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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

(Sixty-eighth session, 7-9 February 2006,
agenda item 1)

**NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND SUGGESTED TIMETABLE
FOR THE COMMITTEE'S SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

Note by the secretariat

Tuesday, 7 February 2006 starting at 10 a.m.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ECE/TRANS/164^{1/}, 2/

I. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN GENERAL

2. RESULTS OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU MEETINGS

**ECE/TRANS/2006/2
-Add.1**

C: The Committee will have before it documents TRANS/2005/2 and -/Add.1 containing the results of the Bureau meetings held in 2005 since the last session of the Committee.

The Committee may wish to **refer** to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.

^{1/} The documents of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies may be consulted on the following website of the UNECE Transport Division : <http://www.unece.org/trans/>.

^{2/} Subsequent to a decision taken by its Bureau on 7 June 2004, the Committee may wish to discuss the agenda items/sub-items in accordance with the following three categories: A) points of a political nature or which need discussion, B) points needing approval by the Committee and C) points of an informative nature or which do not require discussion (TRANS/BUR.2004/17, item 3). In line with the above categories, the Committee may focus its discussion on categories (A) and (B).

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND CONFERENCES ECE/TRANS/2006/3

C: The Committee may wish to **consider** the note prepared by the secretariat containing information on the discussions and decisions of the Commission (sixtieth session, 22-25 February 2005), which have a bearing on the work of the Committee. The Commission's Annual Report (E/2005/37-E/ECE/1431) contains the full account of the discussions.

C: The Committee may wish to take **note**, in particular, of the UNECE cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); the UNECE reform; the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a Resolution on Road Safety, and resolutions on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classifications and Labelling of Chemicals as well as on the Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar as reflected in document ECE/TRANS/2006/3.

C: The Committee will be **informed** orally about the latest developments concerning the UNECE reform and the regular budget for the biennium 2006-2007 as adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, and may wish to **invite** the secretariat to develop ideas how to reinforce the priority areas of work identified by Member Governments in the UNECE reform process.

C: The Committee may wish to **take into account** these issues when discussing this or other relevant agenda items.

4. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE

C: The Committee will be **informed** orally on the activities related to transport, which are being carried out within other international organizations.

5. INTERSECTORAL ACTIVITIES

**(a) Transport, Health and Environment
Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)**

ECE/AC.21/2005/13

C: The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) was established in 2002 at the second High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health to consolidate and focus the relevant UNECE and WHO/Europe's follow-up activities on the so-called Vienna (Transport and Environment-1997) and London (Transport and Health-1999) processes. The Committee may wish to take **note** of the summary report of THE PEP Steering Committee (11-12 April 2005) providing an overview of the main activity areas implemented as part of its programme of work, including the successful launch of internet-based THE PEP Clearing House at the end of 2005 (www.thepep.org/CHWebSite). The fourth session of the Steering Committee will be convened on 10 and 11 April 2006 and is expected to decide on the

topics to be considered at the third High-Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health planned to be held in 2007.

(b) **Blue Corridor Project**

C: At its sixty-seventh session, the Committee requested the Director of the UNECE Transport Division and the Director of the UNECE Industrial Restructuring, Energy and Enterprise Development Division to present the Blue Corridor Project to the European Commission's DGTREN with a view to establishing cooperation between the two bodies.

C: The Committee will be **informed** about the presentation made to the European Commission on 10 May 2005 and the outcome of the ensuing discussion.

(c) **Cooperation with the Committee for
Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development**

ECE/TRANS/2006/4

C: The Committee may wish to **consider** the report on "Areas and activities of mutual interest between the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development and the Inland Transport Committee", transmitted by the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development. In particular, the Committee may wish to **note** the activities of the International Trade and Business Processes Groups (TBG) of UN/CEFACT on Transportation and logistic (TBG3) and on Customs (TBG4), as well as other initiatives of the Committee for Trade, including in particular, those related to customs and transit corridors.

6. **REVIEW OF THE TRANSPORT SITUATION IN
UNECE MEMBER COUNTRIES AND OF
EMERGING DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

ECE/TRANS/2006/6

C: The Committee may wish to **consider** the document on the transport situation and trends in member countries in 2005, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of national contributions and other sources, following the decision taken by the Committee at its sixty-seventh session (ECE/TRANS/162, para. 19). Discussion of this item may focus on emerging issues in international transport identified in the information submitted.

7. **TRANSPORT AND SECURITY**

A: Following the request by the Committee at its sixty-seventh session to its subsidiary bodies to accelerate the work already in progress and to play a more proactive role in relation to activities in this field, the Committee may wish to be **informed** about the progress made in subsidiary bodies on this issue. The Committee may also wish to be **informed** by Governments and by intergovernmental organizations of the measures taken in this field at national and intergovernmental level. Finally, the Committee may wish to be **informed** about the organization of the Round Table on Transport Security, which will take place on 8 February 2006, in conjunction with the present session of the Committee. The Committee may wish **to consider** the conclusions of the Round Table and **decide** on the follow up to be given to them.

8. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

- (a) Pilot project for the facilitation of participation of central Asian and Caucasus countries in meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies TRANS/WP.5/2005/13
Informal Document No. 1

C: The Committee may wish to **note** the activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken in the year 2004, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/13 and the updated informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2005, particularly the implementation of the EU funded Pilot project for the facilitation of participation of Central Asian and Caucasus countries in meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies, which is being implemented by the secretariat over the period September 2004 - April 2006. The Committee may also wish to **note** that by the end of 2005, fifty-two participants from those countries had attended to ten meetings scheduled so far.

B: Based on the positive evaluation made by the beneficiary countries and the substantive contribution of the project in supporting the harmonization process of their transport legislation and their transport systems integration with those of other UNECE member countries, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **express** its appreciation to the EU for its contribution and **request** that all efforts be made so that this project will be continued in the following years.

- (b) UN Development Account Project on Capacity Building for developing Interregional Transport Linkages TRANS/WP.5/2005/13

C: The Committee may wish to **note** the progress of the UN Development Account Project on Capacity building in developing Interregional Transport Links, which is jointly implemented by the five UN Regional Commissions over the period 2003-2006, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/13 and the informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2005. The Committee may wish to **note** in particular the UNECE-UNESCAP joint project component on developing Euro-Asian transport links, as well as the other two project components on developing interregional transport links connecting UNECE and UNESCAP to UNESCWA and UNECE and UNESCWA to UNECA regions.

B: Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **reiterate** its request that the secretariat, in close cooperation with UNESCAP and the other Regional Commissions, continue its efforts for the successful continuation of this project and report on this matter at its forthcoming session.

B: The Inland Transport Committee may also wish to express its strong **support** for the continuation of the Project and **request** the secretariat: (i) to prepare jointly with UNESCAP a proposal for the continuation of the project in a new phase beyond 2006; (ii) to proceed with all necessary actions in order to ensure the funds that would enable that the Expert Group established under the UNECE-UNESCAP joint project, becomes a permanent mechanism for the development of Euro-Asian transport links.

(c) **TEM and TER Master Plans**

TRANS/WP.5/2005/13

C: The Committee may wish to **note** the conclusions and recommendations of the TEM and TER Projects' Master Plan, being a first attempt of the TEM and TER Projects to elaborate a realistic investment strategy on a backbone transport network in the wider TEM and TER region, comprising 21 central, eastern and southeastern European countries, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/13, the updated informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2005, and the Final Report of the Master Plan, dated September 2005. The Committee may also wish to **note** that the secretariat presented the results of the Master Plan at the 7th plenary meeting of the High Level Group on the extension on the major trans-European transport axes to the neighbouring countries and regions.

B: Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to (i) **consider reiterating** its support to this activity, (ii) **invite** the Governments of countries involved in the Master Plan to take all necessary political measures in order to implement the priority projects identified in it and (iii) **request** the TEM and TER Projects in close cooperation with the secretariat and the concerned countries to **monitor the implementation** of the Master Plan and **proceed** with the follow-up actions recommended by the Master Plan and the widest possible dissemination of its results.

(d) **Other activities (SPECA, SECI, etc.)**

TRANS/WP.5/2005/13

C: The Committee may wish to **note** the activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken in the year 2005, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2005/13 and the updated informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2005, particularly related to the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the South-east European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), the transit transport cooperation of landlocked and transit developing countries etc. and the efforts made by the secretariat for raising funds to support these activities.

(e) **Resources for operational activities on Transport**

B: Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to: (i) **reiterate** its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat for the substantive backstopping and further development of these activities, in particular for the services of a second Regional Adviser on Transport, which has proved to be indispensable for the substantive backstopping and further development of these activities; and (ii) **consider** the matter of raising funds for operational activities through the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and **encourage** member countries to make voluntary contributions to the TFACT.

9. STATUS OF APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL UNECE TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS

C: The Committee will have before it an informal document in English, French and Russian prepared by the secretariat containing tables on the status as at 31 January 2006 of signatures, ratifications and accessions concerning international instruments on inland transport concluded under the auspices of the Committee. The Committee will also have before it another informal document on the accessions registered since its last session.

The Committee may wish to take **note** of this information and **invite** countries, which have not yet done so to become Contracting Parties to UNECE Agreements and Conventions in the field of transport as soon as possible.

II. QUESTIONS DEALT WITH BY THE COMMITTEE'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES

10. TRANSPORT TRENDS AND ECONOMICS

TRANS/WP.5/38

B: The Committee will have before it for **consideration** and **approval** the report of the eighteenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) (TRANS/WP.5/38).

