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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

Group of Experts on Improving Safety at Level Crossings

Sixth session

Geneva, 5-6 November 2015

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the Agenda

Annotated Provisional Agenda for the Sixth session^{1,2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 5 November 2015

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Programme of Work:
 - (a) A review and analysis of the economic costs of level crossing accidents based on data provided by countries;

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 (roadsafety@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 (roadsafety@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.

- (b) An evaluation and analysis of the safety performance of types of level crossings in UNECE member States and in selected non-UNECE member States such as Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa;
 - (c) A summary of good practices including education and technology;
 - (d) A survey of prevailing national legislation and/or legal arrangements at level crossings;
 - (e) Identification of the key causes and possible solutions related to human factors contributing to unsafe conditions at level crossings;
 - (f) Enforcement;
 - (g) Risk management of level crossings;
 - (h) Development of a road/rail interface strategy with recommendations.
3. Other Business.
 4. Date and Place of Next Meeting.
 5. Adoption of Report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Group of Experts (GE.1) will be invited to adopt the session's agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/11

2. Programme of Work

(a) A review and analysis of the economic costs of level crossing accidents based on data provided by countries

At its fifth session, GE.1 requested all of its members to provide to the subgroup by 3 July 2015 national case studies and average or typical costs of level crossing accidents, or alternatively to explain why this information is not collected.

GE.1 will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/12 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Poland and the European Railway Agency (ERA). The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- analysis of the costs provided by GE.1 members, as well as the examples of case studies or policy decisions taken by Governments to improve the safety of level crossings where there was no compelling business case.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/12

(b) An evaluation and analysis of the safety performance of types of level crossings in UNECE member States and in selected non-UNECE member States such as Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa

GE.1 will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/13 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Community Safety Partnerships Ltd, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Ireland, ERA and the International Union of Railways (UIC). The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- finalization of the proposed data input sets as listed in Informal document No.2 of the fifth session;
- incorporation of the EU Directive common safety indicators related to level crossings as discussed during the fifth session as an annexure to ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/13;
- collection of the data in relation to relevant safety indicators in Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa; and
- population of the recommended safety performance inputs for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States where possible.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/13

(c) A summary of good practices including education and technology

The Group of Experts will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/14 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Finland and India. The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- to review the format of the table;
- to increase the content of the table to include more options, particularly in relation to the technology and the technological solutions being tested;
- to identify where an evaluation of identified good practices has taken place and where it has not;
- to incorporate labour intensive practices in countries where technology is relatively expensive (e.g. India); and
- to identify the benefits and constraints of each good practice.

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/14 will also contain a summary of the global position in relation to technology and technological solutions to improve safety at level crossings drafted by the Chair.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/14

(d) A survey of prevailing national legislation and/or legal arrangements at level crossings

At its fifth session, GE.1 requested that its members review and revert to the subgroup on the proposed amendments outlined in Informal document No. 4 of the fifth session, as well as to comment on the rest of the text of Articles 33 to 36 of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals as they presently are and revert to the subgroup with further proposed amendments (if any) by 15 July 2015.

The Group of Experts will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/15 prepared by the subgroup comprised of the ERA, Instytut Kolejnictwa (Poland), the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- to reflect the feedback received from GE.1 members during the fifth session, as well as the feedback provided to the subgroup by GE.1 members post-session; and
- to define the requirements for a completely new sign to indicate that if a driver is trapped between lowered gates, and a train is approaching, that the driver should drive through/break the gate/s.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/15

(e) Identification of the key causes and possible solutions related to human factors contributing to unsafe conditions at level crossings

The Group of Experts will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/16 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Austria, German Aerospace Center and Cognito Ltd. The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- to expand the proposed toolbox beyond the category of vehicle drivers to include other level crossing users;
- to document the proposed toolbox with or without testing/validation; and
- to identify the key human factors related to level crossing accidents.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/16

(f) Enforcement

The Group of Experts will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/17 prepared by the subgroup comprised of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France. The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- to commence an evaluation of the effectiveness of fixed enforcement cameras at level crossings by analysing and comparing non-compliance data pre and post installation, and
- to document their evaluation to date prior to the sixth session.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/17

(g) Risk management of level crossings

The Group of Experts will consider ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/18 prepared by the subgroup comprised of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Portugal. The document contains the outcomes of the following actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup at its fifth session:

- to outline a risk management process and the benefits of adopting a risk-based approach, together with examples.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/18

(h) Development of a road/rail interface strategy with recommendations

The Chair and the secretariat will present a high level structure of the draft report. Depending on the progress of the work of the subgroups, an incomplete first draft may also be presented.

3. Other Business

The Group of Experts may wish to discuss other issues of interest.

4. Date and Place of Next Meeting

The seventh session of the Group of Experts will be held on 21-22 March 2016 in Geneva.

5. Adoption of Report

The Group of Experts will adopt the report of its sixth session.
