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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

109th session

Geneva, 28–29 October 2014

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the 109th session^{1, 2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, 28 October 2014

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Activities of interest to the Working Party:
 - (a) Activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations organizations;
 - (b) National delegations;
 - (c) International organizations.

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).

3. 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.
4. European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR):
 - (a) Status of the Agreement;
 - (b) Amendments to the Agreement.
5. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Safety at Level Crossings Expert Group.
9. Revision of SC.1 terms of reference and rules of procedure.
10. Other business.
11. Date of next session.
12. Election of officers.
13. Adoption of decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will be invited to adopt the session's agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/401

2. 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-sixth annual session of the Inland Transport Committee.

Documentation

Informal document ITC(2014) No.11

(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.

3. 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 (unchanged) 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 sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth sessions of the AETR Expert Group on 31 October 2013, 28 February 2014, 2 July 2014 and 27 October 2014.

SC.1 will be invited to discuss a report originally prepared by the secretariat for the final ninth session of the AETR Expert Group on 27 October 2014 (Informal document No.1). The report may include revisions done by the experts on 27 October.

The secretariat will inform SC.1 that the AETR Agreement in its present form does not allow non-UNECE³ member States to accede to it and become Contracting parties. It will

³ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

also inform that Algeria, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia have expressed interest in becoming Contracting Parties.

Documentation

Informal document No.1 (ninth session of the AETR Expert Group)

(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.

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

(a) Status of the Agreement

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

(b) Amendments to the Agreement

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). Germany recommended that the originator of the amendment proposal should preferably be a non-EU⁴ Contracting Party as the proposal was based on a European Commission Directive. However, as no Contracting Party as yet has indicated that it would be willing to be the originator of the amendment proposals, the secretariat is unable to forward the amendment proposal to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and this item continues to be on the agenda.

At its 108th session, SC.1 discussed the matter of incorporating selected “e-mobility” issues into the AGR Agreement and requested the secretariat to schedule an informal meeting during the week of the Inland Transport Committee meetings (e.g. 24 February 2014, Geneva) for interested Contracting Parties to discuss the issues and next steps to take the matter forward. The secretariat will provide an update on the outcome of this meeting. The Government of Germany will be invited to table amendment proposals (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2014/1) resulting from the meeting of 24 February 2014.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2014/1

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

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

⁴ European Union

6. 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 (unchanged) status of the Convention.

The Government of the Netherlands will be invited to present Informal document No. 1 which proposes to study the experience with CMR using a questionnaire developed in close cooperation with IRU. This item has been retained on the agenda from the last session.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

(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 (with Slovenia's accession in November 2013, there are now 42 Contracting Parties).

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

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of Additional Protocol (with Slovakia's accession in February 2014, there are now nine Contracting Parties).

7. 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.1/2014/2

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

SC.1 met on 30 June-1 July 2014 (at a Special SC.1 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 (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/394) and of the informal documents related to the special session meeting which may be found at <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc1/special3.html>.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/394

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

At the last session, SC.1 received a presentation from Turkey based on modelling undertaken by an Istanbul-based university which estimated that Turkey had sustained large financial losses due to quotas. SC.1 discussed the methodology on which the model was based, the scope of the model, as well as the countries which were indicated to have been

adversely affected. SC.1 agreed to continue discussion on this model at this session and requested Turkey to invite an expert to explain the model in more detail.

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

As the last session, SC.1 discussed transport and border crossing issues related to the origin of goods, frontier controls and road transport permits. The Government of Poland presented Informal document No. 4 which described the issue of control of bilateral transport operations of goods by authorities of some countries outside the EU that, in the opinion of the Polish delegation, incorrectly classify these transport operations as third-country transport operations (e.g. Belarus, Kazakhstan and Turkey). The Polish delegation also pointed out that this problematic issue had become or would soon become a common problem and requested the secretariat to distribute Informal document No. 4 to all UNECE member States to obtain their position on this issue. The secretariat and the Polish delegation will update SC.1 as to any developments on this issue since the last session.

Documentation

Informal document No. 4 (2013)

8. Safety at Level Crossings Expert Group

The Working Party will be updated about the work of the Group of Experts on Improving Safety at Level Crossings, which has met three times this year (20 January, 12–13 May, 23–24 October).

9. Revision of SC.1 terms of reference and rules of procedure

SC.1 will be invited to consider Informal document No. 2, prepared by the secretariat, which contains a first draft of the revised version of its terms of reference and rules of procedure.

At the last session, the secretariat updated SC.1 on the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE (E/ECE/1468, Annex III). SC.1 requested the secretariat to prepare a revised version of ECE/TRANS/SC.1/396/Add.1 which incorporates E/ECE/1468 (Annex III) and other relevant EXCOM documents.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2, TRANS/SC.1/396/Add.1, ECE/EX/1, ECE/EX/2/Rev.1, E/ECE/1468 (Annex III)

10. Other business

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

11. Date of next session

The Working Party will be informed that the secretariat scheduled the 110th session for 26–27 October 2015.

12. Election of Officers

The Working Party will be invited to elect its officers for the period October 2015 – September 2016. The Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of SC.1 (Chapter V, Rule 12, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/396/Add.1) stipulate that “every two years, SC.1 shall, at the end of the session of the second year, elect from the representatives of members of the ECE a Chairperson and two Vice-Chairpersons, who shall take office at the start of the session of the year following their election. The officers shall be eligible for re-election.” The current SC.1 officers are Mr. R. Symonenko from Ukraine (Chair) and Ms. N. Tufekcioglu from Turkey (Vice-Chair).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/396/Add.1

13. Adoption of decisions

The Working Party will adopt a list of decisions taken at the 109th session.
