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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census 2005

**REPORT OF THE AD HOC MEETING ON THE E-RAIL TRAFFIC CENSUS 2005  
("2005 E-RAIL CENSUS")  
(2-3 October 2003)**

**ATTENDANCE**

1. The Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census took place in Geneva on 2-3 October 2003 under the chairmanship of Mr. Erik Grib (Denmark). Representatives of the following ECE member States participated: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. A representative of the following intergovernmental organization participated: Eurostat. A representative of the following non-intergovernmental organization also participated: International Union of Railways (UIC).

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

2. The Ad hoc Meeting **adopted** the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/1).

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

3. The Ad hoc Meeting elected Mr. Erik Grib (Denmark) as Chairman.

## MANDATE

4. The Ad hoc Meeting **noted** that the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2), at its fifty-third session, and the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6), at its fiftieth session, had convened the meeting of the Informal Working Group on Rail Census Methodologies in Geneva (13 and 14 June 2000) (TRANS/SC.2, paras. 49-50; TRANS/WP.6/137, paras. 34-36). This Informal Working Group considered the feasibility of an E-Rail Census along the lines of the AGC network. Subsequently, the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) endorsed, during its sixty-third session, the report of the Informal Working Group on Rail Census Methodologies (TRANS/WP.6/2000/7-TRANS/SC.2/2000/10) and approved the proposal to convene an Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census in 2003 (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 106).

5. At its fifty-third session, the Working Party on Transport Statistics noted that the coming EU Council Regulation on rail statistics would request similar traffic data for the Trans-European Network and welcomed the offer by Eurostat to be closely involved in this project. The Working Party also approved 2-3 October 2003 as dates for holding the Ad hoc meeting on the Rail Traffic Census (TRANS/WP.6/143, paras. 48 and 49).

6. Furthermore, the Ad hoc Meeting noted that member States of the European Union (EU) are obliged to undertake a rail census which is based on Regulation No. 91/2003 of 16 December 2002 on rail transport statistics adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. In this Regulation, reference is also made to the Decision by the European Parliament and the Council no. 1692/96/CE on Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network. In view of the above-mentioned EU Regulation, and in order to avoid duplication of work, the Working Party, at its fifty-fourth session, recommended to the UNECE secretariat and Eurostat to carry out jointly the E-Rail Census 2005.

7. In order to be in line with the Working Party's recommendation, the E-Rail Census 2005 will be jointly undertaken by the UNECE and Eurostat.

## E-RAIL CENSUS: COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

8. Under this agenda item, the representatives of countries were invited to briefly **inform** the Ad hoc Meeting on their national experiences regarding the collection of rail traffic data in their respective countries. In this connection, it was noted that for gathering pertinent data, countries base themselves on a variety of sources, such as:

- timetables;
- compulsory surveys;
- administrative data, including data collected by regulatory authorities;
- statistical estimation procedures;
- data supplied by professional organizations in the rail industry;
- ad hoc studies.

9. The discussion revealed that, even though the national systems for the collection of rail traffic data differ, the delegates did not expect to encounter major obstacles in collecting these data as required by the Census.

10. The representative of the Eurostat **informed** the delegates in detail both about the EU legislation concerning the rail censuses and about the actions undertaken by Eurostat in this connection.

## **DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS ON THE E-RAIL TRAFFIC CENSUS IN EUROPE IN 2005**

Documentation: TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1; Informal document 1.

11. In accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee taken at its sixty-third session (ECE/TRANS/136, para.106), Governments and interested international organizations were invited to prepare the recommendations for the 2005 E-Rail Census. As a basis for discussion, the Ad hoc Meeting **considered** the draft recommendation for the 2005 E-Rail Census prepared jointly by the secretariat and Eurostat (TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1 and Informal document 1) and **proposed** the following modifications:

(a) Mandate

Replace the first sentence in paragraph 3 to read as follows:

“The Ad hoc Meeting noted that member States of the European Union (EU) are obliged to undertake a rail census which is based on Regulation No. 91/2003 of 16 December 2002 on rail transport statistics, adopted by the European Parliament and the Council.”

(b) Coverage of the Census.

