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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-third session
Geneva, 12-15 November 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-THIRD SESSION

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 12 November 2007

Addendum

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Item 2: Activities of ECE bodies of interest to the Working Party

(a) Inland Transport Committee

2. At its sixty-ninth session (6-8 February 2007), the Chairman of WP.11 informed the Committee of the results accomplished by WP.11, including the adoption of new amendments, and of the progress made with respect to the securing of ATP documents, the drafting of a questionnaire on exchange of information between Contracting Parties, the procedures for the approval of multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles, and the introduction of energy labelling in ATP (ECE/TRANS/192, paras. 103-105).

3. The Committee approved the report of WP.11 on its sixty-second session (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/214) and the addenda thereto (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/214/Add.1 and 2).

4. The Committee also took note of the ongoing discussion within WP.11 concerning the draft annex to ATP on the carriage of fresh fruit and vegetables.

5. The Committee also requested its subsidiary bodies to conduct a biennial evaluation of their activities (see item 9).

(b) Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7).

6. The Working Party will be informed about the recent activities of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards.

Item 3: Activities of other international organizations dealing with problems of interest to the Working Party

(a) International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR)

7. The Working Party will be informed about the results of the meeting of the IIR sub-commission held in Piestany, Slovakia from 31 May to 1 June 2007.

(b) Transfrigoroute International

8. The representative of Transfrigoroute International is invited to briefly present the recent activities of his organization.

(c) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

9. The representative of ISO is invited to briefly present the activities of ISO that have a bearing on the work of WP.11.

(d) Compatibility of ATP and European Union legislation

10. The Working Party may wish to discuss issues concerning the compatibility of the ATP and European Union legislation, including in the area of energy labelling. The Netherlands has proposed an amendment to Annex 2 as a consequence of the replacement of EC Directive 92/1/EC by EC Regulation 37/2005 (see item 5 (c) below).

Item 4: Status and implementation of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage

(a) Status of application of the Agreement

11. To date the following 43 States have become Parties to the Agreement: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy,

Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan.

12. By notification dated 20 February 2007, Montenegro became a party to the ATP by succession with effect from 23 October 2006. The date of State succession for Montenegro is 3 June 2006. Tunisia acceded to the ATP on 3 April 2007. The Agreement will enter into force for Tunisia on 3 April 2008 in accordance with Article 11.2. Ukraine acceded to ATP on 25 July 2007. The Agreement will enter into force for Ukraine on 25 July 2008.

(b) Status of amendments

13. Proposed amendments to Annexes 1 and 2 of the ATP adopted at the sixty-second session of WP.11 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/214/Add. 1 and 2) were circulated to Contracting Parties by the depositary on 1 May 2007 (C.N.525.2007.TREATIES-2). A number of typographical corrections to the English and Russian versions of the proposed amendments appear in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/214/Add.1/Corr.1.

(c) Test stations officially designated by the competent authorities of countries Parties to ATP and whose test reports might be used for the issue of ATP certificates

14. Updated information will be provided on the competent authorities issuing certificates of conformity, officially recognised testing stations and relevant contact addresses. Contracting Parties are invited to transmit corrections or new information to the secretariat. The current list appears at the following web link: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp11/teststations.pdf>

(d) Exchange of information among Parties under Article 6 of ATP

15. At its sixty-second session, WP.11 had considered the results of the questionnaire on the exchange of information between Contracting Parties under article 6 of ATP (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2006/2 and Add.1). The Working Party considered that the questionnaire was useful, but that its distribution should be suspended pending reformulation so as to facilitate the collection of information. It assigned this task to an informal group to be chaired by Spain, with a mandate to draft a questionnaire for presentation to the next session of the Working Party. The report of the informal working group will be considered under items 5 (c) and 6.

16. One additional reply to the questionnaire received from Latvia will be made available as an Informal document.

Item 5: Proposals of amendments to the ATP

(a) Amendments provisionally adopted¹

17. At its sixty-second session, WP.11 unanimously adopted a text calling for the ATP certificate to be plastic-coated and for it to be stamped by the competent authority (relief impress) and for the issuance, in the event of loss, not of a photocopy of the ATP certificate, but of a duplicate of it (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/214, para. 18 and Annex 1). However, it was decided for the time being not to transmit this proposed amendment to the depositary. The Working Party may wish to discuss whether it now wishes the proposed amendments to be sent to the depositary. It may also wish to discuss other issues concerning securing ATP documents.

(b) Pending issues²

Multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles

18. At the sixty-second session, the representative of Germany presented a proposed amendment regarding multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles. Germany announced that the proposal would be discussed in an informal group and presented to the IIR Sub-Commission before being submitted as an official proposal.

19. The Working Party will have before it for consideration two proposals for test procedures for multi-temperature vehicles submitted by the Transfrigoroute International working group on the ATP (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/18 and ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/19).

Annex 1, Appendix 2, Model No. 10 Test Report

20. At the sixty-second session, the representative of the United Kingdom submitted a proposed amendment regarding the duration of validity of a mechanical refrigeration unit test report (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2006/8). A revised proposal by the United Kingdom appears in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/4.