(a) Future activities of the Working Party

C: The Committee may wish **to take note** that the Working Party undertook an in-depth review of its activities with a view to further increasing its relevance to member Governments. The Working Party agreed that a change in focus and priorities in the work programme would represent a positive step towards reinvigorating the interest of member Governments in its work. The Committee may further note that the Working Party decided to limit the number of items it considers, and defined its priorities to focus on concrete and tangible results.

(b) Euro-Asian transport links

B: The Committee may wish **to endorse** the decision of the Working Party which supported the continuation of the joint UNECE-UNESCAP project and asked the two secretariats to prepare a joint proposal for the continuation of the project in the new phase beyond 2006. Furthermore, the Committee may wish **to support** the Working Party's decision which requested the secretariat to identify the most appropriate framework in which the UNECE-UNESCAP Expert Group, established under the UNDA project could, in close relationship with the Working Party, become functional as a permanent mechanism ensuring continued monitoring of all activities related to development of Euro-Asian transport links.

C: The Committee may also wish **to note** that the Working Party asked the TER and TEM Project Central Offices to consider sharing their experiences with Caucasus and Central Asian

countries in concrete areas within their competences and, in accordance with their capacities, to make possible this transfer of knowledge.

B: During its eighteenth session, the Working Party organized the Workshop “Euro-Asian transport links – Feedback from users”. Appreciating the exchange of ideas and experiences during the Workshop, participants welcomed the workshop as an important step that could increase the interest in activities of the Working Party and reinforce its relevance. The Committee may wish **to support** the decision of the Working Party to continue organizing workshops related to priority areas of its Programme of work.

(c) **Transport in the Mediterranean region** [Informal Documents Nos. 2 and 3](#)

C: The Committee may wish **to consider** the problems of transport in the Mediterranean region on the basis of the work of the centres, the EU and other groupings of countries or individual countries and provide guidance for future work to be undertaken in this field.

(d) **Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links**

B: The Committee may wish **to support** the decision of the Working Party to finalize collection of updated information on the above-mentioned infrastructure features from all member States. It may further wish **to invite** all member Governments to actively participate and reply to the relevant secretariat’s questionnaire.

(e) **Studies on transport economics and track costs undertaken by other organizations** **ECE/TRANS/2006/7 and -/Add.1**

C: The Committee may wish to **take note** of the information received from the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT), the European Commission (EC), and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Tuesday, 7 February 2006 (afternoon)

11. ROAD TRANSPORT **TRANS/SC.1/377**

B: The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1), on its ninety-ninth session, for **consideration and approval** (TRANS/SC.1/377) pending final adoption at SC.1’s one-hundredth session in October 2006.

(a) **Road transport infrastructure**

(i) **European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)**

C: The Committee may wish **to note** that proposed amendments to the AGR adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-eighth session in 2004 (TRANS/SC.1/375, Annex 1 and Addendum 2) were communicated to Contracting Parties on 4 April 2005 by depositary notifications

C.N.195.2005.TREATIES-1 and C.N.198.2005.TREATIES-2. They were considered accepted on 4 October 2005 and entered into force on 7 January 2006.

B: The Committee may wish to **endorse** the proposals adopted at the ninety-ninth session of SC.1 to amend Annex I to the AGR (TRANS/SC.1/377, Annex 1).

B: The Committee may wish to **note** that, following proposals submitted by France for new provisions in the AGR on the evaluation of the impact of road safety with regard to roads and on methodologies for road safety inspection, and difficulties encountered by the Netherlands concerning the application of Annex II of the AGR, SC.1 considered that the Ad hoc Meeting on the Implementation of the AGR should be convoked in 2006 to work, *inter alia*, on these items and on the follow-up to be given to them.

B: The Committee is **requested** to authorize the holding of a one-day meeting of the Ad hoc Group in April/May 2006.

(ii) **Activities of the Trans-European
North-South Motorway (TEM) Project**

TRANS/SC.1/2005/6

C: The Committee may wish to take **note** of the progress report of the TEM Project (TRANS/SC.1/2005/6), particularly, the implementation in 2005 of the short-term strategy for further integration of TEM into the new European transport context and the completion of the TEM Master Plan.

B: Based on the above information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **consider**:
(i) **reiterating** its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat for the substantive backstopping and further development of this Project that will support the implementation of its ongoing activities, including the appropriate follow-up for the implementation of the TEM Master Plan; and (ii) **stressing** that the accumulated TEM projects' experience could be a useful tool in assisting Caucasian and Central Asian member countries in their efforts to integrate their transport systems and establish Euro-Asian transport links.

(b) **Facilitation of international road transport**

(i) **European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles
engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)**

C: The Committee may wish **to note** that proposed amendments to the AETR adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-eighth session in 2004 (TRANS/SC.1/375/Add. 1) were communicated to Contracting Parties on 24 June 2005 by depositary notification C.N.475.2005.TREATIES-1. They are expected to enter into force in March 2006 if no reservation or declaration is submitted. The 4-year transition period for introduction of the digital tachograph will then commence.