Replace the entire (b) section with the following paragraph:

“For purposes of the coverage of the 2005 E-Rail Census, the rail network to be considered consists of:

- lines that are included in Annex 1 of the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) of 1985 and in Amendments 1-6 to the Agreement (ECE/TRANS/63, and any other amendment which comes into force before 2005);
- lines that are included in the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) of 1991 and in Amendments 1-3 to the Agreement (ECE/TRANS/88/Rev.1, and any other amendment which comes into force before 2005); and
- in the European Union countries, lines in the Trans-European rail network (TEN) (Decision 1692/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and further amendments).”

12. Where an E-Rail is not open to traffic (e.g., because it is closed for repairs, has not yet been built, or for other reasons), the Census could, if possible, be taken on the rail line(s) used by the traffic which would otherwise use the E-Rail line.

(c) Purpose of the Census.

Replace paragraph 3 to read as follows:

“In particular, the rail traffic data are to be collected on the E-Rail network with the intention of facilitating international organization and planning of passenger and goods traffic between UNECE member countries.”

(d) Scope of the Census.

Replace paragraph 2 to read as follows:

“For this comparison, hauled train-kilometres are the most important statistical measure to express the volume and development of traffic in a country. Figures on hauled train-kilometres are also indispensable in the context of calculations of traffic accidents and energy consumption. Accordingly, it is recommended that data be provided on hauled train-kilometres on all E-Rail lines. These data should be provided, to the extent possible, for all other lines of the total national rail network.”

(e) Categories of trains to be counted.

No modifications.

(f) Values to be calculated.

Replace paragraph 1 to read as follows:

“For each E-railway line in a country, it is recommended that the annual number of trains per network segment, by direction and by train category be recorded.”

Delete the ninth paragraph which reads: “Rail traffic data ought to come from the “infrastructure managers” (the network administrators).”

Replace the last paragraph by the following text:

“Data need to be divided into three parts:

- the data on the number of trains;
- data on train kilometres;
- the data on the infrastructure”.

- (g) Characteristics of E-Rail lines.

Add at the end of this section the following paragraph:

“Data should be provided for the stock situation at the end of 2005. If a country diverges from this date, it should report accordingly.”

- (h) Compilation and publication of the 2005 E-Rail Census.

Replace the first paragraph with the following one:

“It is recommended that Governments supply to the UNECE<sup>1/</sup> secretariat a report on the 2005 E-Rail Census carried out in their country. Since the usefulness of the publication of the Census depends to a large extent on its timeliness, it is desirable that Governments try, to any extent possible, to furnish the data (including the map, if possible), before 30 June 2007. The report should include data as presented in tables 1 to 6 to be annexed to the revised version of the recommendations.”

Delete Annex 2 from TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1.

Replace Annex 3 from TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1 by annex 1 attached to this document.

## **DRAFT RESOLUTION ON 2005 E-RAIL CENSUS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Documentation: Provisional Agenda for the Meeting (TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/1, annex).

13. The Ad hoc Meeting **considered** the draft resolution on the 2005 E-Rail Census as included in the provisional agenda of the Meeting and made some minor modifications. The modified draft resolution, as **agreed** by this Ad hoc Meeting, is contained in the Annex 2 of this report. This draft resolution will be submitted for adoption to the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-sixth session (17-19 February 2004).

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

14. The Ad hoc Meeting **discussed** various possibilities for the publishing of the 2005 Census.

## **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

15. In accordance with established practice, the Ad hoc Meeting **adopted** the report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. The report was adopted in English only and will subsequently be translated into French and Russian. The report will be sent to the participants of the Meeting and to the Working Party on Transport Statistics. It will also be available on the web page of the UNECE Transport

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<sup>1/</sup> Member States of the European Union should submit data to Eurostat, who will subsequently pass on these data to the UNECE.

Division. The Recommendations to Governments for the 2005 E-Rail Census will be prepared by the secretariat as an addendum to this report.

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**Annex 1****THE E-RAIL TRAFFIC CENSUS IN EUROPE IN 2005****TABLES****Traffic flows on the rail network**

Each country should provide the following tables for the census year 2005.

Data transmission arrangements for the European Union countries are similar to those applied to other Annexes of the Regulation (EC) 91/2003.

