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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Seventy-first session

Geneva, 17–19 June 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-first session* **

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 17-19 June 2020.

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Workshop on the Transport-related Sustainable Development Goal Indicators.
3. Development of a global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals:
 - (a) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 3.6.1;
 - (b) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 9.1.1;
 - (c) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 9.1.2;

* 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 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Sustainable Transport Division's website:
https://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/doc_2020.html. During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, the third floor, Palais des Nations).

** Delegates are requested to register online at the following address:
<https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=z1CKON>. 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 (+41 22 917 2432) or by email (Yana.Brynkina@un.org). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website at: www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.

- (d) Data that support monitoring of indicator 11.2.1;
 - (e) Inter-Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators;
 - (f) Activities of the ECE Statistics Division;
 - (g) Raising awareness of the transport-related Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (h)
4. Statistical activities and challenges faced by member States.
 5. Urban transport statistics
 - (a) Pilot questionnaire on tram and metro statistics;
 - (b) Bus and coach statistics;
 - (c) Passenger mobility statistics.
 6. Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics:
 - (a) Glossary for Transport Statistics;
 - (b) Classification systems for transport statistics;
 - (c) Common questionnaire;
 - (d) Collection of statistics on trade in used vehicles, and comparability of new registration data;
 - (e) Rail traffic accident statistics;
 - (f) Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance;
 - (g) Intermodal transport statistics;
 - (h) Gender aspects of transport statistics.
 7. Interlinkages of transport statistics with other domains
 8. Traffic censuses in the ECE region:
 - (a) 2020 E-Road traffic censuses;
 - (b) 2020 E-Rail traffic censuses.
 9. Dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
 10. Implementation of the ITC strategy to 2030 and the Programme of Work 2020-2021.
 11. Capacity-building activities.
 12. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies
 13. Statistical activities of international organizations of interest to the Working Party.
 14. Election of Officers
 15. Other business:
 - (a) Date of next session;
 - (b) Information on upcoming meetings on transport statistics.
 16. Summary of decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda, noting its modified structure.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/178

2. Workshop on Transport-Related Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

This agenda item is planned for the first morning of the session. Various experts from national administrations, international organizations and other interested stakeholders will present and discuss methods and challenges in measuring and monitoring the transport-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators. It has been noted in previous sessions that a lack of methodological guidance and overall coordination at the international level has meant that monitoring the transport-related global goals has essentially been left to countries. The secretariat wishes to improve coordination of this at the international level, and this workshop will contribute to that process.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/4

3. Development of a global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals

(a) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 3.6.1

The secretariat will provide an update on disseminating data on road traffic accidents, in the context of providing data for monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 3.6.1 which calls for the halving of road traffic accident fatalities by 2020. There will also be an update on the outcome of the 3rd Ministerial Conference on Road Safety, held in Stockholm in February 2020. Member States are encouraged to share their experiences in monitoring road traffic safety under this item.

(b) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 9.1.1

The indicator 9.1.1 that measures rural transport access, defined as the proportion of the rural population that lives within 2km of an all-season road, has recently been reclassified from a Tier III to a Tier II indicator. The Working Party will hear about international efforts to monitor this indicator. It has been noted that many ECE member States show values for this indicator of close to 100%, making it a less useful tool for their circumstances. Member States are therefore invited to share their own experiences of measuring rural transport access.

(c) Data collection and monitoring of indicator 9.1.2

The Working Party will be updated on progress on data provision for Sustainable Development Goal indicator 9.1.2, which measures passenger and freight volumes by mode of transport. The secretariat will provide an update on the guidance document produced, which aims to provide a toolkit to assist countries in monitoring this indicator. This indicator has been interpreted in different ways in virtually every National Reporting Platform and

Voluntary National Review, some treating increasing transport volumes as the goal while others interpret it as a modal split indicator. Member States are encouraged to share their views and own experiences on monitoring both overall transport activity, and transport modal shares, with explanations as to why these numbers are important. For example, countries that track the negative externalities of transport may explain their approaches to this.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/3

(d) Data that support monitoring of indicator 11.2.1

At its last session, the Working Party heard from UN-Habitat on the monitoring framework in development for indicator 11.2.1, on convenient public transport access, defined as the proportion of population within 500 metres of a public transport stop (broken down by gender, age, and those with disabilities). A short update on this process will be provided. It is recognized in the framework of monitoring this indicator that additional information is required other than distance to a bus stop in order to understand convenient access to public transport. In particular, one chosen indicator is the modal split within cities and countries. The interrelations between this indicator and 9.1.2 will thus be explored.

