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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

**Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics**  
**(15-16 September 2005)**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION\***

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday 15 September 2005

1. Adoption of the agenda TRANS/WP.5/37

**Main items**

2. Future activities of the Working Party TRANS/WP.5/2005/1
3. Monitoring of developments relevant for the Pan-European transport corridors and areas
- (a) Relationship between the UNECE infrastructure Agreements (AGR, AGC, AGTC and its Protocol, and AGN) and the UNECE Projects (TEM and TER) with Pan-European transport infrastructure network planning procedures TRANS/WP.5/2005/5

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\* 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 eighteenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics. 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.337, 3rd Floor, Palais des Nations).

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are, therefore, requested to fill in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the UNECE Transport Division: <http://www.unece.org/trans/Welcome.html>) and send it at the latest two weeks before the session to the UNECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by e-mail ([bernadette.healy@unece.org](mailto:bernadette.healy@unece.org)). Prior to the session delegates should get their identification badges at the Security and Safety Section's Pass and Identification Unit, at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page). In case of difficulties, telephone the UNECE secretariat (Int. 72413).

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| (b) | Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links  | TRANS/WP.5/2005/16<br>and Add.1-4<br>TRANS/WP.5/2004/1/Add.1 |
| 4.  | Development of Euro-Asian transport links   |  |
| (a) | Report on Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links  | TRANS/WP.5/2005/2  |
| (b) | Elaboration of the elements of the joint UNECE-UNESCAP programme for the development of Euro-Asian transport links and analysis of the results of the relevant international meetings | TRANS/WP.5/2001/14   |
| (c) | Organization of demonstration trains  | TRANS/WP.5/2005/4  |
| 5.  | Financing schemes of transport infrastructure   | TRANS/WP.5/2005/6  |
| 6.  | Transport in the Mediterranean region   |  |
| (a) | Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre  | TRANS/WP.5/2005/7  |
| (b) | Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region  | TRANS/WP.5/2005/8  |
| (c) | Europe–Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar  |  |
| 7.  | Draft Programme of Work for 2006-2010   | TRANS/WP.5/2005/10   |

**Items for information**

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|-----|---|---|
| 8.  | Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party |   |
| (a) | Economic Commission for Europe                              | E/2005/37-E/ECE/1431                              |
| (b) | Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies        | ECE/TRANS/162                                     |
| 9.  | Phased approach to transport infrastructure developments    | TRANS/WP.5/2005/3<br>TRANS/WP.5/2005/11 and Add.1 |
| 10. | Relationship between transport and economic development     | TRANS/WP.5/2005/12                                |

11. Assistance regarding institutional adaptation of government administration and of transport enterprises to market economy TRANS/WP.5/2005/13
  12. Coherent European System of International Transport Infrastructures
    - (a) Quality-of-service concept TRANS/WP.5/2005/9  
TRANS/WP.5/2005/14
  13. Development of a European Transport database system TRANS/WP.5/2005/15
  14. Other Business
  15. Adoption of the report
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## 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.

#### Main items

### 2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING PARTY

Following the informal meeting between the Chairman of the Inland Transport Committee, the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Working Party and the secretariat, the Working Party may wish to discuss the recommendations of this meeting contained in paragraph 10 of the report (TRANS/WP.5/2005/1).

### 3. MONITORING OF DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS AND AREAS

During the Informal meeting held on 14 April 2005, which discussed the future activities of the Working Party, it was felt that one of the priority areas of concern for the Working Party should be the follow-up of all developments relevant for the Pan-European transport corridors. The Working Party was invited to consider, within its areas of competence, how it could best contribute to the important transport infrastructure developments that are taking place in the aftermath of the EU enlargement. With this objective in mind, the Working Party is expected to discuss how it could further ensure coherent development of transport infrastructures at the Pan-European level.

- (a) Relationship between the UNECE infrastructure Agreements (AGR, AGC, AGTC, AGN) and the UNECE Projects (TEM and TER) with Pan-European transport infrastructure network planning procedures

At its seventeenth session, the Working Party asked the secretariat to prepare the criteria used by the Van Miert Group for prioritization of projects in the Trans-European Transport Networks of the European Union, in order to consider how similar criteria could be developed and used for prioritization of infrastructure projects in the context of the Wider Europe concept, Caucasus, Central Asia and other UNECE member countries (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 7). This information will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/5. On the basis of this document, the Working Party may wish to discuss whether various criteria could be harmonized and how they could be optimally used and applied throughout the UNECE region.

Representatives of countries concerned may further wish to inform the Working Party on recent developments in Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas. Following the initiative by the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Working Party, in view of the existing UNECE infrastructure agreements, the TEM and TER Master Plans, and following the enlargement of the European Union, the Working Party may wish to discuss how future developments related to transport corridors and areas could be most effectively followed-up for the benefit of all UNECE member countries.

(b) Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links

The Working Party may wish to discuss replies to the questionnaire on infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links and how those results could be best used in the process of infrastructure networks' planning procedures at the Pan-European level. Replies to the questionnaire are reproduced in documents TRANS/WP.5/2004/1/Add.1, TRANS/WP.5/2005/16 and Add.1-4.

