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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics

**REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON TRANSPORT STATISTICS
ON ITS FIFTY-NINTH SESSION ¹
(28–30 May 2008)**

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¹ All documents mentioned in this report are available and can be downloaded from the relevant UNECE website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/transstatwp6agenda.htm>> or from the ODS system of the United Nations <<http://documents.un.org/>>.

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I. ATTENDANCE

1. The Working Party held its fifty-ninth session from 28 to 30 May 2008 in Geneva.
2. The session was attended by representatives of the following countries: Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Latvia; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America. Representatives of the European Commission (EC) were also present.
3. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: Danube Commission and the International Transport Forum.

II. ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY (Agenda item 2)

A. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

4. The Working Party was informed that the Executive Committee of UNECE had established two new ad hoc Groups of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links (ECE/EX/2008/L.5) and on Hinterland Connections of Seaports (ECE/EX/2008/L.6).

B. Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

Documentation: Informal document No. 6 (2008)

5. The Inland Transport Committee (ITC), at its seventieth session (Geneva, 19-21 February 2008), welcomed the cooperation between the ITC and the Conference of European Statisticians for the development of a new online UNECE Transport Statistics Database. It also approved the work of the Working Party and the report on its fifty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/200, paragraphs: 35, 108-110).
6. The Working Party was informed by the secretariat on the activities of the new UNECE Group of Experts on Hinterland Connections of Seaports that included the preparation of a questionnaire on port hinterland transport of containers (Informal document No. 6 (2008)). The Working Part decided to consider, at its next session and on the basis of national experiences, statistical methodologies and data coverage of port hinterland transport.

C. Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)

7. The Working Party was informed about the outcome of the sixth session of Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) Steering Committee (28-30 April 2008). A high-level meeting on THE PEP will be held on 22-23 January 2009 in Amsterdam on the theme of: "Making THE Link: Transport choices for our health, environment and prosperity".

8. In this context, the Working Party noted the importance of its contributions to various strategic topics that are currently dealt with by UNECE, in particular in the field of road traffic safety and transport of dangerous goods. The secretariat had undertaken a “Review of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension” that had shown a lack of statistics on the transport of dangerous goods in the UNECE region.

9. The Working Party also noted the importance of updating the UNECE database on road traffic accidents contributing to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/244 on improving global road safety and to the forthcoming first global high-level conference on road safety to be held in Moscow (Russian Federation) in 2009.

D. Transport and Environment Reporting Mechanism (TERM)

10. The Working Party decided to remove this item from its agenda until new information is available.

III. INTERSECRETARIAT WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT STATISTICS (IWG) (Agenda item 3)

A. Annual report of the activities of the IWG

11. The Working Party recalled that the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) had been established by UNECE, Eurostat and the International Transport Forum to coordinate transport statistics by, for instance, harmonizing definitions, reducing the burden on member States by elaborating a Common Questionnaire and by sharing best practices. It noted that last year’s activities were mainly dedicated to the revision of the Glossary for Transport Statistics.

B. Pilot questionnaires

12. The representative of Eurostat informed the Working Party about two pilot questionnaires that had been prepared in cooperation with the IWG, on high speed rail transport and on road traffic performance (vehicle–km). New pilot questionnaires might be developed on transport by buses and coaches and on transport of gas through pipelines.

IV. METHODOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONIZATION OF TRANSPORT STATISTICS (Agenda item 4)

A. Glossary of transport statistics

Documentation: Informal document No. 5 (2008)

13. The Working Party considered the draft of the 4th edition of its Glossary for Transport Statistics that entailed the following modifications compared to the previous version:

- Minor revisions to the rail transport chapter with an added section on accidents;

- Revisions to the road transport chapter;
- Revisions to the inland waterway chapter with an added section on accidents;
- Introduction of gas pipelines in addition to oil pipelines;
- Minor corrections to the maritime transport chapter;
- Introduction of an air transport chapter; and
- Revisions to the intermodal transport chapter.

14. A first draft of the revised glossary had been circulated for comments and suggestions and several contributions were received and were taken into account.

