



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Road Transport

##### 113th session

Geneva, 16-18 October 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

##### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the 113th session\* \*\*

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Room VIII, Geneva, starting at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 16 October 2018.

## I. Provisional Agenda

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

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\* 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](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp1.html)). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by email ([roadtransport@un.org](mailto:roadtransport@un.org)). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

\*\* Delegates are requested to register online at: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=27xyzd> or complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Sustainable Transport Division's website ([www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html)). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by email ([roadsafety@un.org](mailto:roadsafety@un.org)).

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](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm)).

- (d) Digital/smart road infrastructure.
- 3. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR):
  - (a) Status of the Agreement;
  - (b) AETR Group of Experts.
- 4. European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR):
  - Status of 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 Group of Experts.
- 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 the report.

## **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.1/409

### **2. Activities of interest to the Working Party**

#### **(a) National delegations**

National delegations may wish to provide information about road transport developments in their respective countries.

**(b) International organizations**

Representatives of international organizations may wish to provide information about road transport developments in their respective areas of work.

**(c) 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 (Informal document ITC (2018) No. 13), made at the eightieth session of the Inland Transport Committee (20–23 February 2018).

In addition, the ITC Bureau, supported by the secretariat, has further elaborated the draft ITC Strategy until 2030 (Zero Draft of ECE/TRANS/2019/R.1). In line with ITC decisions (ECE/TRANS/274, para. 17), the Bureau requested that (a) the discussion of the ITC strategy becomes part of the agendas of the meetings of the Working Parties until the end of the year and (b) that the draft strategy document be circulated accordingly to governments to facilitate the consultations. Given the above background, the secretariat will present ECE/TRANS/2019/R.1 (tabled as Informal document No. 1) for discussion and comments by SC.1.

**Documentation**

Informal document ITC (2018) No. 13, Informal document No. 1

**(d) Digital/smart road infrastructure**

During its last session, SC.1 stated that it would “endeavour to organize events related to digital/smart infrastructure so that it may be better informed of emerging issues and consider how it may incorporate these developments into its work programme” (para. 49, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408). Accordingly, the secretariat organised a special session of SC.1 on 4-6 April 2018, with the second day – 5 April 2018 – as a dedicated workshop on this topic. The outcomes of the meeting are reflected in the report (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/398).

In recognition of the relevance of this topic to road transport in general, as well as its alignment with several sustainable development goals and the Inland Transport Committee’s “Road Map on Intelligent Transport Systems”, SC.1 agreed to include it as an item on its agenda, with the aim of educating and raising awareness (para. 29, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/398). It also invited the secretariat to consider providing suggestions of potential activities for future sessions of SC.1. Finally, SC.1 requested the secretariat to create a compilation of case studies or project excerpts based on the voluntary contributions of the workshop’s speakers.

The secretariat will invite interested speakers to give presentations at this session.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/398

### **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 status of the AETR Agreement, including about the interest of the Government of Lebanon to seek amendment of Article 14 to make the country eligible to accede to the AETR Agreement.

**(b) AETR Group of Experts**

The Chair of AETR EG will update SC.1 on the work of the AETR Group of Experts since the last SC.1 session (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/41, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/43).

At the last session, the secretariat drew the attention of SC.1 to the possible desirability to consider changing the name of the AETR Agreement by deleting the term “European” from the title (para. 14, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/37). The Chair requested that members of SC.1 consult their respective capitals and provide their views at this session.

The Government of Turkey will be invited to provide an update on its project to establish a national driving times and rest periods data monitoring centre – and in particular, on the establishment of the database component which was anticipated to be established by mid-2018 (para. 23, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408).

The secretariat will update SC.1 on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which recognizes JRC as the AETR authority for root certification and for interoperability certification for the non-EU Contracting Parties to AETR, and in particular, the status of a proposed supplement to the Memorandum to extend its validity until 31 December 2020.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/37, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/41, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/43 and ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408

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

**Status of the Agreement**

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

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

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

**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 status of the Convention.

**(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 the Protocol to the Convention.

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

The secretariat will inform SC.1 about the status of the Additional Protocol to the Convention, including the number of new accessions since the last session.

At the last session, SC.1 requested the secretariat to organize a special SC.1 session dedicated to e-CMR in early 2018 with interpretation to further discuss this issue and to decide on a way forward (para. 33, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408). Accordingly, the secretariat organised a

special session for SC.1. in April 2018. The first day – 4 April 2018 – was dedicated to e-CMR. The outcomes of the meeting are reflected in the report (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/398).

At the request of SC.1 at its special session, the secretariat has prepared a “without prejudice” guidance note on the legal aspects of the e-CMR (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/1). SC.1 members were invited to provide their legal questions to the secretariat for the preparation of the guidance note by middle of July 2018.