B: The Committee may wish to **note** that the adoption by the EU of new provisions aimed at simplifying rules relating to driving and rest times and reinforcing checks on compliance with them is expected to take place in April 2006 and that the European Parliament has requested that the AETR should be brought into line as rapidly as possible with the relevant provisions of the new Community Regulation. In light of this request, the Committee **is requested** to authorize the holding of a meeting of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on the Revision of the AETR in April/May 2006 to prepare the necessary amendments to the Agreement.

C: With regard to the organization of a seminar in Moscow on the implementation of the digital tachograph announced in 2004, the Committee may **note** that the dates chosen for the seminar are 2 to 3 March 2006. The seminar will be organized in cooperation with the European Commission.

(ii) **Draft additional Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR)**

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that, at its ninety-ninth session, SC.1 decided to establish an editorial committee to finalize the drafting of the text of an additional Protocol to the CMR introducing the possibility of using electronic consignment notes. The editorial committee would work on the proposal prepared by UNIDROIT and would consider the written and oral comments presented during the meeting. It was stressed that the substance of the UNIDROIT proposal should not be modified.

(c) **Terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Working Party**

B: The Committee may wish to **endorse** the terms of reference and rules of procedure adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-ninth session (TRANS/SC.1/377/Add.1).

12. ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

TRANS/WP.1/98
TRANS/WP.1/100 and Add. 1 - 2
ECE/TRANS/2006/10

B: The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) on its forty-sixth session (TRANS/WP.1/98) and on its forty-seventh session (TRANS/WP.1/100 and Add. 1 - 2) for **consideration and approval** pending final adoption at the forty-eighth session of the Working Party in March 2006.

(a) **New General Assembly Resolution on Improving Global Road Safety**

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that, on 26 October 2005 at its sixtieth session, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/60/5 on improving global road safety. In the Resolution, the General Assembly encourages Member States to adhere to the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, in order to ensure a high level of road safety, and encourages them to strive to reduce road traffic injuries and mortality in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

The UN General Assembly, at the same time, stresses the importance of the improvement in international legal road traffic safety norms and welcomes in this regard the substantial package of amendments to the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, which have been elaborated by the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1).

Furthermore, it welcomes the proposal made by UNECE to hold the First UN Global Road Safety Week in 2007 targeted at young road users including young drivers, and invites the UN Regional Commissions and the World Health Organization to organize it jointly.

(b) Activities of WP.1, including international legal instruments and consolidated resolutions related to road safety

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the amendment proposals to the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements supplementing them as well as the Protocol on Road Markings transmitted to the United Nations Secretary-General by the Russian Federation in September 2004 were considered accepted on 28 September 2005 and will enter into force on 28 March 2006.

C: The Committee may also wish to **note** the progress made on updating and completing the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) (TRANS/WP.1/100, paras. 12-40).

B: At its forty-seventh session, WP.1 supported the proposal to organize the International Festival of Road Safety Films on 23 March 2006 in the Palais des Nations, back to back with the forty-eighth session of WP.1 (20-22 March 2006). The Festival would be organized under the aegis of UNECE within the framework of WP.1's work and would be used to promote the Global Road Safety Week. The Committee is requested to **approve** the holding of this event which would welcome more than 200 participants.

B: In order for WP.1 to be able to complete its work on the revision of the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic so that it can be issued as a publication during the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week in April 2007, the WP.1 at its forty-seventh session requested the Committee to **approve** the holding of an extraordinary session of WP.1 from 27 to 30 June 2006.

B: In addition, the Committee is requested to **take position** about holding exceptionally the meeting of WP.1 in autumn 2006 at the premises of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok (ESCAP), Thailand. The invitation was made by UNESCAP with the intention of raising awareness of road safety issues in Asia.

(c) Activities of the UN Road Safety Collaboration

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the UN Road Safety Collaboration, established in response to General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/289 on improving global road safety, held its second meeting on 16-17 March 2005 in Geneva and its third meeting in London on 14-15 November 2005. The UN Road Safety Collaboration comprises some 30 organizations and

11 UN agencies. The Second United Nations Collaboration Meeting adopted the proposal made by the WP.1 to hold the next Road Safety Week at the global level in 2007.

(d) Preparation of the First UN Global Road Safety Week in 2007

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week will be held from 23-29 April 2007. It will be targeted at young road users including young drivers. A World Youth Assembly, to be held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 23 April 2007 to launch the week, followed by a Global Road Safety Stakeholder Forum, is being considered.

As proposed by the General Assembly and mentioned above, the regional commissions and WHO are invited to jointly organize the Global Road Safety Week which should serve as a platform for global and regional but mainly national and local activities to raise awareness about road safety issues.

B: The Committee may wish to **request** its members to promote the concept of the Week in their countries, to take an active part in its preparation and to **support** the holding of the World Youth Assembly and the Stakeholder Forum in the Palais des Nations.

