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Item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda

Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics: road traffic accident statistics and rail traffic accident statistics

Rail traffic accident statistics

Note by the secretariat

I. Background

1. At its sixty-sixth session, the Working Party decided to send a pilot questionnaire on the collection of the main indicators on rail traffic accidents (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/4) for the member States where data are not available from other sources.

2. The Working Party may recall that the secretariat distributed the questionnaire, in English, French and Russian, to all member States not covered by the database of the European Union Agency for Railways (EUAR) in February 2017. The EUAR database covers all 28 European Union member States, plus the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/4

II. Results

3. As of January 2018, responses with data had been received from nine countries, namely Armenia (in the form of a publication), Bosnia Herzegovina, Canada, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Russian Federation, Serbia and the United States of America. Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova responded that no accidents occurred during the requested years (2010 to 2015); and Liechtenstein responded that the data are not available.

4. The Working Party may wish to note that the secretariat processed the received questionnaires, combined the results with a data extract from the EUAR database, and disseminated the combined ECE dataset in December 2017. This dataset thus covers 36 countries. EUAR data for the Channel Tunnel were ignored.
 5. At its sixty-eighth session the Working Party agreed to collect these data permanently. The Working Party may wish to consider whether this should be continued through the current excel-based questionnaire.
 6. The Working Party may wish to consider the range of safety related indicators that could be developed using these data, such as comparing rail accidents per train-km across countries, or comparing fatalities per passenger-km across transport modes.
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