To facilitate discussion on technical aspects at this session, SC.1 members were also invited to provide their technical questions to the secretariat for a compilation of questions (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/2).

In addition, at the request of SC.1 for case studies and best practice examples, the Netherlands has shared its Benelux project documents which include the decision of the Committee of Ministers of the Benelux Union on 7 September 2017 to start a pilot project on the e-CMR from 1 December 2017 to 1 December 2020, comprised of the Ministers of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/3), and the reasons behind their decision (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/4). The Netherlands also shared the application form used by applicants to participate in the pilot (original in French, with unofficial translations to English and Russian) (Informal document Nos. 2, 3 and 4).

Finally, the European Commission may wish to provide an update on its proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on electronic freight transport information which was issued on 17 May 2018.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/398, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/1,  
ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/2, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/3, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2018/4,  
Informal document Nos. 2, 3 and 4

## **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” (Informal document No. 5).

#### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 5

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

At the third day of the special session of SC.1 on 6 April 2018, SC.1 recommenced its discussion on ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2015/3 focussing on Articles 6, 8 and 25, as well as Annex VI. It made changes to Articles 6 and 8. The Russian Federation retained its position with regards to its reservation on the draft text of Article 25 and Annex VI.

SC.1 requested the Russian Federation, Switzerland and Turkey to agree on and provide a proposal on draft text in relation to Article 25 and Annex VI for this session of SC.1.

SC.1 also requested the European Commission to provide an update on the status of the InterBus agreement at this session.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2015/3

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

At the last session, SC.1 discussed a European Commission (EC) study on the economic analysis of an agreement between European Union and Turkey which had estimated that the European Union and Turkey had sustained large financial losses due to transport quotas and restrictions.

SC.1 took note of the information provided by the EC on new developments on the extension of the mandate of the Customs Agreement. The EC also advised that the issue was presently with the Council and that DG Trade was the responsible EC service. The Government of Turkey requested DG Move to further discuss this issue within the EC. The EC is invited to provide an update on this.

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

At the last session, Latvia and Poland presented a proposal (Informal document (2016) No. 6 which formed the basis of ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2017/4) to amend the Revised Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4) to introduce the definition of ‘bilateral carriage’ as a new subpoint 4.1.9 as follows:

“Bilateral transport means a road transport operation undertaken by a laden or unladen vehicle registered in one country, the point of departure of which is from the territory of registration of the vehicle, and the destination of which is in the territory of the other country, or vice versa, irrespective of the country of origin of goods and the country of the final recipient of goods.”

Following extensive discussion, SC.1 agreed to continue discussing this issue at this session and requested that Latvia and Poland prepare ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2017/4/Rev.1 taking into account the following:

Turkey agreed with the proposal from Latvia and Poland, but it expressed the view that a revised definition of “bilateral transport” was unlikely to solve the practical challenges of ensuring that CMR consignment notes were secure and reliable. The Russian Federation suggested that the text after “...vice versa” was unnecessary and could be deleted, or that alternative text could be proposed.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2017/4/Rev.1

## **8. Safety at Level Crossings Group of Experts**

At the last session, the secretariat presented an overview of the group of experts’ final report on safety at level crossings. The secretariat also briefed SC.1 on the international plan of action proposed by the group of experts for assisting countries in implementing the recommendations including establishing an international working group to support the implementation of this plan. In this regard, the Executive Secretary of the UNECE wrote to the International Union of Railways and the European Railways Agency to enquire as to their interest, but as at the date of the last session, was awaiting replies. The secretariat will provide an update at this session.

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

In 2016, Belgium and Germany submitted a proposal for changes to SC.1 terms of reference and rules of procedures (Informal document (2016) Nos 3 and 4). SC.1 agreed to defer its

discussion on this item until this session given the absences of the representatives of the Governments of Belgium and Germany with the expertise to address this issue.

Alternatively, SC.1 may wish to wait until the adoption by new terms of reference and rules of procedure by the Global Forum on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) which could then be used as a template for SC.1 future terms of reference.

**Documentation**

Informal document (2016) No. 3, Informal document (2016) No. 4

**10. Other business**

SC.1 may wish to consider other issues under this agenda item.

**11. Date of next session**

The Working Party will be informed that its next session has been scheduled for 15–18 October 2019.

**12. Election of officers**

The Working Party will be invited to elect its officers for the period November 2018 – October 2020. The Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of SC.1 (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/396/Add.1, Chapter V, Rule 12) 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), Mr. K. Lewczak from Poland (Vice-Chair) and Ms. N. Tufekcioglu from Turkey (Vice-Chair).

**Documentation**

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

**13. Adoption of the report**

The Working Party will adopt the report of this session.

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