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Item 8 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

Note by the secretariat¹

The text of the Programme of Work reproduced below is based on the Programme of Work approved by the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) at its sixtieth session (19-21 February 2008) and the Working Party on Transport Statistics at its fifty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/153, Annex 2). The changes proposed are in **bold** (text to be added) or ~~striketrough~~ characters (text to be deleted).

¹ This document was submitted late for processing since clearance in finalizing this document took longer than anticipated.

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.12: TRANSPORT STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

02.12.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents

Priority: 2

Description: Development of appropriate methodologies and terminology for the harmonization of statistics, aiming also at the determination of indicators of sustainable transport. This includes: methodologies for the collection and compilation of statistics on road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline and combined transport as well as on road traffic accidents, in cooperation and coordination with other UNECE bodies, related international organizations, in order to promote the availability of comprehensive, timely and reliable statistics for sustainable transport planning and analysis.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Transport Statistics will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

(a) Target solutions to improve the collection of statistics in problematic areas, as indicators of sustainable transport, including, but not limited to the following items:

- Statistics on road traffic (vehicle-km) (output of feasibility survey expected in 2008);
- Statistics on the transportation by buses and coaches (output expected in ~~2008~~ 2009);
- Statistics on the environmental impact of transport;
- Statistics on the transport of dangerous goods;
- Statistics on transport through pipelines.

Output expected:

A concrete decision for each problematic area, e.g., the addition of supplementary chapters to the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics (environment; gas transport via pipelines) (2008); an assessment of the applicability of the EU Regulations for the collection of dangerous goods data for non-EU member states (~~2008~~2009); and the organization of informal working groups on statistics on transport through pipelines and on transport by buses and coaches, as deemed necessary (2007), and assessment of metadata on statistics on the volume of these transports (~~2008~~2009).

Priority: 1

(b) Statistics related to transports and the environment.

Output expected: Continued progress toward the integration of environment-related variables into the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics, as well as the two annual transport publications.

Priority: 1

(c) Coordination among member Governments, other UNECE bodies and related international organizations and non-governmental organizations to harmonize terminology used in the statistics of road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline, combined transport and road traffic accidents, including, but not exclusively, in the context of the work being undertaken by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (UNECE- International Transport Forum -EC/Eurostat) (Meetings 2-3 times per year).

Output expected: Improving electronic transmission of the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics (~~2007~~**2008**); development of supplementary questionnaires as decided by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) and WP.6; preparation of meetings of IWG; publication of the ~~update of the third~~ **fourth** edition of the Glossary for Transport Statistics (2008).

Priority: 2

(d) Development of common methodologies to facilitate and improve the collection of information on road and rail traffic flows and infrastructure parameters through surveys and censuses such as automatic counting procedures, including, but not limited to, in the context of The Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (E Road Census and Inventory), (compiled and published by the UNECE every five years, next publication in 2008).

Development of common methodologies for E-Rail Censuses to obtain data on traffic flows and infrastructure parameters on the AGC network. Results of the first E-rail census in 2005 are expected to be published in 2008.

Priority: 1

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

(e) Monitoring of developments in the field of transport database and information systems, including geographic information systems (GIS), in order to facilitate the updating, analysis and geographic application of transport data, within UNECE and in cooperation with the International Transport Forum and EC/Eurostat, to harmonize transport data internationally and avoid duplication of efforts with other organizations.

Output expected: The development of a transport database system at UNECE based on the data collected through the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics. ~~Consideration of various alternatives and progress made (Access/Excel, Internet/WWW, etc.); observation of trial run at International Transport Forum and Eurostat (2007)~~**(2009)**.

Priority: 2

(f) Development of projects to assist countries in transition in the collection, organization and automation of transport statistics, including the convening of workshops and training seminars, drawing on the expertise of member Governments and related organizations.

Output expected: Information from Member States and international organizations on relevant activities.

Priority: 2

02.12.2 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport

Priority: 1

Description: Collection and compilation of statistics on inland transport, traffic accidents and traffic flows published by the UNECE.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Transport Statistics will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

(g) Build and maintain a database for the annual collection of statistics on inland transport, including combined transport and road traffic accidents from UNECE member Governments to be published in the following publications:

- (i) Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (ABTS)
- (ii) Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS)
- (iii) Handbook of Transport Statistics

Output expected: Publication of ABTS, RAS and Handbook of Transport Statistics; Circulation of Questionnaires and receipt of data from member Governments for ABTS and RAS in electronic format. The handbook may be also published in booklet format.

Priority: 1

(h) Publish, every five years, in the appropriate way, the results of the E-road traffic Census and Inventory carried out by member Governments in accordance with the Recommendations set forth by the Ad Hoc Meeting on the Road Traffic Census and Rail Traffic Census as:

- (i) The Combined Census of Road Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (E Road Census and Inventory);
- (ii) E-Rail Census.

Output expected: Preparation of ~~2005~~ **2010** Combined E-Road Census and Inventory and E-Rail Census (~~2008~~**2010**).

Priority: 1

(i) Use of PC-Axis for disseminating data collected via the regular questionnaires.

Output expected: Availability of main data online (2008)

Priority: 1

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

(j) Provide methodological support for the ongoing analysis and evaluation of statistical publications to continue to improve the quality and presentation of the publications, and to incorporate harmonized terminology through the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics. Develop strategies for improvement of usefulness and presentation of publications.

Output expected: Concrete feedback from Governments and other users on usefulness and presentation of publications and development of strategies for improvement of both.

Priority: 3
