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Group of Experts on Improving Safety at Level Crossings

Ninth session

Geneva, 12 December 2016

Report of the Group of Experts on Improving Safety at Level Crossing on its ninth session

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I. Attendance

1. The Group of Experts on Safety at Level Crossing (GE.1) held its ninth session in Geneva on 12 December 2016, chaired by Mrs. Kirsi Pajunen (Finland) Representatives of the following UNECE member States participated: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Russian Federation, Sweden and Turkey.

II. Adoption of the Agenda (agenda item 1)

2. The Group of Experts adopted the session's agenda as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/20. The secretariat explained that ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2 was produced as a formal document for the session and that it contained parts I and II of the Group's final report initially expected to be included in ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/3 and ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/4.

3. The secretariat further explained that due to limits on the length of documents accepted for translation, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2 contains, as part I of the report, only conclusions and related recommendations from the assessment of key factors contributing to unsafe condition at level crossings in UNECE member countries and other selected countries. The assessment of key factors (chapters B to I of part I) is provided in Annex III to ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2 (in chapters I to VIII) in English only.

4. The secretariat also informed GE.1 that Informal document No.1 contains all consolidated comments that were received on ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2.

III. Programme of Work – Development of a road/rail interface strategy with recommendations (agenda item 2)

5. GE.1 discussed ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/2016/2 and related comments (Informal document No.1) and agreed on the final text of the "Assessment of safety at level crossings in UNECE member countries and other selected countries and strategic framework for improving safety at level crossings" (final report).

6. GE.1 requested the secretariat to submit the final report to its parent body – the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) – for possible adoption, and to the Working Parties on Road Transport and on Rail Transport for information.

7. GE.1 expressed appreciation to the report's drafting group and the secretariat for having facilitated the preparation of the final report.

8. Finally, GE.1 invited its members to explore possibilities for publishing and organizing a launch event for the final report after it has been adopted by WP.1. The Group of Experts members were requested to communicate any suggestions and proposals to the secretariat in this regard.

IV. Other Business (agenda item 3)

9. No other issues of interest were raised.

V. Adoption of the Report (agenda item 4)

10. The Group of Experts adopted the report of its ninth and final session.
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