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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Transport Statistics

Sixty-third session

Geneva, 14–16 May 2012

### Report of the Working Party on Transport Statistics on its sixty-third session

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## **I. Attendance**

1. The Working Party on Transport Statistics held its sixty-third session from 14 to 16 May 2012 in Geneva under the chairmanship of Mrs. O. Kastlova (Czech Republic).
2. The session of the Working Party was attended by the following countries: Czech Republic; France; Germany; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Slovenia; Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
3. Representatives of the European Union (EU) were also present (DG MOVE and Eurostat). The following intergovernmental organization was represented: International Transport Forum (ITF). Non-Governmental Organizations were also represented: International Road Federation (IRF), International Union of Railways (UIC), European Union Road Federation (ERF) and International Road Transport Union (IRU).

## **II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.6/162

4. The Working Party adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/162).

## **III. UNECE Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies (agenda item 2)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/224

5. The Working Party took note of the results of the seventy-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) (28 February – 1 March 2012) of interest to the Working Party, in particular of its considerations and decisions relating to the 2010 E-road and E-rail traffic censuses.
6. The Working Party was informed about the meeting of the Chairs of the Committee's subsidiary bodies during the last ITC session. Chairs discussed issues relating to strengthening cooperation, synergy and interdependence and sharing experiences. The ITC welcomed the organization of the meeting of the Chairs and reiterated its recommendation that such meetings should become a regular feature of its sessions.
7. The Working Party was informed that the ITC approved as a whole the report and related activities of the Working Party on Transport Statistics in 2011 (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/161) as well as its new terms of references and rules of procedures (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 91).
8. The Working Party took note of the achievements of the United Nations project for future inland transport systems (ForFITS) and noted also the progress on developing an assessment model, based on a uniform and transparent methodology, facilitating the evaluation and analysis of the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> for future inland transport systems (road, rail and inland waterways).
9. The Working Party was informed that the ITC endorsed the outcome of the policy-oriented segment, round table discussion on "Intelligent Mobility – thinking about tomorrow's transport" and requested its subsidiary bodies to take on board the outcomes of the round table (ECE/TRANS/224, paras. 31–32 and Annex I). The ITC approved the

“UNECE Road Map for promoting ITS–20 global actions 2012–2020” (ECE/TRANS/224, paras. 66–67 and Annex II).

## **IV. Methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics (agenda item 3)**

### **A. Classification system for transport statistics**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/1, Informal document WP.6 No. 9 (2012)

10. The Working Party adopted a draft of short designations at 2 digit level of NST 2007 (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/1) with editorial amendments to the French version as in Informal document WP.6 No. 9 (2012).

11. Delegates were invited to inform the Working Party of their experiences on the use of NST 2007 at the next session.

### **B. Glossary for Transport Statistics**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/2

12. The Working Party welcomed the online publication of the illustrated version of the 4th edition of the Glossary for Transport Statistics in Russian. The coming WP.6 sessions will have a standing agenda item dealing with proposals for the revision of definitions and insertion of new definitions. Approved changes will be put on the website of WP.6.

13. The Working Party invited the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) to prepare the definitions of vehicle energy types on the basis of the informal proposal presented by DG MOVE.

14. The Working Party invited all member States to submit suggestions for improvements or/and additions to the Glossary.

### **C. Common questionnaire**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 1 (2012), ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/3

15. The Working Party took note of the availability of data collected through the common questionnaire for transport statistics.

16. As proposed by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) the Working Party decided to cancel the proposal in the document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2011/1 aiming to have a breakdown by kind of transport (taxis, buses and coaches, etc.). These variables are presently not available in many member States and IWG will reconsider the amendments when the availability of data increases.

17. The Working Party invited IWG to consult with all national focal points in order to streamline the common questionnaire.

18. The Working Party invited all member States to participate more actively in the data collection through the web common questionnaire.

## **D. Methodology on road traffic accident statistics**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 2 (2012)

19. The Working Party took note of the status of availability of data on road traffic accidents and was informed of the progress on including the questionnaire on road traffic accidents in the web common questionnaire.

20. The Working Party invited IWG to work on the correspondence between CARE and the UNECE/ITF questionnaire concerning traffic units (Informal document WP.6 No. 2 (2012)).

21. The Working Party decided to keep the issue of international comparability on its agenda.

## **E. Statistics on the transport of dangerous goods**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2011/3

22. The pilot questionnaire will be circulated as soon as possible and its results will be presented to the Working Party.

## **F. Statistics on the transport of gas through pipelines**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 3 (2012)

23. The Working Party was informed that by the end of April 2012, 14 countries had delivered data: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey and the United States of America. At the same period in 2011, 15 countries (countries above + Turkey) had delivered data.

24. The most available data are the length of operated pipelines.

25. The Working Party decided to include the pilot questionnaire on the transport of gas through pipelines into the common questionnaire.

