts on the AGC network TRANS/SC.2/2001/17 and Add.1
 - (d) Safety provisions in long rail tunnels TRANS/AC.7/8
11. Development of a European conventional and high-speed railway network
 - (a) European conventional railway network TRANS/SC.2/2001/18 and Adds.1-2
 - (b) European high-speed railway network TRANS/SC.2/2001/18 and Adds.1-2
12. Research activities in the field of railway transport TRANS/SC.2/2001/19 and Adds.1-2
13. Trans-European Railway (TER) Project TRANS/SC.2/2001/20

14. Application of summer time TRANS/SC.2/2001/21 and Add.1-2

 15. Information on developments in various railway fields TRANS/SC.2/2001/22 and Add.1-2
 - (a) Environmental questions related to railway operations
 - (b) Safety in railway transport
 - (c) Use of computers in rail transport operations, in particular in the management of rail goods traffic
 - (d) Introduction of new transport technologies and application of modern techniques to railway operations, in particular regarding the interface between rail transport and other transport modes

 16. Draft Programme of Work for 2002-2006 TRANS/SC.2/2001/23

 17. Election of officers for the sessions of the Working Party in 2002 and 2003

 18. Other business
 - (a) Presentation of the use of Global Positioning System (GMS)
 - (b) Date of the Working Party's next session

 19. Adoption of the report
-

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

2. ACTIVITIES OF ECE BODIES OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

(a) Economic Commission for Europe

The fifty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 8 to 11 May 2001.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, concerning such questions as intersectoral cooperation in the ECE, particularly between environment, energy and transport; ECE strategic decisions, the Millennium Declaration as well as operational activities (E/2001/37-E/ECE/1387, paras. 27-41).

(b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Committee held its sixty-third session in Geneva from 13 to 15 February 2001.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the Committee's discussion, on questions related, in particular, to the work areas as contained in paras. 63-69, 81 and 88 of the Committee's report (ECE/TRANS/136).

3. FOLLOW-UP TO THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Working Party will be informed about the progress made in the implementation of the Vienna Declaration (ECE/RCTE/CONF./2/FINAL) and the Programme of Joint Action (ECE/RCTE/CONF./3/FINAL), and the decisions taken at the High level Meeting and Transport Environment and Health (4 May 2001) and the fourth Joint Meeting of the Bureaux of the Inland Transport Committee and the Environment Committee (6 June 2000) (JMTE/2001/15).

Other questions related to transport and environment are being addressed under item 15(a) of the provisional agenda.

4. STUDY OF THE SITUATION OF THE RAILWAYS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES

In accordance with the decisions of the Working Party taken at its fifty-second and fifty-third sessions, Governments have been requested to provide information on the following questions which have an impact on the railways in member countries:

- (1) Data on past and future developments of rail passenger and goods traffic;

- (2) New developments to be observed subsequent to the reorganization of the rail sector with special attention to the setting-up of new railway companies;
- (3) Investment in (i) rail infrastructure and (ii) railway rolling stock
(TRANS/SC.2/190, para.18; TRANS/SC.2/192, para.17).

The Working Party may wish to consider the replies received which are being circulated in documents TRANS/SC.2/2001/10 and Add.1, identify the items to be examined in more detail in future and decide on which areas information might be assembled under this agenda item for future sessions.

5. ASPECTS OF RAIL TRANSPORT POLICY

As a follow-up to the International Union of Railways (UIC) contribution on the relevance of railways in the transport market to the Working Party's fifty-fourth session (TRANS/SC.2/194, para.17), the UIC has prepared a note highlighting such aspects as efficiency, innovation, capacity, competition, management, regulations etc. in the railway system, which is submitted for consideration by the Working Party in document TRANS/SC.2/2001/11.

