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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

##### Thirty-second session

Geneva, 2–4 September 2019

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

##### Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2020–2021 and Work Plan for 2018–2022

## Draft programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2020– 2021 and long-term programme of work

### Note by the secretariat

#### I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Inland Transport Committee (eighty-first session, Geneva, 19–22 February 2019) discontinued the preparation of programmatic documents due to the fact that they are no longer relevant for the new programmatic cycle. To that end, the Working Parties under the purview of the Inland Transport Committee are no longer required to prepare their programmes of work following a predefined format. At the same time, a Working Party may choose to continue preparing long-term programmes, biennial programmes and evaluate its accomplishments.

2. The present document defines the objectives for the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5). It specifies activities which WP.5 has been engaged with for many years, in accordance with mandates provided by the Inland Transport Committee, and naturally needs to continue working on in line with the mandate given by the inland Transport Committee at the eighty-first session (ECE/TRANS/288, para. 22). This document further proposes six clusters of work which may constitute the long-term (2020–2030) programme of work for WP.5. It also proposes specific activities and expected accomplishment within the proposed clusters to constitute the biennial 2020–2021 programme of work and evaluation.

3. WP.5 will be expected to discuss whether it would like to continue preparing such long-term and biennial programmes of work and evaluate its achievements. WP.5 may then wish to consider the present document and amend it as appropriate also in view of its decisions and discussion at its thirty-second session.



## **II. Objectives of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics**

4. The main objectives of WP.5 are to provide a forum to ECE member States to:
- (a) Discuss and enhance the understanding of the main inland transport trends and developments in the ECE region in the context of ongoing integration processes within the ECE region, and/or reform processes under way in member States; and
  - (b) Analyse the trends and developments, identify ways and promote, through a strengthened international cooperation and sharing or elaboration of best practice, a transition to more sustainable inland transport systems in ECE member States and other interested countries.

## **III. Long-term activities of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics**

5. In line with its main objectives, WP.5 has been focusing on the following activities for many years:
- (a) Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links and Euro-Asia Transport Links Project (Phases I through III);
  - (b) Monitoring of developments in the pan-European transport networks and transport in Mediterranean Region;
  - (c) Group of Experts on climate change impacts and adaptation for transport networks and nodes;
  - (d) Review of developments in the “For Future Inland Transport System” (ForFITs);
  - (e) Review of urban mobility and public transport;
  - (f) Pan-European master plan for cycling;
  - (g) International Transport Infrastructure Observatory project;
  - (h) Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs;
  - (i) Port hinterland connections;
  - (j) Innovative ways to financing transport infrastructure;
  - (k) Mobility as a Service (MaaS); and
  - (l) Transport security.

6. More efforts are needed by WP.5 on the majority of these activities to facilitate the transition to more sustainable inland transport systems in ECE member States and other interested countries.

## **IV. Possible clusters of work and long-term (2020–2030) programme of work**

7. The long-term activities in the focus of WP.5 can be logically grouped in six key clusters. They could form the long-term (2020–2030) programme of work of WP.5.
8. The proposed clusters are:
- (a) Development of transport networks and/or links

Under this cluster the work on Euro-Asian Transport Links and other links and corridors, including monitoring of network developments should be continued. In particular, WP.5 should serve as a platform to foster and monitor operationalization activities. Under the term

“operationalization” the following topics are covered: harmonization and simplification of border-crossing formalities, infrastructure connections and interoperability standards, efficient corridor management and bringing the standards and rules/regulations in line with international standards, in particular those provided in the United Nations transport conventions, as well as application of new technologies and digitalization.

(b) Transport and climate change

Under this cluster the analytical work and research on impacts of climate change on transport assets and operations and identification of most suitable adaptation measures should continue.

(c) Sustainable urban mobility

Under this cluster WP.5 should build on its past work and continue developing urban mobility policies supporting sustainable urban development. Further MaaS developments should also fall under this cluster.