(e) Terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Working Party

B: The Committee may wish to **endorse** the terms of reference and rules of procedure adopted by WP.1 at its forty-eighth session (TRANS/WP.1/100/Add.1).

13. HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS

TRANS/WP.29/1039

TRANS/WP.29/1041

TRANS/WP.29/1047

[ECE/TRANS/2006/1/Corr.1](#)

B: The Committee may wish to **consider** and **approve** the work carried out by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and its six subsidiary Working Parties (GRPE, GRSG, GRRF, GRE, GRB, GRSP) during 2005, as reflected in the reports of WP.29 on its one-hundred-and-thirty-fifth (TRANS/WP.29/1039), one-hundred-and-thirty-sixth (TRANS/WP.29/1041) and one-hundred-and-thirty-seventh (TRANS/WP.29/1047) sessions.

(a) The 1958 Agreement and annexed UNECE Regulations

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that, during 2005, the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement remained the same (44). Two new UNECE Regulations were adopted raising the number of Regulations annexed to the Agreement to 123. Sixty-six amendments to forty-one existing Regulations were adopted.

(b) The 1998 (global) Agreement

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that, during 2005, the number of Contracting Parties remained the same (22). The Executive Committee (AC.3) of the Agreement adopted (i) the

second global technical regulation (gtr) concerning the measurement procedure for two-wheeled motorcycles equipped with a positive or compression ignition engine with regard to the emission of gaseous pollutants, CO₂ emissions and fuel consumption, (ii) Special Resolution No. 1 concerning the common definitions of vehicle categories masses and dimensions (S.R.1) and (iii) the listing of nine technical regulations in the Compendium of Candidates global technical regulations. Work continued in fifteen priorities for establishing new draft global technical regulations. The six subsidiary Working Parties continued to work not only on these fifteen priorities, but also on the six items that the Executive Committee of the Agreement (AC.3) had authorized to continue or begin the work to become new priorities.

(c) **The 1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections**

A: The Committee might wish to **note** that the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement remained the same (7). The Committee may again **consider** inviting the 18 countries, which signed the Agreement on 13 November 1997, to speed up their national ratification procedures and may again **decide** to invite the European Community to accede to the Agreement. The Committee may **note** that work to update Rule No. 1 concerning periodical inspections with respect to protection of the environment was in process and that the proposal for draft Rule No. 2, concerning inspections with respect to safety of heavy commercial passenger and goods vehicles used in international transport, remained under consideration.

(d) **Secretarial resources for the WP.29**

A: The Committee may wish to **note** that the new P-3 post allocated to perform the technical and administrative functions related to the development of global vehicle regulations in the framework of the 1998 Agreement was temporarily filled awaiting the completion of the selection process. The Committee may **request** again that the post be upgraded to the P-4 level as originally requested due to the quite complex tasks inherent to it and may **recommend** the Permanent Missions to support this request.

14. RAIL TRANSPORT

ECE/TRANS/SC.2/204

B: The Committee will have before it the report of the fifty-ninth session of the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/204) for **consideration** and **approval**.

(a) **Rail transport infrastructure**

(i) **European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC)**

B: The Committee may wish to take **note** that in total 24 countries are at present Contracting Parties to the AGC Agreement. It may also wish to **note** the amendments proposed by Hungary to Annex 1 of the AGC (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/204, annex 1). The Committee may wish to **endorse** the invitation to those Governments that have not yet acceded to the AGC, to examine the possibility of doing so (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/204). It may also wish to **endorse** the Working Party's approval of the updated version of Annex 1 of the AGC, and the decision to set up a consolidated version of the Agreement (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/204).

(ii) **Activities of the Trans-European Railway
(TER) Project**

TRANS/SC.2/2005/13

C: The Committee may wish to take **note** of the progress report of the TER Project (TRANS/SC.2/2005/13), in particular, the implementation in 2005 of a short-term strategy for further integration of TER into the new European transport context and the completion of the TER Master Plan.

B: Based on the above information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **consider:**
(i) **reiterating** its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat for the substantive backstopping and further development of this Project that will support the implementation of its ongoing activities, including the appropriate follow-up for the implementation of the TER Master Plan, and (ii) **stressing** that the accumulated TER projects' experience could be a useful tool in assisting Caucasian and Central Asian member countries in their efforts to integrate their transport systems and establish Euro-Asian transport links.

(b) **Facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport**

B: The Committee may also wish to **support** the ongoing preparatory activities on the organization of an International Conference on Facilitation of Railway Border Crossing by the UNECE secretariat, the OSZhD, involved countries and international organizations. It may also wish to **support** the convening of such a Conference in 2006 with the widest possible participation of Ministries of Transport, customs, police, border control and other involved national authorities. Furthermore, the Committee may wish to **invite** the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) and the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) to consider and comment the draft of a new Annex on Railway Border Crossing facilitation to the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods (1982) and an updated draft of the International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage carried by Rail, of 10 January, 1952, which are being drawn up for adoption at the above-mentioned International Conference.

