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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics****Twenty-sixth session**

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2014–2015**Programme of work and Biennial Evaluation 2014–2015****Note by the secretariat****I. Mandate**

1. 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), the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) is requested to review and adopt its programme of work for 2014–2015 as well as the relevant parameters allowing for its biennial evaluation.

II. Programme of work for 2014–2015**A. Introduction**

2. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee's subprogramme relating to "Transport Trends and Economics" for the biennium 2014–2015. The Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics is invited to consider the programme for subsequent adoption at its current session. It will then be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Executive Committee for formal approval. The Working Party and the Inland Transport Committee will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium, to be reflected in a separate document.

3. The draft programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises, for each cluster of activities an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2014–2015. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.

4. The grouping of activities into clusters is exactly the same as that used by the Inland Transport Committee for the biennial evaluation of its subprogramme performance.
5. The following clusters of activities make up the UNECE's subprogramme on Transport:

<i>Cluster No.</i>	<i>Subprogramme: 02 Transport</i>
1.	Overall coordination (Inland Transport Committee and Bureau)
2.	Transport trends and economics (including Euro-Asian transport links)
3.	Harmonization of vehicle regulations, climate change and intelligent transport systems
4.	Rail transport and Trans-European railway (TER) project
5.	Inland waterway transport
6.	Intermodal transport
7.	Customs questions affecting transport
8.	Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European programme (THE PEP)
9.	Transport of dangerous goods (UNECE)
10.	Transport of dangerous goods (ECOSOC)
11.	Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ECOSOC)
12.	Transport of perishable foodstuffs
13.	Transport statistics
14.	Road transport and Trans-European network for motorway (TEM) project
15.	Road traffic safety

6. Furthermore, the outputs/activities listed in this document correspond with the UNECE proposed programme budget for 2014–2015. As necessary, they are complemented by additional items to reflect more recent developments and needs of UNECE member States. For easy reference, such new outputs/activities are clearly indicated as “additional”.

7. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including seminars, workshops, training sessions, advisory services.

8. The relevant indicators of achievement, together with baseline and target data, against which performance will be measured, are presented in section III of this document.

9. The present document is based in substance on the programme of work for 2012–2013 as adopted in 2013 by the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/2012/9/Rev.1).

B. Objective and strategy

10. The objective of the UNECE subprogramme of transport is to facilitate the international movement of persons and goods by inland transport modes and improve safety, environmental protection, energy efficiency and security in the transport sector to levels that contribute effectively to sustainable transport.

11. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Transport Division.

C. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2014–2015 biennium

Subprogramme: 02 Transport

Cluster 2

Transport trends and economics (including Euro-Asian transport links)

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
<p>The Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) provides a forum for the exchange of ideas about the progress and challenges concerning sustainable inland transport across the pan-European region. Its main objective is to enhance the understanding of the main inland transport trends and developments in the ECE region and strengthen international cooperation to develop sustainable transport systems. Its area of work includes the study of economic aspects of transport taking into account (i) the integration process going on within the ECE region, and (ii) the reform processes under way in member countries by monitoring current changes in transport in order to identify, promote and spread positive examples for transport development. It also works towards improving inter-modal coordination and integration with a view to establishing a sustainable European transport system. Its area of work is expanded to cover the development of Euro-Asian transport links as well as the climate change impact and adaptation for international transport networks, the sustainable urban transport and mobility and innovative ways for financing transport infrastructure (additional). through the elaborate work of mandated expert groups in each field.</p> <p>Main Actions :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act as secretariat to the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics; • Facilitate exchange of data between member countries on transport policy developments; • Coordinate cooperation between governments and other actors (intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations, private sector and academia); • Provide technical and administrative assistance to countries with economies in transition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding by member States of the main transport trends and developments in the ECE region; • Strengthened cooperation in the development of Euro-Asian transport links.

Other activities within the cluster

The Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links supports the implementation of identified priority projects and promotes the inclusion of all identified Euro-Asian Transport routes in the respective international network agreements. It also addresses obstacles to the smooth movement of goods across international borders, and continues to further strengthen the capacity of national officials from various agencies dealing with border-crossing formalities and procedures. The Group continues its work aiming at coordinating infrastructure planning, evaluating and prioritizing of infrastructure projects; studying and analysing economically viable inland transport options, examining non-physical obstacles and collecting transport flows data in the EATL region; strengthen national capacities; share experience and best practices along the Euro-Asian transport routes; and further develop and update Geographic Information System (GIS) database. ~~Completion of EATL Phase II and possible~~ Continuation of the work in a new Phase III with:

- Coordination of infrastructure planning;
- Evaluation and prioritization of infrastructure projects;
- Study and analysis of economically viable inland transport options;
- Examination of non-physical obstacles and collection of transport flows data in the EATL region;
- Strengthening of national capacities;
- Sharing of experiences and best practices along the Euro-Asian transport routes;
- Further development and update of the Geographic Information System (GIS) database and presentation of Final Report of its accomplishments under Phase II.