6. DETERMINATION OF RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY INCLUDING ASPECTS RELATED TO THE FEE FOR THE USE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

In reply to a request of the Working Party, Governments that had not yet done so in 2000 have provided information on the progress made in the determination of fees for the use of the infrastructure, particularly on the following items (TRANS/SC.2/194, para.19-21):

- (a) Legal status (existing or foreseen) for railway infrastructure managers, railway operators and the national regulatory body.
- (b) Principles for capacity allocation.
- (c) Principles for the identification of sections with capacity constraints. Priority criteria for these sections.
- (d) Co-operation with neighbouring network infrastructure managers for the allocation of capacity at the international level.
- (e) Description of the existing/envisaged infrastructure charging schemes: charging principles and rules.
- (f) Special charging regimes.

The Working Party may wish to consider the information received (TRANS/SC.2/2001/12 and Add.1) and discuss the follow-up to be given to this activity bearing in mind the note prepared earlier by the secretariat (TRANS/SC.2/2000/2; TRANS/SC.2/2000/2/Add.1 and Corr.1; TRANS/SC.2/2000/2/Add.2-5). The Working Party may wish to examine, in particular, the possibility whether some recommendations may be developed with a view to facilitating the allocation of capacity for international rail services.

In connection with this agenda item, the Working Party may also examine the information provided by the Forum Train Europe (FTE) on practical problems linked to capacity allocation for international rail freight services (TRANS/SC.2/2001/13).

7. RAILWAY SAFETY: RISK ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES

In reply to a request of the Working Party at its fifty-third session, Governments submitted information on the application of risk assessment techniques to railway safety on the following items (TRANS/SC.2/192, para. 23).

- (1) Railway accidents (based on definitions used in UIC statistics);
- (2) Methodologies used to establish investment priorities in the field of railway safety;
- (3) Traffic of dangerous goods on the network of the European agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC);
- (4) Marshalling yards used more by dangerous goods transport.

The Working Party may wish to consider the replies received which are being circulated in document TRANS/SC.2/2001/14 and Add.1 and identify those safety related aspects which may be discussed in more detail at future sessions.

8. FACILITATION OF BORDER CROSSING IN INTERNATIONAL RAIL TRANSPORT

(a) Monitoring of progress made in the facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport

Following the decision of the Working Party, a questionnaire containing a monitoring system on border crossing stopping times as defined in annex 3 of its report (TRANS/SC.2/194) was submitted to those countries where the following border stations are located: Ruse, Kulata, Svilengrad (Bulgaria), Promachon (Greece), Lököshaza (Hungary), Curtici and Giurgiu nord (Romania), Suzemka (Russian Federation), Kapikule (Turkey) and Zernovo (Ukraine). The replies received on the border crossing stopping times in international rail transport are reproduced in TRANS/SC.2/2001/15 for consideration by the Working Party (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 30).

The Working Party may consider the possibility of extending the monitoring system to the border stations that were submitted to its fifty-fourth session in informal document No.7 (2 October 2000) and which is reproduced in document TRANS/SC.2/2001/15/Add.1

(b) Border-crossing facilitation project in the SECI (South-east European Co-operative Initiative) region

In accordance with the request made at its last session, the Working Party will be informed by its Chairman about the progress made in the border-crossing facilitation project for international rail transport in the SECI region (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 31).

9. THE ROLE OF RAILWAYS IN THE PROMOTION OF COMBINED TRANSPORT

The Working Party may wish to recall the results of the Joint Meeting of the Working Party with the Working Party on Combined Transport (WP.24) that took place on 19 April 2001 as circulated in the report of the meeting (TRANS/SC.2/2001/9 - TRANS/WP.24/2001/8).

In considering the report the Working Party may also bear in mind that the Working Party on Combined Transport, subsequent to a preliminary exchange of views on the results of the Joint Meeting, felt that follow-up actions should focus on issues such as partnership models; costing, pricing and subsidies; facilitation of border crossing procedures and the harmonization of civil liability regimes in multimodal transport (TRANS/WP.24/91, paras. 33-35).

The Working Party may wish to discuss the findings of the Joint Meeting's report and identify those rail related issues on which it intends to concentrate in its future work in order to promote combined transport.