Annex 1, Appendix 3 to ATP - ATP certificate model

21. At the sixty-second session, the representative of Portugal emphasized that, given the need to ensure that ATP documents are secure, WP.11 should adopt a single certificate model. Following consideration of the proposal by a drafting group, Portugal has presented a proposed new model certificate in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/14.

(c) New proposals

¹ Securing ATP documents.

² Procedures for the approval of multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles; ATP certificate model.

Article 3, paragraph 2

22. The Working Party may wish to discuss the proposal made by Finland to increase the length of the sea crossing referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the ATP as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/11.

Article 18

23. The Working Party may wish to discuss the proposal made by Portugal regarding the unanimity rule for the acceptance of amendment proposals as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/13.

Annex 1, Appendix 1

24. The Working Party may wish to discuss the proposals made by the Netherlands for the updating of Annex 1, Appendix 1 in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/9.

25. The informal working group chaired by Spain to propose a new questionnaire, also examined other aspects regarding compliance with the ATP and proposed two amendments to Annex 1, Appendix 1 for consideration by the Working Party. The proposals appear in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/1, para. 5.

Annex 1, Appendix 1, paragraph 6

26. The Working Party is invited to discuss an amendment proposed by Sweden regarding the distinguishing marks affixed by the manufacturer (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/6).

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 29

27. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment proposed by Sweden in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/7 regarding checking of distinguishing marks affixed by the manufacturer.

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 49

28. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendments proposed by Sweden in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/8, the Netherlands in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/10 and France in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/15 and ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/17 regarding Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 49.

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 56

29. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment proposed by Portugal in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/12 regarding the test procedure.

Annex 1, Appendix 2, Test Report Model No. 1B

30. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment proposed by France in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/16 to test Report Model 1B in Annex 1, Appendix 2.

Annex 2

31. A proposal by the Netherlands to amend Annex 2 as a consequence of the replacement of EC Directive 92/1/EC by EC Regulation 37/2005 is contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/5.

Item 6: ATP Handbook

32. In response to a request made by WP.11 at its sixty-second session, an informal group chaired by Spain has proposed a new questionnaire for the exchange of information on the observance of the ATP and has proposed that it be added to the ATP Handbook. The proposal is contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/1.

Item 7: Facilitation of transport of perishable foodstuffs

33. The Working Party will be informed that the new Annex 8 on "Facilitation of border crossing procedures for international road transport" to the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods was circulated by the depositary on 20 February 2007.

34. The Annex 8 will be considered accepted 12 months after circulation provided there are no objections and will enter into force after a further three months. The Working Party is reminded that Article 3 of the proposed new Annex stipulates that:

"1. In order to facilitate the international movement of goods, the Contracting Parties shall regularly inform all parties involved in international transport operations in a harmonized and coordinated manner on border control requirements for international road transport operations in force or planned as well as on the actual situation at borders.

2. Contracting Parties shall endeavour to transfer, to the extent possible and not only for transit traffic, all necessary control procedures to the places of departure and destination of the goods transported by road so as to alleviate congestion at the border crossing points.

3. Referring in particular to Article 7 of this Convention, priority shall be given to urgent consignments, e.g. live animals and perishable goods. In particular, the competent services at border crossing points:

(i) shall take the necessary measures to minimize waiting times for ATP-approved vehicles transporting perishable foodstuffs or for vehicles transporting live animals, as from their time of arrival at the frontier until their regulatory, administrative, Customs and sanitary controls;

(ii) shall ensure that the required controls mentioned under (i) are carried out as quickly as possible;

(iii) shall allow, as far as possible, the operation of the necessary refrigerating units of vehicles carrying perishable foodstuffs during the time of crossing the border, unless this is impossible as a result of the required control procedure;

(iv) shall co-operate, in particular through advance information exchange, with their counterparts in other Contracting Parties in order to accelerate border crossing procedures for perishable foodstuffs and live animals, in case these loads are subject to sanitary inspections."

Annex 8 further recommends under Article 6:

"(ii) separation of traffic for different types of traffic on both sides of the border allowing to give preference to vehicles under the cover of valid international Customs transit documents or carrying live animals or perishable foodstuffs."

Item 8: Scope of ATP

35. The Working Party will have before it document ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/3 from the Road Transport Association of the Netherlands requesting clarification from WP.11 on the applicability of the ATP to reefer containers.

Item 9: Programme of work

36. The Working Party may wish to consider its draft programme of work for 2008-2012 as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/2. The revised draft programme adopted by WP.11 will be annexed to the report of its sixty-third session and transmitted to the seventieth session of the Inland Transport Committee in February 2008 for adoption.

37. At its sixty-ninth session, the Inland Transport Committee requested its subsidiary bodies to conduct a biennial evaluation of their activities and to this end, in 2007, in cooperation with the secretariat, to draw up a draft expected accomplishment related to their work areas as well as indicators and appropriate methodologies. A proposal for WP.11 is presented in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2007/2.

Date of the 64th session

38. The dates of 14 to 17 October 2008 have been tentatively reserved for the sixty-fourth session of WP.11.

Item 10: Election of officers

39. The Working Party is expected to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for its sixty-fourth session in 2008.

Item 11: Other business

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

Item 12: Adoption of the report

41. The Working Party will adopt the report on its sixty-third session based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.
