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Working Party on Transport Statistics

Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the E-Road Traffic Census

**REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON THE E-ROAD TRAFFIC CENSUS AT ITS NINTH SESSION
(10 November 2008)**

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I. ATTENDANCE

1. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the E-Road Traffic Census took place in Geneva on 10 November 2008 under the chairmanship of Ms. Olga Kastlova (Czech Republic). Representatives of the following ECE member States participated: Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Poland, Slovakia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Representatives of the European Commission (DG TREN and Eurostat) were also present. A consultant invited by the secretariat participated in the meeting.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 1)

2. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts **adopted** the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/17).

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda item 2)

3. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts elected Mrs. Olga Kastlova as Chairperson.

IV. MANDATE (Agenda item 3)

4. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts noted that the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) had decided to establish an Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census that should evaluate the results of the 2005 Census, prepare recommendations to Governments on procedures and methodologies for the 2010 Census and draft a resolution for adoption by the UNECE Inland Transport Committee in February 2009 (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/155, paragraph 37).

V. RESULTS OF THE 2005 E-ROAD TRAFFIC CENSUS (Agenda item 4)

A. Presentation of the results of the 2005 E-Road Traffic Census (Agenda item 4 (a))

5. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts was informed that for the 2005 E-Road Traffic Census, the secretariat had received data from 31 UNECE member countries. Two countries replied that no data were available.

6. The following countries provided data (totally or partially) for the 2005 E-Road Census: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

7. A UNECE consultant presented the results of his work on the 2005 E-Road Census and particular problems encountered (heterogeneity of information, missing data and late transmission of data). He also mentioned the importance of the use of GIS as a tool for transport analysis and planning.

B. Country notes to the 2005 E-Road Traffic Census (Agenda item 4 (b))

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/2

8. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts took note of the country notes accompanying the 2005 E-Road Traffic Census in document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/2.

VI. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON 2010 E-ROAD TRAFFIC CENSUS (Agenda item 6)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/17, annex

9. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts **considered and approved** the draft Resolution on the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census, as prepared by the secretariat with minor changes. Member States were invited to submit their data as soon as possible. The draft Resolution, as **agreed** by this Ad Hoc Group, is contained in annex I to the present report. This draft Resolution will be submitted for adoption to the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-first session (24-26 February 2009).

VII. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS ON THE E-ROAD TRAFFIC CENSUS OF MOTOR TRAFFIC AND INVENTORY OF STANDARDS AND PARAMETERS ON MAIN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC ARTERIES IN EUROPE IN 2010 (“2010 E-ROAD TRAFFIC CENSUS”) (Agenda item 5)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/1/Add.1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/1/Add.2

10. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts **considered and approved** the draft Recommendations for the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/2008/1 and Adds. 1-2) with some modifications. These draft Recommendations, as **agreed** by this Ad Hoc Group, are contained in annex II of the present report. They will be submitted for adoption to the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-first session (24-26 February 2009).

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 7)

11. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts discussed the possibilities of producing the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census results on a CD-ROM, as well as the possibilities for posting a portion of the data on the Transport Division’s Internet Home Page.

12. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts **requested** the secretariat to publish maps and data for the 2010 E-Road Census step by step as soon as received from member States and before publishing the consolidated results. The use of GIS was recommended.

13. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts stressed the importance of the data collected through the E-Road Census; in particular these data are unique; they are collected only by the UNECE. Also the representative of the European Commission underlined that these data are used for modelling purposes and they are also a good tool for policy makers on the use of infrastructure and on the internalisation of external costs (for “TEN-T”). The representative of the European Commission will submit a document on the user needs of these statistics for the next session of the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6).

14. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts **decided** to invite the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) to discuss best practices in collecting data for E-Road Census including formal procedure and timetable for preparing the methodology for next census in 2015. Particular interest was expressed concerning experiences in regard to the counting foreign vehicles and the need for information on speed and congestion. The secretariat was invited to find the best ways for improving the presentation of results in Table 6 (colours, width of ranges).

15. The secretariat was invited to send out reminders - on November 2011- to member States for the data collection and to prepare documentation on these data and methodology to be submitted for the 2012 session of the WP.6. Official letters should be sent to high level representatives of the countries (ministers or deputy ministers) reminding about this exercise and requesting to consider sending the data as soon as possible.

IX. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 8)

16. As agreed and in line with the decision of the ITC (ECE/TRANS/156, paragraph 6), the secretariat, in cooperation with the Chairman and in consultation with delegates, has prepared this report.

Annex

Draft Resolution No. ...

**E-Road Traffic Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on
Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe in 2010
("2010 E-Road Traffic Census")**

for adoption by the Inland Transport Committee
at its seventy-first session (24-26 February 2009)

The Inland Transport Committee,

Having regard to the last paragraph of its resolution No. 169 of 15 January 1954 (E/ECE/TRANS/445),

1. *Invites* Governments:

(a) To take a census of traffic on the E-Roads on their national territory, in accordance with the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (AGR) as in force in 2010, and in line with the Recommendations to Governments for the E-Road Traffic Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe in 2010 (2010 E-Road Traffic Census) as set forth in UNECE document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/18 considering 2010 as the reference year.

(b) To supply the results of the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census to the UNECE secretariat, if possible before **1 November 2011**, in conformity with the Recommendations set forth in UNECE document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/18.

2. *Recommends* that Governments take a census of traffic on other non-urban roads in their national territory, applying where possible, the methods set out in the Recommendations mentioned under paragraph 1 (a) above.

3. *Requests* Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) by **30 September 2009** whether they agree to implement the provisions of this resolution.