(e) Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators

The Working Party will hear an update on activities of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators, charged with developing the indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

(f) Activities of the ECE Statistics Division

The Working Party will hear from the ECE Statistics Division about their activities on assisting member States to measure the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular the new Sustainable Development Goal Knowledge Hub, and updates to the Roadmap for Statistics for SDGs.

(g) Raising awareness of the transport-related Sustainable Development Goals

The Working Party will be informed about the secretariat's activities on promoting the existing data collection activities of the Working Party that are relevant to monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals. Within this, the Working Party will be invited to suggest improvements of the series of papers already published on the Sustainable Development Goals.

4. Statistical activities and challenges faced by member States

Member States are strongly encouraged to share their current and future activities in the field of transport statistics under this agenda item. Any presentations of success stories, or indeed current challenges, are welcome. Delegates are invited to share their views with the secretariat beforehand, to adequately plan the session and pair relevant topics together.

5. Urban transport statistics

(a) Pilot questionnaire on tram and metro statistics.

At the previous session, during the workshop on urban public transport statistics, it was noted that tram and metro statistics are not collated at the international level despite being the principal form of public transport in many large cities. Since then, a preliminary survey has indicated that in fact these data were usually available to statistics offices, and a pilot

questionnaire has shown good data availability, with data being available for individual cities in most cases. Challenges remain, such as the issue of confidentiality (despite most systems being publicly owned or managed) and comparability (such as comparing passenger numbers from ticket information with those from on-board sensors). The views of member State on these methodological challenges and continuing the data collection are sought.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/5

(b) Bus and coach statistics

At its sixty-ninth session, the pilot questionnaire on bus and coach statistics was made a permanent collection exercise. The issue of comparability across countries, and possible uses for these data, not least in measuring Sustainable Development Goal 11, will be discussed.

6. Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics

(a) Glossary for Transport Statistics

There will be a brief update on publication details relating to the fifth edition of the Glossary.

(b) Classification system for transport statistics

Delegates are invited to inform the Working Party of their experiences on the use of the NST 2007 Standard Goods Classification for Transport Statistics, and whether there is any need for revision.

(c) Common questionnaire

The availability of data collected through the web common questionnaire for transport statistics (WebCoQ) will be discussed, in addition to the activities of the three custodian organizations aimed at increasing the response rate and improving data quality over the last twelve months. Since the previous meeting's discussions, a streamlining of the WebCoQ, involving the suppression of several indicators, has been implemented. Further suggestions for streamlining are welcome. These could be based on analytical use, data availability, and other factors. Delegates are encouraged to share their views on the challenges of providing data through the common questionnaire.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/7

(d) Collection of statistics on trade in used vehicles, and comparability of new registration data

The common questionnaire asks for total vehicle fleet data and data on the number of new registrations of vehicles in a given year. The Glossary for Transport Statistics states that “The date of first registration of a motor vehicle is the first-time registration of the vehicle as new in a motor vehicle register, irrespective of the nationality of the register. The dating of the registration is the date on which the registration was recorded at the motor vehicle registration office. The registration of an imported second-hand vehicle is not a first-time registration but should be regarded as a reregistration.” This definition seems ambiguous, and country metadata show that some countries are providing different data, with some only providing new registrations of new cars, with others including second-hand imports, and still others providing something else. Understanding national-level data collection activities, and possibilities for cross-country collaboration, may be the first step in improving comparability. The secretariat will also provide an update on activities tracking the international trade of used vehicles.

(e) Rail traffic accident statistics

The secretariat will provide a brief update about the availability of rail accident data and data on safety at level crossings.