~~The Group of Experts on climate change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks (duration: two years), funded by existing secretariat resources, along with additional financial support from participating countries and other international organizations and bodies concerned, will take stock of the available data and analyses of climate change impacts on international transport networks in the ECE region and beyond and prepare recommendations to member governments with a view to improving the long-term sustainability of international transport and set best examples of national policies addressing vulnerability of transport networks among member States.~~

~~The Expert Group is expected to:~~

- ~~• Identify potential climatic impacts on transport infrastructure across the broader supply chain, across different regions and transport modes;~~
- ~~• Determine the costs of climatic impacts for international inland transport networks;~~
- ~~• Determine broader implications for trade and development of impacted countries;~~
- ~~• Identify the requirements for corresponding adaptation measures;~~
- ~~• Identify existing best practices in national policies and risk management;~~
- ~~• Formulate relevant strategies to enhance the resilience of international transport networks;~~
- ~~• Prepare and present a final report that will include policy oriented recommendations that aim to improve the long term sustainability of international transport in areas such as: infrastructure, risk assessment methodology, evaluation of adaptive measures, risk management, training tools, and cross border information sharing by national transport authorities.~~

Outputs/activities*(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*

- 2.1 Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (twenty-seventh session, 2014, twenty-eighth session, 2015) (12 meetings).

Documentation:

Reports of the sessions (2); other documents (~~12 6 of which 2 additional~~); on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) project (2), on the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region (1), on supply chain challenges for transport (1), on transport trends and challenges in the road and rail sectors (1), ~~on climate change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks (1).~~

- 2.2 Scheduled sessions of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links (2014–2015)

Documentation:

Reports of the sessions (1 additional); other documents (additional), in particular the EATL progress report, information on the identification of priority routes and projects; report on the study and related survey on non-physical obstacles to international transport along the EATL routes.

(b) Publications and other information material

- 2.3 Final Report of the EATL Phase III (late 2015); **(additional)**;
- 2.4 Update of the Geographic Information System (GIS) database (2014–2015 recurrent);
- 2.5 Transport Trends and Economics 2013-2014 publication (late 2014) **(additional)**.
- 2.6 Transport Trends and Economics 2014-2015 publication (late 2015) **(additional)**.

(c) Technical cooperation

- 2.7 Annual questionnaire on the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region and production of a report to inform the Working Party and to promote cooperation in areas of mutual interest **(additional)**;
- 2.8 UNECE questionnaires on EATL priority projects, to assist countries to collect and disseminate the necessary information for continuation of the project **(additional)**;
- 2.9 Border-Crossing Facilitation questionnaires (on non-physical obstacles) to assist countries in the collection and organization of information and to optimize border-crossing facilitation capacity **(additional)**;
- 2.10 Organization of workshops (e.g. ~~on “Climate Change Impacts on International Transport Networks”~~ or on EATL) **(additional)**.

III. Biennial Evaluation

12. On the basis of decisions taken at its twenty-second session in September 2009 (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/46), the activities of the Working Party are measured, as part of the biennial evaluation, against one expected accomplishment, three indicators of accomplishment and corresponding performance measures. In February 2010, this approach was approved by the Inland Transport Committee as part of the performance planning for evaluation of the biennium 2010–2011 (ECE/TRANS/2010/7).

13. The Working Party may wish to review these parameters as well as the actual performance measures for 2012–2013 as provided below with a view to either maintaining them or establishing new ones for the biennium 2014–2015.

Biennial Assessment

Review of performance measures for 2012–2013 and establishment of targets for 2014–2015

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Expected Accomplishment</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Actual Performance Measures</i>
2. Transport trends and economics (including Euro-Asian transport links)	Better understanding by member States of the main transport trends and developments in the ECE region as well as strengthened cooperation on the development of Euro-Asian transport links.	1. Number of countries participating in meetings of the Working Party and Expert Group meetings.	Target for 2012–2013: 35 Number of Countries in 2012 session: 19 Number of Countries in 2013 session: ____ Target for 2014–2015: 37 (additional)
		2. Level of satisfaction of participants regarding usefulness of information, meetings and activities as reflected in surveys to be conducted.	Target: 2012–2013: 75 per cent positive. Target: 2014–2015: 75 per cent positive (additional)