

**REPORT OF THE WP.6 TASK FORCE ON
STATISTICS ON TRANSPORTATION BY BUSES AND COACHES
held at the Federal Statistical Office of Germany**

I. ATTENDANCE

1. The sixth session of the WP.6 Task Force on Statistics on Transportation by Buses and Coaches was hosted by the Federal Statistical Office of Germany, and organised jointly by the UNECE Transport Division and the Federal Statistical Office of Germany.
2. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Peter SMEETS (The Netherlands). Representatives of the following UNECE member States participated: Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden. The UNECE secretariat, DG TREN from the European Commission, Eurostat and the International Transport Forum were also represented.

II. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. The Task force meeting elected Mr. Peter SMEETS (the Netherlands) as the Chairman of the Meeting.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

4. The Task force meeting adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (AC.6 Informal document No.13).

IV. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

5. The representative of Federal Statistical Office of Germany, the secretariat and the chairman welcomed the participants.

V. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS

6. Mr. P. SMEETS (the Netherlands) explained that it was intended primarily to examine calculation methods applied for the purpose of finding best practices, and thus give impetus to the improvement of national calculation methods. As the term "long distance transportation" is defined differently in the consulted countries, one of the main issues was the question whether or not to include urban transport in the handbook.
He proposed a chart on the relationship between market segments in transport by buses and coaches, which was adopted.

7. The Intersecretariat Working Group (IWG) informed the meeting about the adoption of the 4th revised edition of the Glossary of Transport Statistics.

8. Mr J. JOHANSSON (Sweden) presented the last version of the questionnaire on statistics regarding transportation by buses and coaches.

9. Mrs O. KASTLOVA (Czech Republic) introduced a document on safety indicators with summary of main indicators available from Care database. She also mentioned the entries for road injury accidents involving buses in the UNECE transport database.

10. Mr F. MULLENDERS (the Netherlands) provided a document on fleet statistics underlining that in several countries data on buses and coaches are aggregated without distinction between regular and occasional transport.

11. Mrs E. KARUS (Estonia) presented a document on enterprise statistics relating to buses and coaches with information on the availability of these statistics in the EU Member States.

12. For transport infrastructure, Mr U.REIM (Germany) explained that classifications could be made (point-systems, point-networks etc.) but the most common and usually available indicator is the length of roads, also available by road type.

13. Mr. P. SMEETS (the Netherlands) provided a document on environmental indicators for buses and coaches with an example of modelling the relationship between different indicators.

14. The meeting was informed that statistics of financial indicators and services quality indicators were not available for transport by buses and coaches.

15. Mr. A. NÄGELE (DG TREN) will update the draft of Chapter on "User needs" taking into account the decisions adopted during the present session.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

16. The Task force decided to submit the consolidated version of the draft handbook to the next meeting of the WP.6. In order to achieve this goal, all participants were requested to send to the secretariat their contributions (revision of their chapters) before 15 November 2008.

17. The secretariat was invited to consolidate the contributions in a first draft to be circulated to the experts and to be discussed during the next session of the Task Force.

A. Transparency, open membership and contributions

18. General information about the activities of the Task force that include draft agendas with registration forms and reports will be available at this address:
<<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/transstatac6agenda.html>>.

19. Delegates to the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) interested in the work of this Task force are welcome to join its ongoing work and efforts on the project. This is an open invitation.

20. The interested parties are invited to visit regularly the web address of this project in order to get information about the general activities of the Task force, as well as to contribute to its work.

B. Future meetings

21. The Task force confirmed the dates for the next meeting of the Task force according to the following tentative timetable:

- 12-13 February 2009 in Prague.

22. The chairman and the secretariat will prepare before January 2009 the provisional agenda for the next meeting of the Task force and inform the Task force members about this accordingly. This draft agenda will include the final date and venue of the meeting.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
WP 6 - AC.6

WORKSHOP ON STATISTICS ON LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORTATION
BY BUSES AND COACHES

Wiesbaden, Germany
25-26 September 2008

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