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Group of Experts on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks

Fifth session

Geneva, 7 December 2012

Report of the Expert Group on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks on its fifth session

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I. Attendance

1. The Expert Group (hereafter called the Group) on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks held its fifth session on 7 December 2012. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland). Representatives of the following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) member States participated: Belgium, France, Germany, Poland and Russian Federation.
2. Representatives of the following United Nations organizations and specialized agencies attended the meeting: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
3. The European Union (EU) was present.
4. Representatives of the following bodies attended the meeting at the invitation of the secretariat: Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education, East Japan Railway Company, University of Birmingham, University of the Aegean.

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/9

5. The group adopted the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/9).

III. Partners and expected contributions (agenda item 2)

6. The group took note of the information provided by the representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and by the representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

IV. Report of the Expert Group (agenda item 3)

7. The group was informed by the consultant and the secretariat about the first final draft of the report / publication of the group. The draft report has five chapters and three annexes:
 - (a) Chapter 1. Introduction;
 - (b) Chapter 2. Climate Change: The Physical Basis;
 - (c) Chapter 3. Climate Change Implications for Transport;
 - (d) Chapter 4. Information on Select Studies on Climate Change Impacts on Transport;
 - (e) Chapter 5. Questionnaire Analysis;
 - (f) Annexes:
 - (i) Select additional literature of relevance to the further study of climate change impacts on international transport networks;
 - (ii) Questionnaire;
 - (iii) Results of the questionnaire.

8. The Group took note of the first final draft of the report / publication prepared by the consultant and the secretariat. The Group provided guidance to the secretariat and the consultant regarding the final content and structure of the report. The Group requested the following chapters to be added with the objective to make the final report more comprehensive.

(a) Chapter 6. Results of the International Conference on Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change;

(b) Chapter 7. Summary of technical measures regarding adaptation to climate change impacts;

(c) Chapter 8. Conclusions and Policy Recommendations.

9. The Group requested the secretariat to send the final version of the report well ahead before the final meeting of the Group for its review and consideration by the experts.

V. Replies to the Questionnaire for collecting information on existing and potential climate change impacts on transport, as well as degree of preparedness and relevant policies for adaptation (agenda item 4)

10. The Group took note of the replies to the questionnaire and appreciated the efforts made by the secretariat on the timely collection of these replies. The Group thanked the consultant and the secretariat for the analysis of the responses and asked the secretariat to incorporate these into the final report. The Group requested the countries that have not yet sent their replies to do it so.

VI. Other business (agenda item 5)

11. There were no items.

VII. Date and place of next meeting (agenda item 6)

12. The sixth session of the Group is tentatively scheduled for 26 March 2013.

VIII. Adoption of the report

13. The Group adopted the list of main decisions of its fifth session and requested the secretariat and the Chair to prepare the full and complete report for circulation to the members of the group for comments on items other than those contained in the list of main decisions.