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that 7 countries and 24 border crossing stations provided the data on border-stopping times in the observed period in 2004. The questionnaire allows monitoring of border-stopping times in international rail transport on AGC lines.

B: The Committee may wish to **support** continuation of this activity of the Working Party.

Wednesday, 8 February 2006 (morning)

15. INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

TRANS/SC.3/168

B: The report of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport on its forty-ninth session, has been circulated for **consideration** and **approval** by the Committee as TRANS/SC.3/168.

(a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN)

ECE/TRANS/120

C: The Committee may wish **to note** that the Working Party adopted the amendments to AGN Agreement and to its annexes as set out in TRANS/SC.3/2005/6 and clarified in TRANS/SC.3/168, para. 21.

B: The Committee may also wish **to note and endorse** the decision of the Working Party regarding the establishment under its auspices of a Group of Rapporteurs (Belarus, Poland, Ukraine) with a view to preparing a feasibility study on the restoration of the waterway link Dnieper – Wistula – Oder (TRANS/SC.3/168, para. 35).

(b) Technical and legal questions regarding the development and facilitation of international transport by inland waterway

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/169
TRANS/SC.3/2005/1
TRANS/SC.3/2005/7

C: The Committee will be orally informed of the progress made by the Working Party in implementing the Committee's resolution No. 250 on the Promotion of Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/139, annex 2). In this connection, it may wish to **take note** of the "Inventory of existing legislative obstacles that hamper the establishment of a harmonized and competitive Pan-European inland navigation market together with the recommendations as to how to overcome the obstacles identified" (TRANS/SC.3/2005/1) approved by the Working Party. The Inventory had been prepared as a follow-up to the decisions taken by Ministers at the Rotterdam Pan-European Conference on Inland Waterway Transport of 2001. The Working Party believes that the Inventory would constitute a valuable contribution to the preparation in cooperation with EC, ECMT and River Commissions of the next Pan-European Conference on Inland Waterway Transport which is to be held in Bucharest (Romania) in September 2006. The Committee will also be informed of the main output of the Workshop on inland navigation issues organized jointly by UNECE/ECMT/CCNR/DC in Paris on 22 and 23 September 2005 with a view to preparing the Bucharest Conference.

B: The Committee may wish **to take note of and endorse** the decision of the Working Party to hold on 15 and 16 March 2006, an Ad hoc session with a view to consideration and adoption of a consolidated text of the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/168, paras. 38-39). The Recommendations are a result of ten years of intensive work of member Governments concerned with inland navigation. They are in line with relevant EC provisions but take also into account national legislation and

particularities of different river basins Europe wide including the River Danube. The Recommendations are to facilitate the reciprocal recognition of ship's certificated by member States and encourage the further development of international transport by inland waterway.

B: The Committee may wish **to note and endorse** the adoption by the Working Party of resolution No. 59 on the harmonization of waterway signs and marking as set out in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/169.

B: The Committee may wish **to note and endorse** the adoption by the Working Party of resolution No. 60 (TRANS/SC.3/2005/7) concerning international standards on Notices to Skippers and on Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation, within the establishment on E waterways of the so-called River Information Services (RIS).

16. INTERMODAL TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

TRANS/WP.24/107
TRANS/WP.24/109

B: The reports of the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) on its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions have been circulated for **consideration** and **approval**. Since 2004, the UNECE Working Party constitutes a segment of the Joint ECMT/UNECE Working Party/Group on Intermodal Transport and Logistics that convenes alternately in Geneva and Paris (ECE/TRANS/156, para.94).

(a) European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) and its Protocol on Inland Waterways **TRANS/WP.24/2005/6**

B: Following completion of a large package of amendment proposals (TRANS/WP.24/2005/6), the Committee may wish **to encourage** the Contracting Parties to the AGTC to finalize in 2006 a second package in order to extend the AGTC network to Central Asia and the Caucasus taking account of the results of the UN Development Account Project on Capacity Building for Developing Interregional Transport Linkages.

(b) “Model” Action Plans and Partnership Agreements for the Development of Intermodal transport **TRANS/WP.24/2005/7**

B: In compliance with the decision by the Committee, the Joint ECMT/UNECE Working Party has prepared and adopted a recommendation on this subject to promote better cooperation among players in international intermodal transport at policy, technical and commercial levels and to establish benchmarks to measure performance. At its session in May 2005, the ECMT Council of Ministers has approved the recommendation (ECE/TRANS/162, para.103). The Committee may also wish **to endorse** the recommendation (TRANS/WP.24/2005/7). The Committee may also wish **to invite** Governments, international organizations and the secretariat to make all efforts to widely publicize the “model” action plans and partnership agreements and to obtain information on their application.