(f) Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance

The secretariat and Eurostat will provide a brief update on data collection on producing vehicle-km from odometer readings.

(g) Intermodal transport statistics

The Working Party may wish to discuss future activities on intermodal transport statistics at the international level.

(h) Gender aspects of transport statistics

In previous sessions, the topic of gender and transport has been brought up, in particular relating to differences in exposure (e.g. passenger-km) as a benchmark for gender-disaggregated road safety statistics, but also relating to different passenger mobility patterns. The secretariat will introduce this item and encourage an exchange of views on potential data availability in countries.

7. Interlinkages of transport statistics with other domains

Depending on the availability of speakers and interest of participants, interlinkages of transport statistics with other domains, notably energy, climate change and environment, will be discussed.

8. Traffic censuses in the ECE region

(a) 2020 E-Road traffic censuses

Recalling the draft recommendations to governments on procedures and methodologies for the 2020 E-Road Traffic Census that was endorsed at the sixty-ninth session, the secretariat will remind member States of the request to carry out a road traffic census on highways of

international importance in 2020. In particular, delegates are requested to provide data on Annual Average Daily Traffic in a geospatial format, preferably Shapefiles.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2019/11

(b) 2020 E-Rail traffic censuses

Recalling the draft recommendations to governments on procedures and methodologies for the 2020 E-Rail Traffic Census that was endorsed at the sixty-ninth session, the secretariat will remind member States of the request to carry out a rail traffic census on rail lines of international importance in 2020. In particular, delegates are requested to provide data on rail line traffic in a geospatial format, in addition to the data requested by Eurostat (only relevant for countries who submit data to Eurostat).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2019/8

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

The Working Party will be informed about the status of the ECE database on transport statistics and the status of the publications: Statistics for Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS) and the “Inland Transport Statistics for Europe and North America”¹ (formerly Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (ABTS)). In addition, the Transport Statistics Infocards will be presented. Short country interventions on their own dissemination strategies are welcome.

10. Implementation of the ITC Strategy to 2030 and the Programme of Work 2020-2021

There is no longer a need to prepare a biennial Programme of Work due to a change in reporting requirements to the Inland Transport Committee (ITC). As no alternative process has been requested, the secretariat believes that such a document may still be relevant for programming and monitoring reasons and has, in lieu of official direction from the ITC, prepared document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/9 setting out the draft programme of work for the next two years.

The ITC has asked all Working Parties to take follow-up actions to align their work with the ITC strategy that was adopted in 2019. The secretariat has prepared an implementation plan for the Working Party (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/6) in this manner.

The Working Party may wish to discuss both of these documents in their current formats and suggest any changes as relevant.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/6, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/9, ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2

¹ Both publications are available at www.unece.org/transport/resources/publications/transport-statistics.html.

11. Capacity-building activities

The secretariat will present its capacity-building activities of the last year.

12. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Working Party will be informed about the results of the eighty-second session of the Inland Transport Committee, which took place from 25 to 28 February 2020, in particular about its decisions relating to the activities of the Working Party.

Documentation

Informal document ITC (2020) No.10/Rev.6

13. Statistical activities of international organizations of interest to the Working Party

The Working Party may wish to receive reports from representatives of the following organizations on their current and future activities in the field of transport statistics:

- European Commission (DG MOVE)
- European Commission (Eurostat)
- International Transport Forum (ITF)
- International Union of Railways (UIC)
- Other international organizations.

This agenda item will also cover activities conducted by the Intersecretariat Working Group on transport Statistics.

14. Election of Officers

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to preside over the sessions in 2021 and 2022.

15. Other business

(a) Date of next session

The seventy-second session of the Working party is tentatively scheduled for 9 to 11 June 2021 at the Palais des Nations (Geneva).

(b) Information on upcoming meetings on transport statistics

The Working Party will be informed about dates and locations of upcoming meetings on transport statistics in 2020 and 2021.

16. Summary of decisions

In line with established practice and in accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/156, para. 6), at the end of the session, the Chair will make a brief summary of the decisions taken. Following the session, the ECE secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair, will draw up a report on the outcome of the session.