(d) Transport infrastructure data

Under this cluster, WP.5 should establish and maintain the ECE-led international transport infrastructure observatory available on the on-line ECE Geographical Information System (GIS) platform. The work of the Group of Experts on benchmarking transport infrastructure construction costs should also fall under this cluster.

(e) Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals

Under this cluster WP.5 should discuss and analyse emerging transport issues and prepare analytical outputs. WP.5 should also monitor the trends in achieving transport-related sustainable development goals and contribute to the development of support tools for achieving these goals.

(f) Inland transport security

Under this cluster WP.5 should provide a platform for mainstreaming and further enhancing solutions for addressing inland transport security issues.

## V. Biennial 2020–2021 programme of work and evaluation

9. The 2020–2021 biennial programme sets forth activities for implementation within the coming biennium. The activities are defined within the clusters of the long-term programme of work. The activities are listed together with expected accomplishments which are defined to help WP.5 evaluate its achievements.

### A. Development of transport networks and/or links

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 manages the operationalisation of transport links/corridors to build up on EATL, Phase I, II and III projects and their findings and recommendations:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 sets up a programme of Corridor Operationalisation Performance Review (COPR),</li> <li>• WP.5 organizes and peer-reviews conclusions and recommendations of performance reviews, and/or</li> <li>• WP.5 establishes and oversees corridor management groups.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A programme of COPR is established by WP.5</li> <li>• Two COPRs are organized and their conclusions and recommendations are peer-reviewed by WP.5</li> <li>• Two corridor management groups are established by WP.5 and their workplan are agreed</li> </ul>

**B. Transport and climate change**

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 initiates the process to establish its group of experts on assessment of climate change impacts and adaptation for inland transport</li> <li>• The group of experts improves databases with climate data and transport assets and operations</li> <li>• The group of experts expands the analysis of climate indices for creating more knowledge on future impacts of climate change and extreme events on transport assets and operations</li> <li>• The group of experts collects and analyses information and data from national climate change adaptation projects seeking to identify key areas of vulnerability of specific assets and facilitates one such project in countries willing to improve in this area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group of experts is established in 2020</li> <li>• The database is improved</li> <li>• New climate indices are analysed</li> <li>• Information and data from national projects are collected and analysis has commenced</li> <li>• Project is started in at least one country willing to improve in infrastructure climate change adaptation analysis</li> </ul>

**C. Sustainable urban mobility**

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 develops a model to assess urban mobility challenges</li> <li>• WP.5 develops a handbook to launching or strengthening MaaS at city level</li> <li>• WP.5 contributes to master plan for cycling through infrastructure module</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft model is developed</li> <li>• Draft handbook is developed</li> <li>• Infrastructure module is prepared</li> </ul>

**D. Transport infrastructure data**

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 develops the international transport infrastructure observatory</li> <li>• The group of experts on benchmarking transport infrastructure construction costs identifies models, methodologies, tools and good practices for evaluating, calculating and analysing inland transport infrastructure construction costs</li> <li>• The group of experts establishes terminologies used for costing inland transport infrastructure</li> <li>• The group of experts collects data for benchmarking transport infrastructure construction costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International transport infrastructure observatory is available on ECE GIS platform</li> <li>• Compilation of models, methodologies and tools is prepared</li> <li>• Glossary with terminologies is prepared</li> <li>• Data is collected and put on ECE GIS platform</li> </ul>

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**E. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals**

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 monitors trends in achieving transport-related sustainable development goals</li> <li>• WP.5 promotes Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN)</li> <li>• WP.5 identifies emerging inland transport issues and analyses them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trends are monitored</li> <li>• Application of SITCIN has increased</li> <li>• At least one additional issue is identified, and its analysis has started</li> </ul>

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**F. Inland transport security**

<i>Activities:</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP.5 develops a roadmap for mainstreaming and further enhancing solutions for addressing inland transport security issues</li> <li>• WP.5 serves as a platform for the exchange of information on threats and risk along specific freight routes</li> <li>• WP.5 organizes assistance activities on mainstreaming inland transport security solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadmap is developed</li> <li>• One assistance workshop is organized</li> </ul>

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