(c) **Efficient intermodal transport in a pan-European context:
Follow-up to the ECMT Council of Ministers
(Moscow, 24 and 25 May 2005)**

TRANS/WP.24/2005/1

A: The Committee may wish **to note** that the ECMT Council of Ministers has approved an action plan as a follow-up to the joint UNECE/ECMT Seminar on Intermodal Transport between Asia and Europe (Kiev, 27-28 September 2004) (TRANS/WP.24/2005/1). Accordingly, the Working Party, in consultation with freight forwarders and rail transport operators, considered solutions to overcome interoperability as well as administrative problems at border crossings that hampered efficient East-West rail and intermodal transport. In order to overcome these obstacles and to provide a level playing field between road and rail transport along these corridors, the Committee may wish **to consider and endorse** the strategic elements and procedures identified by the Working Party that should constitute the cornerstones of international activities in this field in the years ahead. This included (a) negotiation of a unified railway law supplementing or replacing the present artificial separation between the COTIF and SMGS regimes; and (b) development of a common pan-European rail Customs transit system (TRANS/WP.24/109, paras.13-20).

17. BORDER CROSSING FACILITATION

TRANS/WP.30/218

TRANS/WP.30/220

TRANS/WP.30/222

B: The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30), on its one-hundred-and-ninth, one-hundred-and-tenth and one-hundred-and-eleventh sessions (TRANS/WP.30/218, -/220 and -/222), for **consideration and approval**.

(a) **Customs Convention on the International Transport of
Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975)**

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/77

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/79

B: The Committee will also have before it, for this item, the reports of the two sessions of the TIR Administrative Committee, serviced by the secretariat, which are contained in documents TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/77 and TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/79.

B: With a view to continuing the progress on Phase III of the TIR revision process, focusing on the revision of the TIR Carnet and computerization of the TIR procedure, in particular, the Committee may wish to **decide** to prolong the mandate of the two groups of experts on the TIR revision process and computerization of the TIR procedure for the year 2006.

(b) **International Convention on the Harmonization
of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982**

TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/16

C: The Committee may wish to **take note** that a new Annex 8 to the Convention has been adopted by the Administrative Committee at its session in October 2005, The annex covers various elements of efficient border crossing procedures in international road transport of goods, including (i) an International Vehicle Weight Certificate, (ii) acceptance of the Agreement concerning the

Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections or the concept regarding such agreement and (iii) provisions encouraging visa facilitation measures for professional drivers.

- (c) **Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles of 1954, and Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles of 1956** TRANS/WP.30/222

C: The Committee may wish **to note** that the Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-eleventh session, adopted resolution No. 51 recommending UNECE Member States, other Contracting Parties to the two Conventions and other countries to promote the correct application of the two Conventions and accession to them. The Committee may wish **to endorse** the Resolution.

- (d) **Draft Conventions on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail** ECE/TRANS/2006/9
-/Corr.1

B: The Committee may wish to **take note** of the status of the final text of the Convention on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail under Cover of SMGS Consignment Notes, which was adopted by the Committee its session in February 2005. In this context, the Committee may wish **to consider** document ECE/TRANS/2006/9 and **to adopt** the proposed amendments to the text of the Convention, in particular considering the outcome of the discussions of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport which will take place on 30 January to 3 February 2006.

Wednesday, 8 February 2006 (starting at 3.00 p.m.)

**ROUND TABLE ON “TRANSPORT SECURITY IN THE PAN-EUROPEAN CONTEXT:
SELECTED ISSUES AND OPTIONS”**

Thursday, 9 February 2006 (morning)

18. TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

- (a) **The Economic and Social Council’s Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals** ECE/TRANS/2006/3

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the Economic and Social Council adopted, on 27 July 2005, resolution 2005/53 on the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (ECE/TRANS/2006/3). The Committee may also wish to **note** the action taken by the secretariat and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods in relation to this resolution (ECE/TRANS/2006/3, paras. 14-16).

A: The Committee may wish to **comment** on the request for cooperation as regards the possibilities of improving the implementation of the UN Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (ECE/TRANS/2006/3, para. 17 and ECOSOC Resolution 2005/53, Part A, operative paragraph 5).

C: The Committee may also wish to **note** that:

(i) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods met from 4 to 8 July 2005 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/54) and is holding its twenty-eighth session from 28 November to 7 December 2005;

(ii) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals met from 11 to 12 July 2005 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/18) and is holding its tenth session from 7 to 9 December 2005.

(b) Harmonization of the technical requirements of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) and the Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID) TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/98
and Adds.1 - 2
TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/100
and Adds. 1, 2 and 3

B: The Committee may wish to **consider** and **approve** the reports of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting on its sessions held in Bern from 7-11 March 2005 and Geneva from 13-23 September 2005.

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting finalized a set of draft amendments to the common requirements of RID, ADR and ADN which include, *inter alia*, adaptations of these requirements to those of the fourteenth revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations. The Committee may also wish to **note** that a meeting of an Ad hoc Working Group on the Harmonization of RID/ADR/ADN with the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, with limited membership, was held in Geneva from 23 to 25 May 2005 to facilitate the process of harmonization.