## **G. Pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 4 (2012)

26. The Working Party was informed that by the end of April 2012, the number of countries that had delivered data are, respectively, 15, 9 and 8 for Table 1 (Road traffic on national territory by type of vehicle, million vehicle kilometres), Table 2 (Road traffic on national territory for national and foreign vehicles by type of vehicle and type of road, million vehicle kilometres) and Table 3 (Road traffic on all territories for national vehicles by type and age of vehicle, million vehicle kilometres).

27. The Working Party decided to create a Task Force with the mandate to streamline the pilot questionnaire on road traffic performance. The results of this Task Force should be presented to the next session of the Working Party.

## **H. Statistics on passenger transport by buses and coaches**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 5 (2012)

28. The Working Party was informed that by the end of April 2012, 17 countries had delivered data. At the same period in 2011, 21 countries replied to this pilot questionnaire. The most available data are related to the number of passengers as well as the number of vehicle-km.

29. The Working Party decided to create a Task Force with the mandate to streamline the pilot questionnaire on passenger transport by buses and coaches. The results of this Task Force should be presented to the next session of the Working Party.

## **I. Intermodal transport statistics**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 6 (2012)

30. The representative of Eurostat presented the activities of the Eurostat Task Force on Intermodal Transport Statistics, in particular: reference list of intermodal terminals, logistics indicators and relevant national and international experiences.

31. The Working Party invited the secretariat to follow the work of the Eurostat's Task Force on Intermodal Transport Statistics and to report on it at the next session of the Working Party.

32. The secretariat presented the list of locations using UNLocodes for all modes and how this list is managed.

## **J. Statistics on passenger's accessibility to railways**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/SC.2/212, annex III, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2010/8

33. No information was presented under this item.

## **K. Relation between energy statistics and transport statistics**

34. The Working Party decided to delete this item from its agenda.

## **V. Statistical performance indicators for road traffic safety (agenda item 4)**

35. The Working Party welcomed the presentations on road safety made by representatives of DG MOVE, ITF, ERF and the secretariat. As a follow-up, it was decided to do more towards improving the availability and the timeliness of data, to follow the results of the work undertaken in CARE, in particular, on elaborating a new definition for "seriously injured" and to invite two member States for the next session to explain the process of data collection from the time of the accident until the dissemination of data.

36. The Working Party invited the secretariat to facilitate as much as possible the participation of more countries in these activities, in particular, those in need of strengthening data collection on road traffic safety.

## **VI. Traffic censuses in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region (agenda item 5)**

### **A. 2010 E-Road traffic census**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/2009/11, Informal document WP.6 No. 7 (2012)

37. During its seventy-fourth session, the Inland Transport Committee invited UNECE member Governments, in compliance with ITC Resolutions No. 259 adopted at its seventy-first session, to submit the results of the 2010 E-Road traffic census by 1 November 2011 (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 85).

38. By mid May 2012, the secretariat received the results of the 2010 E-Road traffic census from the following countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Switzerland, Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. Other countries are expected to submit their results soon: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Finland, France, Luxembourg and Slovenia.

39. The secretariat has published all data received, as well as the previous E-Road traffic censuses (2000 and 2005) on the WP.6 website: [www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/wp6.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/wp6.html).

40. The Working Party invited all UNECE member countries in Europe to transmit data on the 2010 E-road traffic census in compliance with ITC Resolution No. 259 and as soon as possible.

41. The Working Party decided to discuss the methodology of the 2015 E-road traffic census during its next session. Member States were invited to include competent experts in their delegations for this purpose.

### **B. 2010 E-Rail traffic census**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/2009/12, Informal document WP.6 No. 7 (2012)

42. During its seventy-fourth session, the Inland Transport Committee invited UNECE member Governments, in compliance with ITC Resolution No. 260 adopted at its seventy-first session, to submit the results of the censuses conforming to the deadline established in the ITC Resolution (30 June 2012) (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 85).

43. The following countries confirmed their intention to implement the resolution on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census: Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Luxembourg, Poland, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

44. The Working Party recalled that it is mandatory for member States of the European Union (EU) to undertake the 2010 E-Rail traffic census according to Regulation No. 91/2003 of 16 December 2002 on rail transport statistics adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. These countries should send their replies to Eurostat which will transmit them to the secretariat.

45. The Working Party invited all UNECE member countries in Europe to transmit data on the 2010 E-rail traffic census to the secretariat by 30 June 2012 at the latest.

46. The Working Party decided to discuss the methodology of the 2015 E-rail traffic census during its next session. Member States were invited to include competent experts in their delegations for this purpose.

## **VII. Collection and dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (agenda item 6)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/4, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/5

47. The Working Party took note of the following publications: “Statistics for Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America” (RAS) and “UNECE Transport Statistics for Europe and North America” (former Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (ABTS)) (available at: [www.unece.org/transport/resources/publications/transport-statistics.html](http://www.unece.org/transport/resources/publications/transport-statistics.html)).

48. The Working Party was informed about the quality checks carried out by the secretariat in the UNECE transport statistics database and the implementation of the road map on the collection and dissemination of transport statistics (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2010/6).

49. The Working Party adopted a proposal from the IWG aiming to split the short-RAS (short Road Accident Statistics Questionnaire) into two parts: the existing one plus missing information from CARE, in particular, data related to alcohol (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/5).

