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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Twentieth session
Geneva, 13-14 September 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTIETH SESSION^{1, 2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday 13 September 2007

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda ECE/TRANS/WP.5/41 and Add.1
2. Monitoring of developments relevant for the
Pan-European transport corridors and areas

¹ Delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html>).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat 2 weeks prior to the session by email (bernadette.healy@unece.org) or by fax (41 22 917 0039). Delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on our website <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>).

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The relationship between the UNECE transport infrastructure Agreements (AGR, AGC, AGTC, AGN) and the UNECE Projects (TEM and TER) with Pan-European transport infrastructure network planning procedures | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Development of Euro-Asian transport links | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Results and recommendations of the first Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links | Informal document No. 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Follow-up and implementation of the UNDA project on development of Euro-Asian transport links | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) Organization of demonstration trains | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Transport in the Mediterranean region | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/4 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/5 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) Europe–Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar | E/2007/21 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Activities related to seaports | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/6 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Replies to the questionnaire on transport developments | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/7 and Add.1-5 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Draft Programme of Work for 2008-2012 | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/8 and Add.1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Economic Commission for Europe | E/2007/37-E/ECE/1448 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies | ECE/TRANS/192 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) Follow-up to the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment | |

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|--|------------------------|
| 9. Assistance regarding institutional adaptation of government administration and of transport enterprises to market economy | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/9 |
| 10. Coherent European system of international transport infrastructures | ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/10 |
| 11. Other Business | |
| 12. Adoption of the report | |

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

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

Item 2 Monitoring of developments relevant for the Pan-European transport corridors and areas

2. At its nineteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/40), the Working Party reiterated that one of its priority areas of concern should be to follow-up of all initiatives and activities relevant for the future development of Pan-European transport corridors and infrastructure. In this context, the Working Party decided to invite again the chairpersons of steering committees of the selected Pan-European transport corridors to provide an update on developments along Pan-European Transport Corridors, implementation of the trans-European transport networks, and activities on implementation on the extension of the major trans-European transport axes to the EU neighbouring countries and regions to its twentieth session. Also, in January 2007, the European Commission issued a Communication to the Council and the European Parliament on Extension of the major trans-European transport axes to the neighbouring countries – Guidelines for transport in Europe and neighbouring regions.

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

3. In this context, the representative of the European Commission as well as the chairpersons of the selected Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas are expected to inform the Working Party on recent developments and activities regarding the extension of the major trans-European transport axes to the neighbouring countries as well as in respective Corridors and Areas. The representatives of countries concerned who will attend the session may wish to provide additional information on major developments relevant to Corridors in their respective countries.

4. In view of the existence and further development of UNECE infrastructure agreements, the TEM and TER Master Plans, and following the most recent 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 monitored for the benefit of all UNECE member countries.

(b) Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links

5. The Working Party may wish to discuss the draft of the revised and updated report “Methodological basis for the definition of common criteria regarding bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks” prepared by the consultant, as well as how the outlined methodology could be best used in the process of infrastructure networks planning procedures at the Pan-European level. The draft report is reproduced in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/1.

Item 3 Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links

(a) Results and recommendations of the first Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links

6. The Working Party will be informed about the outcome of the first Informal meeting on Euro-Asian transport links, and may wish to discuss the relevant recommendations of the meeting, when considering its further activities towards developing Euro-Asian transport links. This information will be circulated in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/2 and Informal document No. 1.

(b) Follow-up and implementation of the UNDA project on development of Euro-Asian transport links

7. The Working Party will also exchange information about the outcome of international meetings and activities relevant for the development of Euro-Asian transport links. 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). In this context, the Working Party will be informed about proposals to reinforce the implementation and the follow-up of the outcome of the UNDA project on development of Euro-Asian transport links.

(c) Organization of demonstration trains

8. Representatives of several Member countries will inform the Working Party about new developments concerning demonstration runs of block trains along the Euro-Asian corridors on their respective territories. Representatives of other participating member countries and international organizations are invited to inform the Working Party on their experiences with organization of demonstration runs of container block trains along relevant Euro-Asian transport corridors. This information will be circulated in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/3.

Item 4 Transport in the Mediterranean Region

(a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre

9. The Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) had been asked to report on its activities since the sixteenth session of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/38, para. 18). Relevant information on the recent activities of CETMO will be circulated in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/4 for consideration by the Working Party.

(b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region

10. At its eighteenth session, the Working Party asked the secretariat to request from the EC DG TREN a regular update on the situation regarding the development of the Euro-Mediterranean transport network and the European Commission's ongoing activities in this field. The Working Party will also be informed about various other activities relevant for transport developments in the Mediterranean Region. This information, if submitted in writing, will be circulated in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/5.

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

11. 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.

Item 5 Activities related to seaports

12. The secretariat will inform the Working Party and present the report of an Informal meeting on seaports held on 17 April 2007. The report contains a number of concrete proposals and recommendations for future involvement of the Working Party in issues related to infrastructure and hinterland connections of the seaports, their operations, management, status and further development. This information will be circulated in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/6.

Item 6 Replies to the questionnaire on transport developments

13. In accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee at its fifty-ninth session and the request of the Working Party at its tenth session, replies from member countries on the new and important developments with regard to inland transport are circulated in documents ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/7 and Add.1-5, for consideration by the Working Party.

14. The Working Party, when considering the replies from member countries, may wish to have an exchange of views and discuss different approaches and best practices in addressing common issues (e.g. ways of financing infrastructure developments, modalities for dealing with environmental impact of transport, safety, etc.) and other important developments in inland transport in their respective countries.

Item 7 Draft Programme of Work for 2008-2012

15. The Working Party may wish to approve its draft programme of work for 2008-2012, on the basis of document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/8.

16. In the context of discussion about its programme of work, the Working Party may wish to discuss and decide on the draft expected accomplishments as well as indicators of achievements proposed by the secretariat. These expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement will be used for the 2008-2009 biennial overall evaluation of the UNECE Transport subprogramme. This draft is being circulated in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/8/Add.1.

Item 8 Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party

(a) Economic Commission for Europe

17. The sixty-second session of the Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 25 to 27 April 2007.

18. The Working Party will be informed about decisions taken by the Commission at its sixty-second session, concerning such questions as implementation of the UNECE reform, contribution of the ECE to pan-European integration, and promotion of sustainable development in the ECE region, as well as about the outcome of the High Level segment on "Secure transport development: a key to regional cooperation" held on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary session of the Commission (E/2007/37-E/ECE/1448).

(b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

19. The Committee held its sixty-ninth session in Geneva from 6 to 8 February 2007. The Working Party will be informed about the Committee's discussion on questions related, in particular, to its work areas as contained in paras. 32-38 of the Committee's report (ECE/TRANS/192).

Item 9 Assistance regarding institutional adaptation of government administration and of transport enterprises to market economy

20. 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.5/2007/9.

21. 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.5/38, para. 26).

Item 10 Coherent European system of international transport infrastructures

22. In accordance with the request of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 45) to receive this information on a biennial basis, the secretariat has prepared a document showing modifications in the AGR, AGC, AGN and the AGTC transport networks, as well as the

developments in the TEM and TER networks that have taken place since the Working Party's seventeenth session. This note is being circulated, for information, in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2007/10.

Item 11 Other business

23. The Working Party's twentieth session is tentatively scheduled for 11–12 September 2008.

Item 12 Adoption of the report

24. 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.