(c) European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) TRANS/WP.15/183
TRANS/WP.15/185 and Add.1

B: The Committee may wish to **consider** and **approve** the reports of the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods on its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions (TRANS/WP.15/183 and TRANS/WP.15/185 and Add.1).

B: The Committee may wish to **note** that there are 40 Contracting Parties to the ADR. The Protocol amending articles 1 (a), 14 (1) and 14 (3) (b) of the ADR, adopted by the Conference of

the Contracting Parties on 28 October 1993, has not yet entered into force as not all Contracting Parties to the ADR have become Parties to the Protocol. Twenty-seven Contracting Parties have done so to date, and the Committee may wish to **urge** the remaining Contracting Parties (Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine) to take the necessary steps to allow the Protocol to come into force.

C: The Committee may also wish to **note** that the Working Party adopted new draft amendments to Annexes A and B of the ADR but could not complete the discussion of amendment proposals concerning the safety of the transport of dangerous goods in road tunnels. Resuming the seventy-ninth session on 26 and 27 January 2006 in order to conclude this work is under consideration. A consolidated list of all draft amendments adopted in 2004 and 2005 for entry into force on 1 January 2007 will be prepared by the secretariat and circulated under the symbol TRANS/WP.15/186.

A: The Committee may wish to **endorse** the request of the Working Party to initiate consultations with OTIF and OSJD in order to study the possibilities of closer cooperation with OSJD to ensure harmonization of Annex 2 of SMGS with ADR, RID and ADN (TRANS/WP.15/185, paras. 78-84).

(d) European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that there are now four Contracting States to ADN: Austria, Hungary, the Russian Federation and the Netherlands. It is recalled that the ADN had also been signed (subject to ratification) by the following other 9 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia. It was open for signature until 31 May 2001 and is now open for accession.

B: The Committee may also wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the ADN will hold its tenth session from 23 to 26 January 2006. It will consider proposals of amendments to the Regulations annexed to the ADN. The report on this session should be circulated as document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/20 for **consideration** and **approval** by the Committee. Amendments adopted in 2005 and 2006 will be submitted to the ADN Administrative Committee as soon as the ADN enters into force. Pending this entry into force, the Committee may wish to **invite** UNECE member States to implement the amended Regulations through their national legislation as from 1 January 2007.

19. TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS

Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP)

B: The report of the sixty-first session of the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs has been circulated for **consideration** and **approval** by the Committee (TRANS/WP.11/212).

20. TRANSPORT STATISTICS

(a) Methodological developments

B: The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Transport Statistics on its fifty-sixth session (8-10 June 2005) (TRANS/WP.6/149) for **consideration** and **approval**.

New classification of transport statistics (NST/2000)

(b) 2005 E-Road and E-Rail Traffic Censuses

C: The Committee will be **informed** about the activities related to the ongoing censuses:

- 2005 Combined Census of Motor Traffic Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe
- E-Rail Traffic Census 2005

21. TRANSPORT DIVISION WEBSITE

C: The Committee may wish to take **note** that, in 2005, the UNECE website, including the Transport Division website, was transferred to a new hosting service provider with a fully monitored and maintained web site infrastructure, up-to date security services, and more frequent uploads. Furthermore, the website of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) was restructured.

Work in 2006 will focus on keeping the website easy to navigate and up-to-date.

III. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

22. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2010

**ECE/TRANS/2006/5
and Corr.1**

B: The Committee will have before it document ECE/TRANS/2006/5 containing its draft Programme of Work. This document could not be considered by the Bureau at its meeting on 29-30 November 2005 as several Working Parties at that time had not yet finalized their Programme of Work. The Bureau will review the document at its meeting on 6 February 2006. The remarks of the Bureau will be circulated to the Committee as an Informal document. On the basis of document ECE/TRANS/2006/5, and bearing in mind the remarks of the Committee's Bureau, the Committee may wish **to adopt** its programme of work for the period 2006-2010.

23. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS IN 2006

ECE/TRANS/2006/8
[Informal Document No. 4](#)

B: A preliminary list of meetings is being circulated for **consideration and adoption** by the Committee, based on proposals made by the Committee's subsidiary bodies (ECE/TRANS/2006/8).

24. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

B: The Committee is expected to **elect** its officers for the sessions of the Committee in 2006 and 2007.

25. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU IN 2006 AND 2007

B: The Committee may wish to **decide** on the composition of its Bureau for the preparation of the sessions of the Committee in 2006 and 2007.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

26. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next session

C: The Committee may **note** that its sixty-ninth session is tentatively scheduled to be held from **6 - 8 February 2007**.

Thursday, 9 February 2006 (afternoon)

27. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION

B: In accordance with established practice, the Committee will **adopt** the report of its sixty-eighth session on the basis of the draft prepared by the secretariat.