Table 1. **Goods** train movements per year.

Each country should provide the data as informally exemplified below for the case of the Czech Republic

Country name	Network segment identifier	AGC line number	AGTC line number	TEN flag	Number of trains
	CZS1001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS2001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS1002			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	....				
	CZS2nnn			<i>Yes/no</i>	

Table 2. **Passenger** train movements per year.

Each country should provide the data as informally exemplified below for the case of the Czech Republic

Country name	Network segment identifier	AGC line number	AGTC line number	TEN flag	Number of trains
	CZS1001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS2001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS1002			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	....				
	CZS2nnn			<i>Yes/no</i>	

Table 3. **Other** train movements (service trains, etc.) per year – **OPTIONAL**

Each country should provide the data as informally exemplified below for the case of the Czech Republic

Country name	Network segment identifier	AGC line number	AGTC line number	TEN flag	Number of trains
	CZS1001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS2001			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	CZS1002			<i>Yes/no</i>	
	....				
	CZS2nnn			<i>Yes/no</i>	



Table 4. Technical characteristics of the rail network segments in 2005

The following technical characteristics should be given for each network segment. The countries are free to choose the granularity of the segmentation so that the segments build up a network.

Country name	Network segment identifier	From	To	AGC line number	AGTC line number	TEN flag	Gauge	Length in km	Number of tracks	Is the segment electrified (yes/no)?	Type of current (AC/DC) and voltage
	CZS0001					Yes/no					
	CZS0002					Yes/no					
	CZS0003					Yes/no					
	....										
	CZS0nnn					Yes/no					

Table 5. Geographical co-ordinates of the rail network segments

Country name	Network segment identifier	Points (geographical co-ordinates)	
		X	Y
	CZS0001	x1	y1
		x2	y2
	CZS0nnn	....	...

Table 6. Train-kilometres per year - **OPTIONAL**

Country name	Network	Train kilometres		
		Passenger trains	Goods trains	Other trains <sup>2</sup>
	E-Rail			
	Other national			
	Total			

Table 7. Description of variables

Network segment identifier	Use ISO3166-alpha2 except the United Kingdom. For the United Kingdom + 'S' + indication of direction (1 or 2) + number on 3 positions. It is recommended that traffic in different directions is reported by designating a separate "network segment" for each direction. For example, "Praha-Plzeň" <sup>3</sup> could be "CZS1001" and "Plzeň-Praha" "CZS2001".
TEN flag (Rail Transport European Network)	0: NO 1: YES
Number of trains	Numeric
Geographical co-ordinates	Spherical co-ordinates are measured in latitude and longitude. If the earth is considered to be a sphere, latitude and longitude are angles measured from the earth's centre to a point on the earth surface. Latitude and longitude are measured in degrees, minutes and seconds. The equator has latitude 0°, the North Pole 90°, and the South Pole -90°. The Prime Meridian, indicating a longitude of 0°, starts at the North Pole, passes through Greenwich, England and ends at the South Pole." At least the coordinates of the starting and ending points of the segment should be reported.

<sup>2</sup> Optional.<sup>3</sup> Praha-Plzeň is used as an informal example only. It might be that the national authorities choose to divide this line into several sections, if there happen to be major junctions, stations or sidings between the two cities.

**Annex 2**

**E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2005  
("2005 E-Rail Census")**

**Draft Resolution No. ...**

to be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee  
at its sixty-sixth meeting (17-19 February 2004)

Recalling its decision to convene the holding of an Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census in 2003 (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 106), the Inland Transport Committee,

1. Invites Governments:

(a) To take a census of traffic on the E-rail lines on their national territory, in accordance with the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (AGR), and in line with the Recommendations to Governments for the 2005 E-Rail Census as set forth in UNECE document TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2/Add.1

(b) To supply the results of the E-Rail Census 2005 to the UNECE secretariat, if possible, before **30 June 2007**, in conformity with the Recommendations set forth in UNECE document TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2/Add.1

2. Recommends that Governments take a census of traffic on other rail lines in their national territory, applying where possible, the methods set out in the Recommendations mentioned under paragraph 1(a) above.

3. Requests Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) by **30 September 2004** whether they agree to implement the provisions of this resolution.

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