15. The chapter on pipelines has been reviewed by an Informal Meeting held in Geneva on 3 and 4 April 2008. The representative of the Russian Federation noted that he would consult with the main gas pipeline operator in his country and would transmit remarks, if necessary. The Working Party invited Norway and the Russian Federation to send their comments on the pipeline chapter to the secretariat as soon as possible. Comments of an editorial nature would be taken into account in the 4th edition. Substantial modifications would be considered at the next session of the Working Party for possible further amendment of the Glossary.

16. The Working Party adopted the 4th revision of the Glossary (version 2) with some minor editorial changes.

B. Web version of the Common Questionnaire

17. The representative of Eurostat informed the Working Party that the Common Questionnaire of UNECE, Eurostat and International Transport Forum was currently revised taking into account feedback from users. The new version had been delayed due to technical and administrative problems, but should be on-line within the next few weeks. Priority would be given to the Common Questionnaire before the circulation of new pilot questionnaires. The same application would also be used for the UNECE/International Transport Forum Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accidents.

C. Web version of the Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accident Statistics

18. The Working Party was informed that a consolidated version of the Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accident Statistics had been established in cooperation with the secretariat of the International Transport Forum. Given the recent changes within the International Transport Forum, on-line access to the questionnaire would be made available as soon as possible without delaying the web version prepared by Eurostat. The Working Party supported this work.

D. Adjustment of the new classification system for transport statistics (NST 2007)

Documentation: Informal documents No. 1 and 2 (2008)

19. The Working Party approved the editorial changes to the NST 2007 on classification of goods in transport statistics. NST 2007 (refer to document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/155/Add.1) is related to the four modes of transport (road, rail, inland waterways and maritime). It takes into account the economic activity from which the goods originate. Therefore all of its items are closely interrelated with those of the European CPA (Classification of Products by Activity) and the NACE (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities), which are themselves consistent with CPC and ISIC, their counterparts at the United Nations level.

20. The representative of Eurostat reminded the Working Party that the countries participating in the Coordinating Committee for Transport Statistics (CCST) had decided to move from NST/R to NST 2007 as of 2008 for all concerned modes: road, rail, maritime (optional) and inland waterways (possibly as of 2007).

21. Eurostat has made available two up-to-date conversion tables: NST/R – NST 2007, NHM – NST 2007 and the conversion table from ADR/RID to NST 2007. The European Commission had formally adopted Commission Regulation No. 1304/2007 on 7 November 2007. NST 2007 was made available in all EU languages. A consolidated version of NST 2007 will be published as an Addendum to the present report.

22. The secretariat was invited to insert a link from the WP.6 website to NST 2007, including the relevant document in the “Asked Questions and Replies” folder of the UNECE Transport website. The secretariat was requested to prepare a document on CPC for consideration at the next session of the Working Party and to ensure correspondence between NST 2007 and CPC 2008.

E. Transport of gas through pipelines

Documentation: Informal document No. 4 (2008)

23. The Working Party was informed that its Informal Meeting on pipelines (3-4 April 2008) had reviewed the present statistics on transport by oil pipelines and had decided to propose to the Working Party not to change, for the time being, the questionnaire on oil pipelines in the Common Questionnaire. Also, the Working Party was asked whether it would be possible to include in the Common Questionnaire a new part related to gas pipelines, comparable to that on oil pipelines.

24. The representative of the Russian Federation underlined the importance of the transport of gas through pipelines in his country (about 160 000 km of pipelines) and supported the collection of data in this area.

25. The Working Party invited IWG to prepare a pilot questionnaire on transport statistics of gas through pipelines and agreed that the results of the data collection via the Common Questionnaire should be reported at its next session.

F. Statistics on Road Traffic Performance

Documentation: Informal document No. 3 (2008)

26. The Working Party adopted the Handbook on Statistics on Road Traffic (available online at: <http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2007/wp6/handbook_final.pdf>) and invited the secretariat to translate this publication into French and Russian.

27. The Working Party approved a pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance prepared by Eurostat and recommended its transmission to all UNECE member countries. IWG was requested to review the results of the pilot questionnaire and report back to the Working Party at its next session. The pilot questionnaire is contained in annex I to this report.

G. Statistics on Transportation by Buses and Coaches

28. The Chairman of the Task Force on Statistics on Transportation by Buses and Coaches (WP.6/AC.6) informed the Working Party about the outcome of the Task Force sessions held in Brussels (27-28 September 2007), Stockholm (22-23 November 2007) and Bratislava (13-14 March 2008).

29. The sessions of the Task Force were attended by experts from the Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Netherlands, Slovakia, Sweden, UNECE, DG TREN, Eurostat and IRU. As participation is opened to all UNECE member States, the chairman of the Task Force called for the participation of additional experts.

30. The Working Party noted that the Task Force intended to elaborate a Handbook on Transportation by Buses and Coaches with several chapters on:

- Definitions (to be updated following adoption of the Glossary)
- Transport performance indicators
- User's needs
- Vehicle stock (fleet statistics)
- Enterprise Statistics
- Financial data and service quality indicators
- Safety indicators
- Environmental data.

Also a questionnaire on the methodology to collect statistics on transportation by buses and coaches might be developed. It was planned to finalize a draft of the handbook before the next session of the Working Party.

31. The sixth meeting of the Task Force (WP.6/AC.6) would be held in Wiesbaden (Germany) from 25 to 26 September 2008.

V. TRAFFIC CENSUSES IN THE UNECE REGION (Agenda item 5)

A. 2005 E-Road Traffic Census and Inventory

Documentation: Informal document No. 8 (2008)

32. The Working Party was informed that, at present, the secretariat had only received data from 26 UNECE member countries. Two countries have replied that no data was available and other countries have not yet furnished the requested data.

33. The Working Party urged those countries that have not yet transmitted the required data on the 2005 E-Road Census to the secretariat to do so without delay. The final deadline for accepting replies to the questionnaires should be extended until end of July 2008. Thereafter, the secretariat would publish the census results on CD-ROM.

B. 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census

Documentation: Informal document No. 7 (2008)

34. The Working Party was informed that for the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census, the secretariat had received data from 24 UNECE member countries. Six countries replied that no data were available.

35. The Working Party urged those countries that have not yet transmitted the required data on the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census to the secretariat to do so without delay. The final deadline for accepting replies to the questionnaires should be extended until end of July 2008. Thereafter, the secretariat would publish the census results on CD-ROM.

C. 2010 Traffic Censuses

36. The Working Party expressed the wish that the 2010 road and rail traffic censuses would raise more interest among UNECE member countries and would allow for better timeliness in the publication of these data as compared to the 2005 census programme.

37. The Working Party decided to establish two Ad hoc Groups of Experts on the 2010 censuses programme that should evaluate the results of the 2005 censuses, prepare recommendations to Governments on procedures and methodologies for the 2010 censuses and draft relevant resolutions for adoption by the UNECE Inland Transport Committee in February 2009.

38. The Ad hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census will meet in Geneva on 10 November 2008 and the Ad hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census will meet in Geneva on 11 November 2008.

VI. DISSEMINATION OF STATISTICS (Agenda item 6)

39. The secretariat informed the Working Party about the publication of the UNECE Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (ABTS) and the Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS) that are available on the WP.6 website in PDF and in the form of EXCEL tables

<<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/transstatpub.html#accidents>>. The Working Party was also informed about the on-line UNECE transport statistics database <<http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/DATABASE/STAT/Transport.stat.asp>>.

40. The Working Party invited UNECE member countries to provide the secretariat with missing data and to check the consistency of existing data. To facilitate this exercise, the secretariat would transmit to concerned countries pre-filled EXCEL tables allowing easy entry and/or modification of missing and/or erroneous data.

VII. ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (Agenda item 7)

A. European Commission (DG Transport and Energy)

41. The representative of DG TREN of the European Commission informed the Working Party about recent developments in European transport policy. The main objective of this policy is to make the transportation of goods and the mobility of people more sustainable than they are currently. To this effect, the European Commission is to adopt a package of measures on "Greening the Transport Sector". This package includes a strategy for the internalization of external costs in all modes of transport and proposals for some concrete measures in road and rail transport. The representative of DG TREN stressed the increasing need for data on environmental impact and environmental performance of the various modes of transport.

B. European Commission (DG Eurostat)

42. The representative of Eurostat informed the Working Party about the activities carried out by his organization and the main objectives of their programme of work for 2008, in particular:

- Implementation of the Community « acquis »
- Support implementation of the NST 2007
- Promotion of the use of the Common Questionnaire
- Updating and quality improvement of regional transport indicators
- Development of the methodology for and production of structural indicators, modal split indicators and TERM indicators
- Revision of the strategy on statistics on intermodal transport
- Dissemination of statistics
- Rationalization of data management
- Support to the Community data collection on volumes of road traffic.

