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Working Party on Transport Statistics

Sixty-eighth session

Geneva, 7-9 June 2017

Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Summary of decisions

Draft

Summary of Decisions¹

1. The session of the Working Party was attended by the following countries and international organizations; Canada; Denmark; Germany; Netherlands; Poland; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States; Eurasian Economic Commission; European Commission (EC) (DG MOVE and Eurostat); European Union Agency for Railways (ERA); International Transport Forum (ITF); International Road Federation (IRF); International Union of Railways (UIC); World Health Organization (WHO).

Agenda item 2

Workshop on rail statistics and ideas for next year

2. The Working Party welcomed the idea to start the session with a workshop dedicated to a specific theme, and appreciated the contributions and discussion brought on by the presentations delivered by member States and international organisations on the subject of rail statistics. The Working Party considered topics for next year's workshop, and suggestions were made including the environmental and safety impacts of all modes of transport, road or rail safety statistics specifically, and statistics concerning inland waterways. The Chair and Vice-Chair, in consultation with the secretariat, will consider these suggestions and propose a theme.

¹ Following the session, the UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with the Chairman, will establish the report of the session for formal transmission to the Inland Transport Committee in February 2018.

Agenda item 3

UNECE Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

3. The Working Party took note of the results of the seventy-ninth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) of interest to the Working Party.

Agenda item 4 (a)

Glossary for Transport Statistics

4. The Working Party decided to establish an informal group of experts to provide input into the updating process and to review contributions, whose terms of reference (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/1) were noted. The work will be organised around transport modes to allow the relevant delegates to concentrate on their own areas of expertise. The secretariat will send out, in cooperation with Eurostat and the ITF, letters to countries asking for nominations of relevant experts for each mode, taking into account passenger mobility and multimodal issues.

5. The Working Party considered document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/8 related to amendments to be included in the fifth edition of the Glossary, as proposed by Russian Federation. These documents should be discussed further during the coming review of the Glossary, in addition to documents ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/1 and ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/2 from the previous session. While it would not be desirable to significantly change the wording of established and well-used definitions, clarifying remarks and explanations that may be particularly relevant in certain countries and regions could be added to the Glossary, allowing both continuity of definitions and greater region-specific understanding.

6. The Working Party invited all member States to submit suggestions for improvements and/or additions to the Glossary, even if they are unable to contribute to the informal group of experts.

Agenda item 4 (b)

Classification system for transport statistics of goods (NST 2007)

7. The Working Party took note of a verbal update from the Chair on the use of the NST 2007 as a classification system for the transport of goods.

8. Delegates were invited to inform the Working Party of their experiences on the use of NST 2007 at the next session. They are welcome to submit to the secretariat any questions, requests or comments concerning the classification.

Agenda item 4 (c)

Common questionnaire

9. The Working Party took note of the availability of data collected through the Common Questionnaire for transport statistics.

10. The Working Party was informed of a draft new code list for use with the web common questionnaire, prepared by the ITF.

11. The Working Party insisted on the importance of providing data for the Common Questionnaire, and encouraged the non-reporting countries to at least provide the top-level data.

Agenda item 4 (d)

Road traffic accident statistics and rail traffic accidents

12. The Working Party took note of the ongoing work in relation to road and rail traffic accident statistics as well as the work on gender in the UNECE statistics division. The Working Party invited the Secretariat to consider the importance of a gender breakdown when sending out the questionnaire next time.

13. The Working Party noted the results of the pilot questionnaire on rail traffic accident statistics and decided to collect these data permanently. Eurostat offered to host the collection mechanism for this through the existing web common questionnaire, if desired.

14. The Working Party confirmed that the pilot questionnaire on statistics of accidents at level crossings, will be sent out this year.

Agenda item 4 (e)

Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance

15. The Working Party took note of a presentation from Eurostat. The pilot questionnaire will continue for another cycle.

Agenda item 4 (f)

Intermodal transport statistics

16. The Working Party was informed that the Guidelines on the compilation of intermodal statistics at national level using the “German Approach” will be used for a pilot collection of intermodal indicators by Eurostat.

Agenda item 5

2015 E-Road traffic census /2015 E-Rail traffic census

17. The Working Party was informed on the responses so far for the 2015 E-Road Traffic census, the deadline for which was 30 November 2016 and endorsed the Secretariat’s efforts in improving dissemination of the census results.

18. The Working Party encouraged all member States to actively participate in this round and future rounds of the road census.

19. The Working Party noted the deadline of the E-Rail census of 30 June 2017 and encouraged all member States to submit their E-Rail census results by then, noting that data for the EU is available through Eurostat.

20. The Working Party asked the secretariat to use a GIS platform for the dissemination of the rail census results as it will for the road census results.

Agenda item 6

Development of a global indicator framework for the SDGs

21. The Working Party took note of the activities of the Interagency and Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDG) to measure the SDGs.

22. The Working Party took note of an update from the World Health Organisation on their draft document entitled “Developing voluntary global targets for road safety risk factors and service delivery mechanisms”.

23. The Working Party took note of the Secretariat’s involvement in the Sustainable Mobility for All (Sum4All) initiative.

Agenda item 7

Dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

24. The Working Party took note of the work on the UNECE transport statistics database and the status of the publications: Statistics for Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS) and the “UNECE Transport Statistics for Europe and North America” and the timescales for their publication. It welcomed the secretariat’s project for simplifying the online transport statistics database while increasing the amount of data disseminated.

Agenda item 8

Capacity-building activities

25. The Working Party took note of the workshop on transport statistics in Turkmenistan (8–9 September 2016) on the use of the Web Common Questionnaire with the purpose of improving the response rate, as mandated by the Inland Transport Committee in 2016.

26. The Working Party welcomed the planned future workshop in Kazakhstan with the same goals.

Agenda item 9

Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG)

27. The Working Party took note of the IWG activities during the past year.

Agenda item 10

Statistical activities of international organizations of interest to the Working Party

28. The Working Party took note of information provided by the European Commission (DG MOVE and EUROSTAT), the International Transport Forum (ITF) and the International Union of Railways (UIC).

Agenda item 11

Statistical activities of member States of interest to the Working Party

29. The Working Party welcomed presentations from Canada and the Russian Federation on their current work, and encouraged other member States to present at future sessions as a way to increase interest in the Working Party.

Agenda Item 12

Programme of work, biennial evaluation and work plan

30. The Working Party reviewed and adopted its draft programme of work for 2018-2019 as well as the relevant parameters allowing for its biennial evaluation. The draft programme of work for 2018-2019 and the expected accomplishment indicators are contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/4.

Agenda Item 13

Other Business

a. Date of next session

31. The Working Party decided to hold its next session 12–14 June 2018. The first half-day will be dedicated to a workshop on a specific item of interest to be decided based on proposals from delegates as discussed under agenda item 2.

b. Bus and Coach Statistics

32. The Working Party decided to continue the pilot questionnaire on bus and coach statistics. In order to better assess the usefulness of the exercise, the Working Party requested that the secretariat disseminate the data already collected, in collaboration with Eurostat and any other interested parties.

c. Cycling statistics

33. The Working Party was informed of the final draft of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme's (THE PEP) Master Plan for Cycling Promotion, in particular its recommendations number 8 concerning statistics related to cycling and the potential to engage the Working Party in this venture. The Working Party decided to keep this on the agenda for future sessions.

Agenda item 14

Report and decisions

34. The draft list of decisions (as amended) was agreed by the Working Party. The report of the session will be prepared and sent to delegates for comments.