

Distr.: General
5 October 2023

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

118th session

Geneva, 17-19 October 2023

Item 7(c) (i) of the provisional agenda

Activities of interest to the Working Party:

Activities of UNECE bodies and other UN organizations: ITC related

SC.1 input to ITC's Climate Change Mitigation Strategy

Submitted by the Chair

This document contains the Chair's and Vice Chair's (Poland) suggested input by SC.1 to ITC's Climate Change Mitigation Strategy. It is intended to facilitate discussion on this topic.

The Working Group on Road Transport (SC.1) promotes the development and simplification of international road transport — cargo and passengers — by harmonizing and simplifying rules and requirements for transport. To achieve this goal, SC.1 develops, manages and updates international legal documents. SC.1 is the main body for technical expert groups, in particular concerning the implementation of digital tachographs or the transport of passengers by intercity buses. It also develops recommendations for the implementation of best practices in the field of international road transport, such as the Consolidated Resolution on the Simplification of International Road Transport (R.E.4). Finally, SC.1 is working on improving the third-party motor insurance system (Green Card system) etc.

Contribution of SC.1 to the ITC 2050 Climate Change Mitigation Strategy:

1. Currently, work is underway to amend the AETR in terms of transferring the Agreement to Global status and opening it for accession by other contracting parties, and long-term work is also underway to develop technical requirements for the introduction and installation of smart tachographs on cars
2. Continue to promote accession to transport legal instruments, especially CMR and eCMR (ongoing). With the emerging digital economy, transformation in the road transportation sector is crucial. The shift from a paper format of transport documents to a fully digital one will contribute to reducing the pollution generated by the road transport industry. Digitalization of transportation documents is first and foremost an environmentally friendly measure.
3. Continue to be a platform for Member States, NGOs and private sector companies working together with SC.1 on quality road infrastructure to share best practices, educate and raise awareness of safe and sustainable road infrastructure policies and practices (ongoing/expanding effort)
4. Consider the development of road transport with a view to the electrification of light and heavy-duty vehicles (HDV) and, if appropriate, make proposals on the best way to develop charging station infrastructure. In this regard, collaborate with WP.24 to find potential solutions that serve last-mile transportation and delivery (starting in 2023)
5. In particular with regard to the European Agreement on the main international transport arteries (AGR), continue to develop the characteristics of the international network "E" in the EEC region in terms of technological development and traffic flows, as well as strengthen its aspects of safety and environmental protection. This includes holding discussions where/when appropriate on the validity and relevance of the AGR text, as well as ensuring the relevance of the agreement and promoting best practices in road safety, environmental sustainability and technology (ongoing/long term).
