

Distr.: Restricted
26 November 2019

English only

Working Party on Rail Transport

Seventy-third session

Geneva, 25–27 November 2019

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Towards unified railway law in the pan-European region
and on Euro-Asian transport corridors**

Proposal for a decision of the Working Party

Submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany

1. The Working Party took note of the report of the Group of Experts towards Unified Railway Law (the Group) on the execution of its 2018-2019 mandate, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2019/4. It commended the Group for the work undertaken.
 2. The Working Party decided to extend the mandate of the Group for two more sessions, to be held in 2020, under the current Terms of Reference, as set out in document ECE/TRANS/2018/13/Rev.1. However, it requested the Group:
 - (i) To finalize the text of the legal instrument on the contract for international carriage of goods by rail (i. e. to agree on all substantive provisions, the management system, the preamble and final provisions);
 - (ii) After the work referred to at (i) is completed, to identify and agree, where appropriate, the next issue relevant to international rail freight, for which substantive URL provisions (another URL legal instrument) should be developed; and
 - (iii) To report to the Working Party at its seventy-fourth session in November 2020.
 3. The Working Party further invited the secretariat:
 - (i) To expand the Group to invite to it country representatives with expertise on issues to be covered in the full set of conventions; and
 - (ii) To expand the geographical representation to invite to it interested countries along the entire Euro-Asian transport corridors.
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