50. The Working Party adopted a proposal from ITF and UNECE to streamline the long-RAS (long Road Accident Statistics Questionnaire) as presented in document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2012/4.

51. The Working Party invited IWG to prepare a proposal on the data collection of the main indicators on rail traffic accidents with injuries for non EU-member States.

## **VIII. Capacity-building activities (agenda item 7)**

*Documentation:* Informal document WP.6 No. 8 (2012)

52. The Working Party welcomed the organization of capacity-building workshops on transport statistics in Baku (Azerbaijan, December 2011) and Almaty (Kazakhstan, April 2011) and invited IWG to continue assisting further capacity-building activities, in particular, in the CIS<sup>1</sup> and SPECA<sup>2</sup> countries.

53. The Working Party welcomed the study on Transport Statistics as a Tool for Assessing Economic Development for the Central Asian Countries Economies (prepared by a consultant) and invited the secretariat to publish this study ([www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/wp6/ECE-TRANS-WP6-2012-Inf-08e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/wp6/ECE-TRANS-WP6-2012-Inf-08e.pdf)).

54. The Working Party welcomed a planned workshop on transport statistics in Ukraine on the use of the web common questionnaire with the purpose of improving the response rate.

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<sup>1</sup> CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States.

<sup>2</sup> SPECA: Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.



## **IX. Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) (agenda item 8)**

55. The Working Party took note of the IWG activities during the past year.

## **X. Statistical activities of international organizations (agenda item 9)**

### **A. European Commission (DG MOVE)**

56. The Working Party was informed about the developments in the Community transport policy and their statistical implications, in particular: the White Paper on Transport 2011 (main statistical implications); the data needs on alternative motor fuels (AMF) vehicles (stock and new registrations of vehicles (by kind of vehicle and fuel – including detail on AMF), number and location of AMF fuelling charging stations), the EU2020 strategy and DG MOVE initiatives in the area of statistics.

57. The Working Party was also informed that some data – which would be needed – are currently not or only partially available (investment in transport infrastructure by mode, degree of openness in transport markets, logistic costs for the business sector, indicators on accessibility).

### **B. European Commission (Eurostat)**

58. The representative of Eurostat informed the Working Party about the activities carried out by his organization and the main objectives of their programme of work for 2012.

59. The main objectives of the European Statistical Programme (ESP) 2013–2017P are the following:

- (a) Provide quality statistical information to support the development, monitoring and evaluation of the policies of the European Union;
- (b) Implement the new method of production of European statistic;
- (c) Strengthen the partnership within the European Statistical System (ESS) and beyond.

### **C. International Transport Forum (ITF)**

60. The representative of the ITF reported on the results of the annual Summit in Leipzig (Germany, 2–4 May 2012) and noted that the topic of the next Summit (22–24 May 2013) is “Funding Transport”. The Workshop on measuring investment in transport infrastructure organized by the ITF made the following recommendations:

- (a) Create a Task Force;
- (b) Implement an international framework for transport investment statistics;
- (c) Produce a “Best Practice” manual;
- (d) Better assess the impact of transport investment in the economy;

(e) Increase the meaningfulness of data analysis and create a better tool for decision-making.

#### **D. International Union of Railways (UIC)**

61. The representative of the UIC informed the Working Party of recent activities on statistics carried out in her organization and mentioned the main outputs:

- (a) Synopsis 2012: 2011 data (provisional) available June 2012;
- (b) Statistical yearbook in December 2012 with 2011 data (final);
- (c) Time-series in December 2012 with 2011 data.

### **XI. Other business (agenda item 10)**

#### **A. Date of next session**

62. The Working Party decided to hold its next session on 19–21 June 2013. The second day of this meeting will be devoted to discussions on the methodology of the 2015 E-road/rail traffic censuses.

#### **B. Information on upcoming meetings on transport statistics**

63. The Working Party took note of preliminary dates and venues of meetings in 2012–2013:

Task Force on streamlining the pilot questionnaires on road traffic performance and on passenger transport by buses and coaches (IWG)	Q3-Q4 2012
Task Force on measuring investment in transport Infrastructure (ITF)	June, September, December 2012
Task Force on Intermodal Transport Statistics (Eurostat)	Q2-Q3 2012
Working Group on Road Freight Statistics (Eurostat)	10 October 2012
Coordinating Group for Statistics on Transport (CGST, Eurostat)	3–4 December 2012
UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6)	19–21 June 2013
Working Group on Maritime Transport Statistics (Eurostat)	Q2 2013
Working Group on Rail Statistics (Eurostat)	Q3 2013
Coordination Committee for Statistics on Transport (Eurostat)	December 2013

### **XII. Election of officers (agenda item 11)**

64. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party elected Mrs. O. Kastlova (Czech Republic) as Chair for its sessions in 2013–2014.

### **XIII. Summary of decisions (agenda item 12)**

65. As agreed and in line with the decision of ITC (ECE/TRANS/156, para. 6), the secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair, has prepared this report.

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