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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
(Thirty-fourth session, 4-7 April 2000,
agenda item 11 (c))

FUTURE WORK

Other issues

Note by the secretariat

1. The attention of the Working Party is drawn to the increasing participation in traffic of in-line skaters, rollerskaters and skateboarders and to accidents involving them on roads in the UN/ECE region. This subject has been examined in media articles and research and some countries are considering modifying their highway codes to regulate these road users.
2. Currently this group is generally treated as pedestrians. In one study, in-line skates are referred to, in the absence of a better term, as a "special transport means", and with the possibility of reaching speeds of up to 30 km/h in the case of in-line skaters and rollerskaters, different provisions are called for.
3. One proposal is that children and adult novices be allowed to stay on the pavement if they go no faster than brisk walkers and experienced riders be allowed to join the traffic and obey rules applying to cyclists. They would be permitted to use cycle lanes and be fined, for example, if they ignore red lights. The question of helmet use by this group is also an issue.
4. Members of the Working Party are requested to provide the secretariat with any national information on this subject which might be used for discussion by WP.1 with the long-term aim of amending the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements supplementing them and/or the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals.