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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-fifth session

Geneva, 27-30 October 2009

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BIENNIAL EVALUATION

Biennial evaluation

Note by the secretariat

Background

1. At its sixty-ninth session (6-8 February 2007), the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) was informed of the request made by the Economic Commission for Europe that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes and take into account the results of these evaluations in determining their work programmes (ECE/TRANS/192, paragraph 110).
2. To this end, the Committee's Working Parties, in cooperation with the secretariat, were requested to draw up a draft expected accomplishment related to their work areas as well as related indicators of achievement.
3. At its sixty-third session in 2007, the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) adopted the proposal that appears below which was subsequently endorsed by the ITC. In February 2010, the ITC will be invited to review the draft accomplishment accounts prepared for each expected accomplishment by the secretariat. It will be expected to discuss the lessons learned and take programmatic measures, if appropriate, and the Committee's Chair will be invited to report on the evaluations' key findings to the Executive Committee.

Cluster	Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	Enhanced and updated international requirements for the transport of perishable foodstuffs	<p>(a) Number of new amendments to the ATP adopted by the WP.11 Performance measures: Estimate: 2006-2007: 7 Target: 2008-2009: 10</p> <p>(b) Total number of Contracting Parties to the ATP Agreement Performance measures: Estimate: 2006-2007: 44 Target: 2008-2009: 46</p> <p>(c) Number of documents considered at sessions of WP.11 and number of documents of amendment proposals transmitted to the United Nations Treaty Section in New York Performance measures: Estimate: 2006-2007: 30 + 2 Target: 2008-2009: 32 + 3</p>

4. Working Parties are requested to evaluate, every second year, the performance of their activities in view of the expected accomplishments and related indicators drawn up at the beginning of the two-year cycle. For this purpose, they should review the accomplishment account, drawn up by the secretariat and consisting of an evaluation, both quantitative and qualitative, of the results achieved. The draft accomplishment account for WP.11 appears below.

Draft accomplishment account

(a) Number of new amendments to the ATP adopted by WP.11

5. At its sixty-fourth session in 2008, WP.11 adopted a revised Annex 1 to ATP. This text was supplemented by four other proposed amendments to ATP which appear in Annex I to the report of its session, ECE/TRANS/WP.11/218. This could be considered to be five new amendments although the proposed new text of Annex 1 of ATP contains sixty pages in English and a considerable number of revisions compared to the existing text of Annex 1 of ATP. The number of new amendments adopted at the sixty-fifth session of WP.11 will not be known until after the session (27-30 October 2009) but the number in 2008 is half the target of ten given in the indicator of achievement.

(b) Total number of Contracting Parties to the ATP Agreement

6. At the time of writing, there are forty-five Contracting Parties to ATP, Andorra having acceded on 14 July 2008. It is unknown whether other countries will accede to ATP before the end of 2009 thereby meeting the indicator of achievement of forty-six countries. Switzerland signed the ATP in 1971 but has so far not gone on to ratify the Agreement. Of the fifty-six UNECE Member States, Armenia, Canada, Cyprus, Iceland, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Malta, San Marino, Tajikistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan are also not yet ATP Contracting Parties. The European Union is encouraging accession to ATP by Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan through its project on the establishment of testing stations in Central Asia. It would also be in the interest of countries such as Algeria, Lebanon, Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic, the Gulf States and others to adhere to ATP. Many of these countries are already parties to other UNECE legal instruments such as TIR. Therefore, even if there is only one accession in the 2008-2009 biennium and the target of two accessions is not met, there is potential for new Contracting Parties in the future and it is recommended that this indicator of achievement be kept in 2010 – 2011.

(c) Number of documents considered at sessions of WP.11 and number of documents of amendment proposals transmitted to the United Nations Treaty Section in New York

7. In 2008, WP.11 considered sixteen formal documents (translated in English, French and Russian) including the latest version of the ATP Handbook and three documents submitted to earlier sessions of WP.11. It also considered nine Informal documents. Of this total of twenty-five documents, five of them were adopted as part of the revised Annex 1 submitted to the United Nations Treaty Section in New York in April 2009 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/218/Add.1). It is not yet known how many formal and informal documents will be submitted to the sixty-fifth session of WP.11 and how many will be adopted by WP.11 as amendments to be transmitted to the United Nations Treaty Section. However, the 2008 figure of twenty-five documents, of which five adopted, means that the target of thirty-two + three is likely to be widely exceeded.

8. With the approval of WP.11, the secretariat will update the accomplishment account once all the data for the biennium are available.

Proposed evaluation for the 2010-2011 biennium

9. The WP.11 is invited to discuss, modify and adopt the proposed biennial evaluation for 2010-2011 which appears below and which will be submitted to the seventy-second session of the ITC in 2010.

Cluster	Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	Enhanced and updated international requirements for the transport of perishable foodstuffs	<p>(a) Number of new amendments to the ATP adopted by the WP.11</p> <p>Performance measures:</p> <p>Estimate: 2008-2009: 10 Target: 2010-2011: 10</p> <p>(b) Total number of Contracting Parties to the ATP Agreement</p> <p>Performance measures:</p> <p>Estimate: 2008-2009: 45 Target: 2010-2011: 47</p> <p>(c) Number of documents considered at sessions of WP.11 and number of documents of amendment proposals transmitted to the United Nations Treaty Section in New York</p> <p>Performance measures:</p> <p>Estimate: 2008-2009: 32 + 3 Target: 2010-2011: 32 + 3</p>