C. International Transport Forum

43. The representative of the International Transport Forum informed the Working Party on the latest developments in his organization. The aim of the Forum is to foster a deeper understanding among policy makers and a wider audiences of the role of transport as a key to economic, social and environmental issues. There will be one annual Forum in Leipzig that will deal with a specific theme (“Transport and energy: the challenge of climate changes” this year and “Globalization” next year).

44. The International Transport Forum is moving from:

- European to global (including 7 non-European OECD countries (Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, United States of America);
- Closed to open (a wide audience of transport stakeholders);
- Civil servants to civil society; and
- Surface transport to all modes of transport, including maritime and air transport.

45. A review of statistical activities is undertaken to better adapt them to the new needs. The main outcome of this review will be better visibility of products, extension of the geographical scope to the seven new member countries and integration of statistics on maritime and air transport.

46. The following statistical products are available on the International Transport Forum website: Data on investment in transport infrastructure and maintenance expenditures, trends in the transport sector and data from the short-term database.

D. Danube Commission

47. The representative of the Danube Commission informed the Working Party about recent activities carried out in her organization.

VIII. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012 (Agenda item 8)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2008/1

48. The Working Party reviewed and adopted its draft Programme of Work for 2008-2012 (see annex II).

49. The secretariat announced that a pilot questionnaire would be circulated to some member States to examine the availability of statistics for the transport of dangerous goods. At the next session, Eurostat was invited to make presentations on the methodology for collecting statistics on the transport of dangerous goods and on transit traffic and the USA would present information on transit statistics.

50. Delegates were invited to present their systems for collecting data on light goods vehicles, if any, at the next session of the Working Party.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 9)

A. Information about upcoming meetings on transport statistics

51. The Working Party took note of preliminary dates and venues of meetings in 2008-2009 of the following bodies:

Intersecretariat Working Party (IWG) (Luxembourg)	Jul 2008
Task Force on Statistics on Transportation by Buses and Coaches (WP.6/AC.6) (Germany)	25-26 Sep 2008
Workshop on Road Traffic (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	4-5 Nov 2008
Ad hoc UNECE Expert Group on E-Road Census (WP.6/AC.2)	10 Nov 2008
Ad hoc UNECE Expert Group on E-Rail Census (WP.6/AC.4)	11 Nov 2008
Coordination Committee for Statistics on Transport (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	2-3 Dec 2008
Working Group on Inland Waterways (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	Feb 2009
Working Group on Rail Transport Statistics (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	Apr 2009
UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6)	15-17 Jun 2009
North American Transportation Statistics Interchange (Washington, DC)	22-24 Jun 2009
Working Group on Road Freight Transport Statistics (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	Jun 2009
Working Group on Aviation Transport Statistics (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	Oct 2009
Coordination Committee for Statistics on Transport (Eurostat, Luxembourg)	Dec 2009

B. Date of next session

52. The next session of the Working Party will take place from 15 to 17 June 2009.

C. Election of officers

53. The Working Party re-elected Mr. Erik GRIB (Denmark) as Chairman for two years.

X. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 10)

54. The Working Party adopted the report on its fifty-ninth session based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Annex I**Pilot Questionnaire****ROAD TRAFFIC VOLUMES (in vehicle-kilometres)**

Table 1. Road traffic by type of vehicle

	Road traffic by				
	National vehicles on national territory	Foreign vehicles on national territory	Total vehicles on national territory	National vehicles on foreign territory	National vehicles total (5) = (1) + (4)
	(1)	(2)	(3) = (1) + (2)	(4)	(5)
	- Million vehicle-kilometres -				
TOTAL (a+b+c+d+e)					
Type of vehicle:					
Passenger cars (a)					
- petrol					
- diesel					
- other fuel					
Buses and coaches (b)					
- Buses					
- Coaches					
- Others					
Motorcycles and mopeds (c)					
- Motorcycles					
- Mopeds					
Goods vehicles (d)					
- Goods vehicles ≤ 3.5 tonnes					
• petrol					
• diesel					
• other fuel					
- Goods vehicles > 3.5 tonnes					
• petrol					
• diesel					
• other fuel					
- >3.5 and ≤ 6 tonnes					
• petrol					
• diesel					
• other fuel					
- > 6 tonnes					
• Lorries and load trains					
• Road tractors and articulated vehicles					
Other motorized vehicles (e)					
Bicycles					

