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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Transport

(Geneva, 17-19 October 2005)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION *

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 17 October 2005

Monday 17 October 2005

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda | TRANS/SC.1/376 |
| 2. | Adoption of the report of the ninety-eighth session | TRANS/SC.1/375 |
| 3. | Activities of ECE bodies and international organizations of interest to the Working Party | |
| | (a) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies | ECE/TRANS/162 |
| | (b) International organizations | |

* Delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division) and to transmit it at least two weeks before the session to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by email (roadtransport@unece.org). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are required to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the 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, please telephone the ECE secretariat (extension 73242).

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| 4. | Implementation of the AETR | TRANS/SC.1/375/Add.2 |
| 5. | Draft Additional Protocol to the CMR | TRANS/SC.1/2005/1
Informal documents |

Tuesday, 18 October

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| 6. | Road transport infrastructure | |
| | (a) European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR) | |
| | (i) Status of prior amendments to the AGR | |
| | (ii) Consideration of new proposals for amendments to the AGR, Annex I | TRANS/SC.1/2005/2
TRANS/SC.1/2005/3
TRANS/SC.1/2005/4 |
| | (iii) Consideration of new proposals for amendments to the AGR (Annex II) | TRANS/SC.1/2005/5 |
| | (b) Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project | TRANS/SC.1/2005/6 |
| 7. | Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operation | |
| | (a) Development of provisions on the facilitation of international road transport (R.E.4) | TRANS/SC.1/2002/4/Rev.4
TRANS/SC.1/2004/1 |
| | (b) Consideration of possibilities for agreements and other measures on border crossings and border facilities for road transport between Eastern and Western Europe | TRANS/SC.1/2004/5 |
| | (c) Review of questions concerning facilitation of international road transport | |
| | (i) International Motor Insurance System (Green Card) | TRANS/SC.1/2005/7 |
| | (ii) Accession to and implementation of UNECE international legal instruments on road transport | |

Wednesday, 19 October

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| 8. | Terms of reference and rules of procedure | TRANS/SC.1/2004/10/Rev.1 |
|----|---|--------------------------|

9. Draft Programme of Work for 2006-2010 TRANS/SC.1/2005/8
10. Other business
Date of next session
11. Adoption of decisions

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EXPLANATORY NOTES ¹

17 October 2005

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

2. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH SESSION

The Working Party is invited to adopt the report on its ninety-eighth session, which was prepared after the session by the secretariat.

3. ACTIVITIES OF ECE BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

(a) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Inland Transport Committee, at its sixty-seventh session (15-17 February 2005), approved the report of the Working Party on its ninety-eighth session (TRANS/SC.1/375 and Adds. 1-2) (ECE/TRANS/162, para. 48).

All SC.1-related issues considered by the Committee will be taken up under the respective agenda items.

SC.1 will be informed of the request made by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session, which, noting that a number of legal instruments were not in force, asked the secretariat to undertake an analysis of those international instruments and indicate the reasons why States have not yet become Contracting Parties to them.

At its sixty-seventh session, the Committee agreed to organize a multidisciplinary Round Table on Transport Security during its sixty-eighth session in February 2006 focusing primarily

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are kindly requested to bring to the meeting copies of the documents received by mail prior to the meeting or downloaded from the Internet.

on the areas of expertise of the UNECE. The Committee requested its subsidiary bodies to accelerate existing and potential new activities in the area of transport and security and to play a more proactive role. The SC.1 may wish to consider its own activities – existing and future – which make a contribution to transport security in the context of its programme of work (see point 9).

(b) International organizations

Representatives of international organizations at the session are invited to present information regarding their activities to the Working Party and to provide the secretariat with a short summary of their interventions, which may be reflected in the report of the session.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AETR

The Working Party will be informed about the status of proposed amendments to the AETR concerning the introduction of the digital tachograph (TRANS/SC.1/375/Add.2), which were transmitted by the UN Secretary-General to Contracting Parties on 24 June 2005 (depository notification C.N.475.2005.TREATIES-1). Members of SC.1 are reminded that the 4-year transition period for introduction of the digital tachograph will commence once the relevant amendments have entered into force.

Regarding the amendments to Article 12 of the AETR on checking procedures, which entered into force on 27 February 2004 (E/ECE/811/Amend.4), the Working Party may wish to discuss the requirement in paragraph 5 of Article 12 which states that the secretariat shall issue a report every two years on the application by Contracting Parties of measures of enforcement of the Agreement.

The SC.1 may also wish to discuss the possible need for amendments to the AETR as a consequence of proposed future modifications to EU legislation concerning driving and rest periods for professional drivers.

The Working Party will be informed about the preparations for the seminar to be held in the Russian Federation for non-EU countries in order to familiarize the relevant Government officials with the introduction of the digital tachograph.

5. DRAFT ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CMR

At its ninety-eighth session, SC.1 decided to request Unidroit to prepare a revised and expanded version of its initial draft for a new Protocol introducing the possibility of using an electronic consignment note into the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). It requested the secretariat to send the new text to Contracting Parties sufficiently in advance of the ninety-ninth to enable them to comment on it before the next meeting of SC.1. The aim would be to adopt the text of the new additional protocol during the ninety-ninth session of SC.1.

The revised text prepared by Unidroit (TRANS/SC.1/2005/1) was sent to CMR Contracting Parties on 4 July 2005 and comments were requested by 1 September 2005.

The comments on the new draft will be made available to the Working Party in Informal documents in English and French only.