#### **4. DEVELOPMENT OF EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS**

(a) Report on Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links

The Working Party will be informed about the outcome of the Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links which took place on 15 April 2005 in Geneva and recommendations relating to future activities of the Working Party in this domain. The report of the Informal meeting is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/2.

(b) Elaboration of the elements of the Joint UNECE-UNESCAP programme for the development of Euro-Asian transport links and analysis of the results of the relevant international meetings

The Working Party will discuss in what ways it could further ensure implementation of elements of the Common UNECE-UNESCAP Strategic Vision for the Euro-Asian Transport Links (TRANS/WP.5/2001/14). The Working Party will also exchange information about the outcome of international meetings and activities relevant for the development of Euro-Asian transport links.

(c) Organization of demonstration trains

Representatives of Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey will inform the Working Party about new developments concerning demonstration runs of block trains along the Euro-Asian corridors on their respective territories. Relevant information regarding these runs of block trains will be circulated in TRANS/WP.5/2005/4.

#### **4. FINANCING SCHEMES OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

At its seventeenth session, the Working Party agreed to continue discussing various approaches to the financing of transport infrastructure and experiences gained with applying different financing techniques at its further sessions (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 19). In this context, the Working Party asked the secretariat to prepare a review of related work on Private-Public Partnership schemes for the financing of transport infrastructure carried out in the UNECE, within the UNECE TER and TEM projects, as well as in other international organizations. A review by the secretariat containing the requested information will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/6.

Also, at the seventeenth session, member countries expressed interest in convening a special session of the Working Party devoted to the consideration of issues related to financing

of transport infrastructure projects, in particular PPP schemes, in order to exchange various national views and experiences. The Working Party is invited to discuss the necessity and the modalities of the organization of a special session on transport infrastructure financing.

## **6. TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

### **(a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre**

The Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean (TRANSCEM), and the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) have been asked to report on their activities since the seventeenth session of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 20). Relevant information on the recent activities of CETMO and TRANSCEM will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/7 for consideration by the Working Party.

### **(b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region**

The Working Party will be informed about various activities relevant for transport developments in the Mediterranean Region. This information will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/8.

### **(c) Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar**

The Working Party may wish to take note of the Project for a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar and of activities to be carried out under the project.

## **7. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2010**

The Working Party may wish to approve its draft programme of work for 2006-2010, on the basis of document TRANS/WP.5/2005/10.

### **Items for information**

## **8. ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY**

### **(a) Economic Commission for Europe**

The sixtieth session of the Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 22 to 25 February 2005.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its sixtieth session, concerning such questions as the UNECE reform, follow-up to the global and regional conferences, major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work, and the UNECE technical cooperation activities (E/2005/37-E/ECE/1431).

### **(b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies**

The Committee held its sixty-seventh session in Geneva from 15 to 17 February 2005.

The Working Party will be informed about the Committee's discussion on questions related, in particular, to its work areas as contained in paras. 36-47 of the Committee's report (ECE/TRANS/162).

## **9. PHASED APPROACH TO TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

At its seventeenth session, the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/36, para.12), asked the secretariat to circulate the document TRANS/WP.5/2004/2 to all member countries and ask for information on concrete national experiences with the application of a phased approach to infrastructure developments. It further asked the member countries to provide their concrete views regarding the future work on a phased approach. The Working Party will be informed about the outcome of the secretariat inquiry in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/3, TRANS/WP.5/2005/11 and Add.1.

## **10. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

In accordance with the Working Party's request at its seventeenth session, (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 17), the secretariat invited member countries and international organizations to provide information on the role of transport in economic development with particular focus on the relationship between the availability of transport infrastructure and its impact on economic development. Replies from member Governments and international organizations are being circulated for consideration in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/12.

## **11. ASSISTANCE REGARDING INSTITUTIONAL ADAPTATION OF GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND OF TRANSPORT ENTERPRISES TO MARKET ECONOMY**

The Working Party will be informed about the activities of the Regional Adviser and the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT). Information on these items is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/13.

The Working Party may also invite Governments and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and indicate the type of assistance which may be forthcoming (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 26).

## **12. COHERENT EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES**

### **(a) Quality-of-service concept**

In accordance with the request of the Working Party at its seventeenth session (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 29), the secretariat has prepared a consolidated document containing all replies received to the questionnaire on the quality of transport service. The information is reproduced in documents TRANS/WP.5/2005/14 and TRANS/WP.5/2005/9 for consideration by the Working Party.

### **13. DEVELOPMENT OF A EUROPEAN TRANSPORT DATABASE SYSTEM**

In accordance with the decision at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 39), the Working Party may wish to take note of the biennial report by the secretariat on the development of a European transport database system. This report is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/15.

### **14. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Working Party's nineteenth session is tentatively scheduled for 14–15 September 2006.

### **15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

In accordance with the decision of the Working Party taken at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para.56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to the Inland Transport Committee.

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