Table 2. Road traffic on national territory by type of vehicle and type of road

	Type of road				TOTAL	
	Motorways (1)	Other roads (2) = (3)+(4)	Other roads within built-up areas (3)	Other roads outside built-up areas (4)	Total (1+2)	Of which on Trans- European Networks (TEN-T)
	- Million vehicle-kilometres -					
TOTAL (a+b+c+d+e)						
Type of vehicle:						
Passenger cars (a)						
Buses and coaches (b)						
Motorcycles and mopeds (c)						
Goods vehicles (d)						
- Goods vehicles ≤3.5 tonnes						
- Goods vehicles > 3.5 tonnes						
- >3.5 and ≤ 6 tonnes						
- > 6 and ≤ 12 tonnes						
- > 12 tonnes						
Other motorized vehicles (e)						

Table 3. Road traffic on national territory by type and age of vehicle

	Road traffic by									TOTAL (1+2+3+4+5 +6+7+8+9)
	Age of vehicle (years)									
	0 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (4)	4-5 (5)	6-7 (6)	8-9 (7)	10-11 (8)	12 or more (9)	
	- Million vehicle-kilometres -									
Type of vehicle:										
Passenger cars										
- petrol										
- diesel										
- other fuel										
Buses and coaches										
Motorcycles										
Goods vehicles ≤ 6 tonnes										
Goods vehicles > 6 tonnes										

Table 4a. Road traffic on national territory by type of vehicle and age of driver (Male)

	Road traffic by					
	Age of driver - Male					TOTAL (1+2+3+4+5)
	< 18 years (1)	18 – 24 years (2)	25 – 34 years (3)	35 – 64 years (4)	65 + years (5)	
Type of vehicle: Passenger cars Buses and coaches Motorcycles and mopeds - Motorcycles - Mopeds Goods vehicles - Goods vehicles ≤ 3.5 tonnes - Goods vehicles > 3.5 tonnes Bicycles	- Million vehicle-kilometres -					

Table 4b. Road traffic on national territory by type of vehicle and age of driver (Female)

	Road traffic by					
	Age of driver - Female					TOTAL (1+2+3+4+5)
	< 18 years (1)	18 – 24 years (2)	25 – 34 years (3)	35 – 64 years (4)	65 + years (5)	
Type of vehicle: Passenger cars Buses and coaches Motorcycles and mopeds - Motorcycles - Mopeds Goods vehicles - Goods vehicles ≤ 3.5 tonnes - Goods vehicles > 3.5 tonnes Bicycles	- Million vehicle-kilometres -					

Annex II

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.12: TRANSPORT STATISTICS AND INFORMATION²

02.12.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents Priority: 2

Description: Development of appropriate methodologies and terminology for the harmonization of statistics, aiming also at the determination of indicators of sustainable transport. This includes: methodologies for the collection and compilation of statistics on road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline and combined transport as well as on road traffic accidents, in cooperation and coordination with other UNECE bodies, related international organizations, in order to promote the availability of comprehensive, timely and reliable statistics for sustainable transport planning and analysis.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Transport Statistics will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

(a) Target solutions to improve the collection of statistics in problematic areas, as indicators of sustainable transport, including, but not limited to the following items:

Statistics on road traffic (vehicle-km) (output of feasibility survey expected in ~~2008~~ **2009**);

Statistics on the transportation by buses and coaches (output expected in ~~2008~~ **2009**);

Statistics on the environmental impact of transport;

Statistics on the transport of dangerous goods;

Statistics on transport through pipelines;

Statistics on transport to and from seaports and inland waterways ports (hinterland connections).