18 October 2005

6. ROAD TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)

(i) Status of prior amendments to the AGR

The Working Party will be informed about the status of proposed amendments to the AGR adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-eighth session in 2004 (TRANS/SC.1/375, Annex 1 and Addendum 1). The proposed amendments to Annex I were communicated to Contracting Parties on 4 April 2005 by depositary notification C.N.195.2005.TREATIES-1 and the proposed amendments to Annex II were communicated to Contracting Parties on 4 April 2005 by depositary notification C.N.198.2005.TREATIES-2.

(ii) Consideration of new proposals for amendments to the AGR, Annex I

The Working Party may wish to consider proposals regarding E roads in Bulgaria (TRANS/SC.1/2005/2), Sweden (TRANS/SC.1/2005/3) and Turkey (TRANS/SC.1/2005/4).

(iii) Consideration of new proposals for amendments to the AGR (Annex II)

At its ninety-eighth session in October 2004, the Director of the Transport Division requested the Working Party to consider the possibility of creating a new annex to the AGR on the evaluation of the impact of road safety with regard to roads, similar to the one that already existed for the environment. He invited participants to provide the secretariat with all useful information on the subject. He also asked the Working Party to reflect on the possibility of preparing a methodology for road safety inspection.

The representative of France has submitted a draft proposal for these two new elements for consideration by the Working Party. They appear in TRANS/SC.1/2005/5.

(b) Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project

The Working Party will be informed about progress made since its last session on the development of the TEM Project (TRANS/SC.1/2005/6).

7. HARMONIZATION OF REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT AND FACILITATION OF ITS OPERATION

(a) Development of provisions on the facilitation of international road transport (R.E.4)

The Working Party will be informed about any developments affecting the revised Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4) adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-seventh session and endorsed by the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-sixth session.

(b) Consideration of possibilities for agreements and other measures on border crossings and border facilities for road transport between Eastern and Western Europe

The Working Party will be informed about the progress of discussions on the new draft text of Annex 8 to the Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, which is under consideration for adoption by the WP.30 Administrative Committee for the Harmonization Convention.

Regarding the question of the issuance of visas to professional drivers, at its ninety-eighth session, SC.1 decided to refer this issue to the Inland Transport Committee. The ITC at its sixty-seventh session unanimously acknowledged that the visa question was a genuine problem. After having examined them, the Committee:

- “took note of document TRANS/SC.1/2004/5 containing letters and a technical note received from eight countries (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine), entitled “Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operation”;
- recognized the work undertaken in this Committee and in other multilateral and bilateral forums regarding this issue;
- invited the secretariat, in consultation with member States, to consider appropriate ways and means of informing the Committee about this work;
- appealed to all UNECE member Governments and international organizations concerned with a view to informing it about this issue;
- invited its member States and international organizations concerned to draw the attention of their competent authorities to this issue with the aim of considering it;
- stood ready to contribute, if invited, to finding adequate solutions, such as on the procedural and practical aspects of this issue.”

(c) Review of questions concerning facilitation of international road transport

(i) International Motor Insurance System (Green Card)

The Working Party will have before it for discussion the report of the President of the Council of Bureaux on the Green Card System (TRANS/SC.1/2005/7).

(ii) Accession to and implementation of UN/ECE international legal instruments in the field of road transport

Information on the status of accessions to UN/ECE legal instruments on road transport since the last session of SC.1 will be provided by the secretariat.

19 October 2005

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

At its ninety-eighth session, the Working Party recalled that the Sub-Committee on Road Transport (SC.1) had been established by Resolution No. 13 of the Inland Transport Committee on 5 February 1948 and had subsequently become the Principal Working Party on Road Transport, and then, in 1997, the present Working Party on Road Transport, while keeping the acronym SC.1. Following the numerous changes since its inception, the secretariat considered it timely to revise completely the Working Party's terms of reference to bring it into line with the current situation and to attach draft rules of procedure.

The Working Party had a first exchange of views on the two texts. With reference to the terms of reference, a request was made to refer to safety of infrastructures in 1 (b). With regard to the rules of procedure, several delegations raised the question of the impact of rule 25 which introduced the principle of decision-making by consensus and, if this were not possible, by voting. In order to have a clearer idea of practices in force in other working parties, SC.1 requested the secretariat to prepare an informal note on the subject. It also invited the countries to send the secretariat their comments on the drafts submitted and their proposals for changes by the end of 2004.

A revised version of the draft terms of reference and rules of procedure inspired by the recent modifications made by WP.1 to its own rules of procedure appears in TRANS/SC.1/2004/10/Rev.1.

9. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2010

The Working Party will have before it its draft programme of work for 2006-2010 (TRANS/SC.1/2005/8). The Working Party is expected to revise and approve its draft programme of work which will then be adopted by the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-eighth session in February 2006.

At its 67th session, the Inland Transport Committee approved a revised table showing the relationship between the Strategic Objectives of the ITC and the ITC Programme of Work. The table reflects the results of discussions by the Committee's subsidiary bodies on the strategic objectives and their respective programmes of work. The Committee requested its subsidiary bodies to modify their programmes of work in line with the indications in the table. The table also appears in document TRANS/SC.1/2005/8.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Party may wish to consider any other business under this agenda item.

Date of next session

The Working Party will be informed that the dates of 17-19 October 2006 have been tentatively selected for its one hundredth session in 2006.

11. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS

The Working Party will adopt a brief list of decisions taken at its ninety-ninth session on the basis of a draft to be prepared by the secretariat.



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Working Party on Road Transport, ninety-ninth session, 17-19 October 2005

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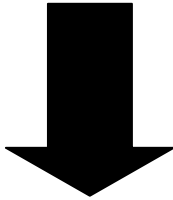
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