10. EUROPEAN AGREEMENT ON MAIN INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY LINES (AGC)

(a) Situation regarding the application of the AGC

The Working Party may note that the following countries are at present Parties to the AGC, bringing the total number of Contracting Parties to 22: Belarus; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina (succession); Bulgaria; Croatia (succession); Czech Republic (succession); France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Italy; Luxembourg; Republic of Moldova (succession); Poland; Romania; Russian Federation; Slovakia (succession); Slovenia (succession); The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (succession); Turkey; Ukraine; Yugoslavia.

The Working Party may wish to be informed by delegations and the secretariat about the intention of Governments to become Contracting Parties to the AGC Agreement.

(b) Amendments proposed to Annex I of the AGC Agreement

The Working Party may wish to take note of the updated version of Annex I of the AGC Agreement prepared by the secretariat that includes all the amendments which entered into force by 15 November 2000 (TRANS/SC.2/2001/16) as well as those adopted by the Working Party at its fifty-fourth session.

(c) Data collecting efforts on the AGC network

At its fifty-fourth session, the Working Party requested Governments that have thus far not done so, to provide data on total train traffic on the AGC network in 1995 (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 44). The information received by the secretariat is being circulated in TRANS/SC.2/2001/17 and Add.1 for consideration by the Working Party.

(d) Safety provisions in long rail tunnels

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the conclusions of the meeting of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels held from 9 to 11 July 2001 in Geneva, which focused on road tunnels and which are being circulated in (TRANS/AC.7/8). Following the invitation of the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-third session the Working Party may wish to consider the question of safety provisions in long rail tunnels in light of the recommendations made for road tunnels to transmit its comments on them to the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 56).

11. DEVELOPMENT OF A EUROPEAN CONVENTIONAL AND HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY NETWORK

(a) European conventional railway network

In accordance with a request made by the Working Party at its fifty-third session Governments and international organizations concerned have provided information on the development of conventional railway networks (TRANS/SC.2/192, para. 35).

The Working Party may wish to consider the information received, which is being circulated in documents TRANS/SC.2/2001/18 and Add.1-2.

(b) European high-speed railway network

In line with the request under the above-mentioned item 11 (a), Governments and international organizations concerned have reported on the development of high-speed railway networks, including information on the complementarity between high-speed rail and air transport, regional development, regional transport and urban transport (TRANS/SC.2/192, para.35).

The Working Party may wish to examine the replies sent to the secretariat, which are being circulated in documents TRANS/SC.2/2001/18 and Add.1-2.

12. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF RAILWAY TRANSPORT

In accordance with a request of the Working Party at its last session (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 53), Governments have provided information on research activities in the field of railway transport, which is being circulated in documents (TRANS/SC.2/2001/19 and Add.1-2). The Working Party may wish to take note of the information received and identify any items which may be followed up in more detail at future sessions.

13. TRANS-EUROPEAN RAILWAY (TER) PROJECT

The TER Project Manager, Mr.Lupescu, will present the progress report on activities carried out by the TER project, which is being circulated as document TRANS/SC.2/2001/20 and will inform the Working Party in greater detail on the content of the TER database.

14. APPLICATION OF SUMMER TIME

The Working Party may wish to consider the information received from Governments and the European Commission on summer time arrangements, which is being circulated in document TRANS/SC.2/2001/21 and Add.1-2.

15. INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN VARIOUS RAILWAY FIELDS

At its fifty-fourth session, the Working Party requested Governments and international organizations concerned to provide information on new developments in the following fields: (a) environmental questions related to railway operations; (b) safety in railway transport; (c) use of

computers in rail transport operations, in particular in the management of rail goods traffic; and (d) introduction of new transport technologies and application of modern techniques to railway operations, in particular regarding the interface between rail transport and other transport modes (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 57).

The information provided by Governments and international organizations concerned is being circulated in document TRANS/SC.2/2001/22 and Add.1-2. The Working Party may wish to examine this information and decide whether any other aspects should be included in the list in the future.

16. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2002-2006

The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2002-2006 (TRANS/SC.2/2001/23).

17. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE SESSIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY IN 2002 AND 2003

In accordance with the decision taken at the fifty-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee, the Working Party may wish to elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for its sessions in 2002 and 2003.

18. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Presentation of the use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS)

The Working Party may wish to note that it is envisaged to have a presentation of the project concerning the use of GPS for the identification of trains as prepared by the Czech Ministry of Transport (TRANS/SC.2/194, para. 62)

(b) Date of the Working Party's next session

The Working Party may wish to decide on the date for its next session. The secretariat has tentatively scheduled the fifty-sixth session to be held from 16 to 18 October 2002.

19. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

In accordance with the Working Party's decision at its fifty-second meeting, the secretariat will prepare a list of decisions taken at the meeting, for adoption by the Working Party. This list will later be incorporated into the report of the session that will be prepared by its Chairman and its Vice-chairman with the assistance of the secretariat after the session.



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

Conference Registration Form

Please Print

Date

Title of the Conference

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency

Participant	Family Name	First Name
Mr. <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 300px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 300px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
Mrs. <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>		
Ms <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>		

Participation Category

Head of Delegation <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	Observer Organisation <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	Participating From / Until
Delegation Member <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	NGO (ECOSOC Accred.) <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	From <input style="width: 150px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
Observer Country <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please specify below) <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	Until <input style="width: 150px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
Do you have a badge issued as a Mission diplomat or employee, NGO card issued in Geneva or a Long Duration conference badge issued at Geneva if so PLEASE TICK HERE <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>		

Document Language Preference: **English** **French** **Other**

Official Occupation (in own country)	Passport or ID number	Valid Until
<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Official Telephone No.	Fax No.	E-mail Address
<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 260px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Permanent Official Address		
<input style="width: 730px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>		
Address in Geneva		
<input style="width: 730px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>		

On Issue of ID Card
Participant Signature
<input style="width: 210px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Spouse Signature
<input style="width: 210px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Date
<input style="width: 210px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>

Participant photograph if form is sent in advance of the conference date.

Please PRINT your name on the reverse side of the photograph

PLEASE NOTE ONLY CERTAIN CONFERENCES REQUIRE A PHOTO, IF YOU ARE NOT ASKED TO PROVIDE ONE BY THE CONFERENCE STAFF YOUR CONFERENCE IS NON PHOTO

Security Use Only
Card N°. Issued
<input style="width: 140px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
Initials, UN Official
<input style="width: 140px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>



**UNITED NATIONS GENEVE
CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
LONG DURATION / EXPERT FORM**

Please use block capitals when filling in this form

Name of Delegate			
Participant of Country / Organization / Agency			
Expected date of arrival		Number of conferences you attend each year	
Official Occupation			
Passport Number		Passport Expiration date	
Office Telephone No.		Office fax No.	
Email Address			
Permanent Official Address or Home Address			
Signature of Delegate			

Name of Authorizing Officer	
Signature of Authorizing Officer	
Section stamp and date	

Please attach a recent COLOUR photograph here if form is sent by post in advance of conference date. Please print your name on the reverse side of the photograph.

Note: Long duration conference badges may be requested only by the responsible Host Secretariat for participants arriving from governmental institutions and/or governmental organizations by using the Long Duration/Expert Form.

This type of badge is issued to individuals participating in four (4) or more conferences/meetings per year.

The date of validity is set by the Security Identification office.

Long duration badges for representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC may be delivered only after official accreditation with the NGO Liaison Office, UNOG.

All other participants from Non-Governmental Organizations NOT in consultative status with ECOSOC require a conference badge of type OTHER per conference. Please use the Conference Registration Form.

FOR SECURITY USE ONLY		
ID CARD NUMBER :	VALID FROM :	VALID UNTIL :
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

SECURITY IDENTIFICATION SECTION
Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. non stop

