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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

108th session

Geneva, 28–30 October 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the 108th session^{1,2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, 28 October 2013

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the 107th session and of the report of SC.1 special session.
3. Activities of interest to the Working Party:
 - (a) Activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations organizations;
 - (b) National delegations;

¹ For reasons of economy, 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 (www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp1.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (roadtransport@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² All delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (roadtransport@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext.75716 or 72401). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website (www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm).

- (c) International organizations.
4. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR):
 - (a) Status of the Agreement;
 - (b) AETR Expert Group;
 - (c) Implementation of the digital tachograph.
5. European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR):
 - (a) Status of the Agreement;
 - (b) Amendments to the Agreement.
6. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project.
7. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR):
 - (a) Status of the Convention;
 - (b) Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR);
 - (c) Additional Protocol to the CMR concerning the Electronic Consignment Note.
8. Facilitation of international road transport:
 - (a) International Motor Insurance System (Green Card);
 - (b) Proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS);
 - (c) Quantitative restrictions imposed on international road transport of goods;
 - (d) The relationship between the origin of goods and transport operations.
9. Safety at Level Crossings Expert Group.
10. Programme of work and biennial evaluation 2014-2015
11. Other business.
12. Date of next session.
13. Adoption of decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

According to the Rules of Procedure, the first item to be adopted by the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) is the session's agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/399

2. Adoption of report of the 107th session and of the report of SC.1 special session

The Working Party will be invited to adopt the report of its 107th session and its special session of 10-12 July 2013.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/398, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/392

3. Activities of interest to the Working Party

(a) Activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations organizations

The Working Party will be informed about the results of relevant sessions of the Inland Transport Committee, its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations entities of interest to the Working Party. In particular, the secretariat will provide an update on the key decisions made at the seventy-fifth annual session of the Inland Transport Committee including a request “to start discussions on infrastructure requirements linked to the introduction of Intelligent Transport System (ITS)” (ECE/TRANS/236, para. 60) and by the Executive Committee regarding the ECE Reform (E/ECE/1468, Annex III).

In 2012, the International Agency on Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded that diesel engine exhaust is carcinogenic to humans. IARC thereby changed its finding from 1988, when it classified diesel exhaust as probably being carcinogenic to humans. The secretariat prepared Informal document No. 1 which provides basic information about some recent and important developments in transboundary air pollution; illustrates the results of recent studies on the harmful effects of diesel exhausts to public health; and informs UNECE member states about technological developments of diesel engines or their replacement by electric ones that minimize harmful effects to public health. The Working Party may wish to consider Informal document No. 1 and provide guidance on its improvement and finalisation.

(b) National delegations

National delegations may wish to provide information about road transport developments in their respective countries.

(c) International organizations

Representatives of international organizations may wish to provide information about road transport developments in their respective areas of work.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

4. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)

(a) Status of the Agreement

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of the AETR Agreement.

(b) AETR Expert Group

The secretariat will provide an update on the work of the AETR Expert Group from the fourth and fifth sessions of the AETR Expert Group on 24 October 2012, 25 February 2013 and 24 June 2013, including the renewed Memorandum of Understanding between the UNECE and European Commission Services which recognizes the Joint Research Centre as the authority responsible for root and interoperability certification for non-EU AETR Contracting Parties.

The secretariat will also inform the SC.1 about the extension of the Group's mandate until the end of 2014 following the Executive Committee's decision taken on 11 July 2013. As a result, the next two meetings of the AETR Expert Group are scheduled to take place on 31 October 2013 and on 24 February 2014 (if needed additional meetings can be planned for 2014).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/236, E/ECE/1468 (Annex III), ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/9 (Annex I)

(c) Implementation of the digital tachograph

SC.1 may wish to discuss issues related to the implementation the digital tachograph across the AETR Contracting Parties.

5. European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)

(a) Status of the Agreement

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of the AGR Agreement.

(b) Amendments to the Agreement

According to Article 7 of the AGR Agreement, SC.1 can only consider amendment proposals requested by a Contracting Party. At its 105th session, the Working Party considered and approved amendments to the AGR on procedures relating to road safety impact assessments, road safety audits, the management of road network safety as well as safety inspections (based on European Commission Directive 2008/96/EC on road infrastructure safety management). Until a Contracting Party is identified as the originator of the amendment proposals, the secretariat is unable to forward the amendment proposal to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. The secretariat will provide an update on this.

At its 107th session, SC.1 discussed the possibilities of incorporating selected "e-mobility" issues into the AGR Agreement (e.g. alternative fuel issues are increasingly important) and agreed to discuss this issue further at this session by exchanging information about national activities and initiatives in this area.

6. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project

The Working Party will be informed about the status of the TEM project.

7. Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR)

(a) Status of the Convention

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of the Convention. The Government of the Netherlands will be invited to present Informal document No. 2 which proposes to study the experience with CMR using a questionnaire developed in close cooperation with IRU.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2

(b) Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR)

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of Protocol to the Convention.

(c) Additional Protocol to the CMR concerning the Electronic Consignment Note

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of Additional Protocol.

As agreed at its 107th session, SC.1 will discuss issues of domestic and international use of e-CMR at this session.

8. Facilitation of international road transport

(a) International Motor Insurance System (Green Card)

The Working Party will be informed by the representatives of the Council of Bureaux about recent developments in the “Green Card system.”

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2013/1

(b) Proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS)

SC.1 met on 10-12 July 2013 for a special session to discuss a proposal submitted by the Government of Switzerland for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS). The secretariat will provide an overview of the outcome of the meeting and the revised formal proposal (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/2013/1/Rev.1), reflecting changes from the special session meeting, will be tabled for discussion. The secretariat has formatted (in the way requested at the special SC.1 session) some of the OmniBUS Annexes which are available in Informal document No. 3.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/2013/1/Rev.1, Informal document No. 3

(c) Quantitative restrictions imposed on international road transport of goods

The Government of Turkey will be invited to inform SC.1 of the outcome of the 1 March 2013 meeting of the informal group of experts, made up of Turkey, European Commission and the International Road Transport Union (IRU), of the “Draft convention aligning

bilateral agreements on international road transport with the mandatory rules of multilateral instruments governing international road transit” (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2010/5/Rev.1).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2010/5/Rev.1

(d) The relationship between the origin of goods and transport operations

As agreed at its 107th session, SC.1 will continue to discuss the issue of transport and border crossing issues related to the origin of goods, frontier controls and bilateral road transport permits, on the basis of contributions from interested parties with a goal of facilitating the legitimate movement of cargo. The Government of Poland will be invited to provide an update of the creation and work of an informal expert group (if any) to further this discussion.

9. Safety at Level Crossings Expert Group

The Working Party will be updated about the UNECE Executive Committee’s meeting on 11 July 2013 which endorsed the establishment of the “Safety at level crossings” multidisciplinary group of experts. The first session of the Expert Group is tentatively scheduled for 20 January 2014 in Geneva, followed by the Inland Transport Security Discussion Forum on 21 January 2014.

10. Programme of work and biennial evaluation 2014-2015

The Working Party may wish to consider and approve its programme of work for 2014–2015 and evaluate its accomplishments and indicators of achievement for 2014–2015, in accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee to review its programme of work every two years, the next review being in 2014 (ECE/TRANS/200, para.120).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2013/2

11. Other business

The Working Party may wish to consider other issues under this agenda item.

12. Date of next session

The Working Party will be informed that the secretariat scheduled the 109th session for 27–29 October 2014.

13. Adoption of decisions

The Working Party will adopt a list of decisions taken at the 108th session.
