



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 March 2017

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Sixty-eighth session

Geneva, 7-9 June 2017

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics

Glossary for Transport Statistics

Note by the secretariat

I. Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with cluster 13: Transport Statistics, para. 15.1 of the programme of work 2016-2017 (ECE/TRANS/254, ECE/TRANS/2016/28 and Add.1) adopted by the Inland Transport Committee on 26 February 2016.

2. At the sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth and sixty seventh sessions of the Working Party, participants reviewed and approved changes and updates to the Glossary of Transport Statistics (Glossary) as set out in ECE/TRANS/WP.6/167, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/169 and ECE/TRANS/WP.6/171. Subsequent to this, the secretariat has also received a proposal for further modifications from the Russian Federation as set out in ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/8. The secretariat welcomes further proposals to be sent to the secretariat before the end of June 2017.

II. Proposal

3. As a next step in the process of updating the Glossary, the Working Party may wish to consider establishing an informal group of experts on the updating of the Glossary to finalise its development, based on the above mentioned documents and other proposals received and agreed in line with ECE/TRANS/WP.6/171 para 9.

4. The Working Party is asked to review and consider the annexed draft terms of reference for the informal group of experts which also contain potential timescales for the revision of the Glossary.

Annex

Terms of Reference for Proposed Expert Informal Working Group

A. Background

The Transport Statistics Glossary is a joint publication of the UNECE, Eurostat and The International Transport Forum and is a valuable global reference for transport statisticians. The fourth edition was published in 2009 and the Working Party “encouraged all delegates to participate in the meetings to be organized for the revision of the Glossary”¹ in 2016.

B. Mandate

The work of the informal group of experts is conducted within the framework of the Working Party and is created for a period of time from June 2017 to June 2018, subject to extension.

C. Objective

The informal group of experts’ objective will be to consider how the agreed and proposed amendments to the glossary will be included into the fifth edition. Within this, definitions of new topics and better explanations of existing definitions are envisaged rather than substantive changes to any existing definitions, which have been deliberated over considerably so that changes may have legal implications. The revised Glossary will be considered by the Working Party at its sixth-ninth session.

D. Planned activities and outputs

Recognising the agreed updates to the Glossary (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/1, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2016/2 and ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/8) and other proposals agreed at the sixty-eighth session of the Working Party, the informal group of experts will produce a new version of the Glossary highlighting:

- (a) where the Glossary has been updated;
- (b) the definitions of new items, including but not limited to different types of vehicle power (hybrid etc.) and railway infrastructure;
- (c) a new chapter on maritime accidents.

¹ ECE/TRANS/WP.6/172.

E. Timetable

The activities of the informal group of experts are planned for the period June 2017 to June 2018, according to the following tentative schedule:

June 2017	Nomination of national focal points to participate in the activities of the informal group of experts.
July-September 2017	Form the informal group of experts and draft a work plan of activities, timing and division of work. If necessary, establish specific task forces to act on specific Glossary updates (for example, on individual transport modes). Individual members to research potential additions.
September-December 2017	The informal group of experts (and/or its task forces) to meet, virtually and/or in-person, to consider, discuss and analyse various proposals.
January-April 2018	The informal group of experts to collect, revise and finalise the draft recommendations.
June 2018	The Working Party to consider the draft recommendations and amend as necessary.

F. Method of work

The Working Group will work by email, telephone conferences and face-to-face meetings as it sees fit, and as time and budgetary constraints allow.

G. Membership

All Working Party members and relevant international organizations are invited to participate.