Output expected:

A concrete decision for each problematic area, e.g., the addition of supplementary chapters to the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics (environment; gas transport via pipelines) (2008); an assessment of the applicability of the EU Regulations for the collection of dangerous goods data for non-EU member states (~~2008~~**2009**); and the organization of informal working groups on statistics on transport through pipelines and on transport by buses and coaches, as

² Text in square brackets [...] refers to text proposed for deletion; text in **bold** characters indicates newly proposed text.

deemed necessary (~~2007~~), and assessment of metadata on statistics on the volume of these transports (~~2008~~**2009**). Priority: 1

(b) Statistics related to transport and the environment.

Output expected: Continued progress toward the integration of environment-related variables into the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics, as well as the two annual transport publications. **Preparation of a document on the harmonized European statistics on transportation of dangerous goods (2009).** Priority: 1

(c) Coordination among member Governments, other UNECE bodies and related international organizations and non-governmental organizations to harmonize terminology used in the statistics of road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline, combined transport and road traffic accidents, including, but not exclusively, in the context of the work being undertaken by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (UNECE - International Transport Forum - EC/Eurostat) (Meetings 2-3 times per year).

Output expected: Improving electronic transmission of the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics (~~2007~~**2008**); development of supplementary questionnaires as decided by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) and WP.6; preparation of meetings of IWG; publication of the ~~update of the third~~ **fourth** edition of the Glossary for Transport Statistics (2008). Priority: 2

(d) Development of common methodologies to facilitate and improve the collection of information on road and rail traffic flows and infrastructure parameters through surveys and censuses such as automatic counting procedures, including, but not limited to, in the context of The Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (E Road Census and Inventory), (compiled and published by the UNECE every five years, next publication in 2008).

Output expected: Development of common methodologies for E-Rail Censuses to obtain data on traffic flows and infrastructure parameters on the AGC network. Results of the first E-rail census in 2005 are expected to be published in 2008. Priority: 1

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

(e) Monitoring of developments in the field of transport database and information systems, including geographic information systems (GIS), in order to facilitate the updating, analysis and geographic application of transport data, within UNECE and in cooperation with the International Transport Forum and EC/Eurostat, to harmonize transport data internationally and avoid duplication of efforts with other organizations.

Output expected: The development of a transport database system at UNECE based on the data collected through the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics. ~~Consideration of various alternatives and progress made (Access/Excel, Internet/WWW, etc.); observation of trial run at International Transport Forum and Eurostat (2007)~~**(2009)**. Priority: 2

(f) Development of projects to assist countries in transition in the collection, organization and automation of transport statistics, including the convening of workshops and training seminars, drawing on the expertise of member Governments and related organizations.

Output expected: Information from Member States and international organizations on relevant activities. Priority: 2

(g) Examination of metadata about existing statistics on transport of goods by light good vehicles.

Output expected: Preparation of a document on the existing methodology (2009).

02.12.2 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport Priority: 1

Description: Collection and compilation of statistics on inland transport, traffic accidents and traffic flows published by the UNECE.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Transport Statistics will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

(h) Build and maintain a database for the annual collection of statistics on inland transport, including combined transport and road traffic accidents from UNECE member Governments to be published in the following publications:

- (i) Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (ABTS);
- (ii) Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS);
- (iii) Handbook of Transport Statistics.

Output expected: Publication of ABTS, RAS and Handbook of Transport Statistics; Circulation of Questionnaires and receipt of data from member Governments for ABTS and RAS in electronic format. The handbook may be also published in booklet format. Priority: 1

(i) Publish, every five years, in the appropriate way, the results of the E-road traffic Census and Inventory carried out by member Governments in accordance with the Recommendations set forth by the Ad Hoc Group on the Road Traffic Census and Rail Traffic Census as:

- (i) The Combined Census of Road Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (E Road Census and Inventory);
- (ii) E-Rail Census.

Output expected: Preparation of ~~2005~~ **2010** Combined E-Road Census and Inventory and E-Rail Census (~~2008~~**2010** ~~2009~~). Priority: 1

(j) Use of PC-Axis for disseminating data collected via the regular questionnaires.

Output expected: Availability of main data online (2008).

Priority: 1

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

(k) Provide methodological support for the ongoing analysis and evaluation of statistical publications to continue to improve the quality and presentation of the publications, and to incorporate harmonized terminology through the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics. Develop strategies for improvement of usefulness and presentation of publications.

Output expected: Concrete feedback from Governments and other users on usefulness and presentation of publications and development of strategies for improvement of both.

Priority: 3
