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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Transport

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Geneva, 16-18 October 2007
Item 8 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

Note by the secretariat

1. The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2008-2012 and, in particular, the continued relevance of priorities assigned to individual work elements and the expected outputs identified for the next two-year period, i.e. by 2008/2009. Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.
2. In this programme of work, new elements have been added to take into account the request made by the Economic Commission for Europe that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes. The background and the objectives of these biennial evaluations are developed below and the expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat have also been introduced into the programme of work .

Biennial evaluations

Background

3. At its 69th session (6-8 February 2007), the Inland Transport Committee was informed of the request made by the Economic Commission for Europe that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes and take into account the results of these evaluations in determining their work programmes (ECE/TRANS/192, paragraph 110).

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4. These biennial evaluations would be carried out for the first time in the 2008-2009 biennium. In 2008, the Committee on Inland Transport will have to agree on an expected accomplishment per cluster of activity together with related indicators of achievement and measurement methodologies.

5. To this end, in 2007, the Committee's Working Parties, in cooperation with the secretariat, will each have to draw up a draft expected accomplishment related to their work areas as well as indicators and appropriate methodologies and submit them to the Bureau.

6. The Bureau will review them and make a recommendation to the 2008 session of the Committee. In 2010, the Committee will be invited to review the draft accomplishment accounts prepared for each expected accomplishment by the secretariat. It will be expected to discuss the lessons learned and take programmatic measures, if appropriate. The Committee's Chair will be invited to report on the evaluations' key findings to the Executive Committee.

Objectives

7. The biennial evaluations will give the opportunity for countries to join forces with the secretariat in reviewing and reaffirming, on a continuous basis, the relevance of their activities. The results of these evaluations should contribute to effective programme management at all levels by: showing evidence of achieving expected accomplishments, defining future priority areas for action, and providing opportunities for making incremental and timely adjustments.

8. They are also intended to assist in measuring more precisely the impact of activities, which in itself is a challenge. Furthermore, the evaluations will bring more information on the effectiveness of different activities in obtaining results contributing to the objectives and expected accomplishments of a given subprogramme.

9. It is expected that these evaluations may also lead to conclusions concerning the efficiency of outputs and activities and subsequently to recommendations for maximizing benefits by improving the use of existing resources.

10. Finally, the results of evaluations are expected to constitute in the future the necessary arguments in the subsequent phases of programme management, such as defining priorities and the related redistribution of resources.

Planning

11. Firstly, Working Parties should define an expected accomplishment to be achieved within a two-year period as a result of implementing different outputs and activities.

12. Secondly, in order to be able to measure the extent to which expected accomplishments have been achieved, indicators of achievement should be defined. These indicators should allow for an unambiguous statement of achievement or deviation from it.

13. Thirdly, in order to facilitate the measurement, a methodology should be determined early in the process, including baseline and target values, sources of data and information as well as ways and means of their collection. External factors, which may influence the achievement of an expected accomplishment, should also be identified.

Evaluation and reporting

14. Working Parties are requested to evaluate, every second year, the performance of their activities in view of the expected accomplishments and related indicators drawn up at the beginning of the two-year cycle. For this purpose, they should review the accomplishment accounts, drawn up by the secretariat and consisting of an evaluation, both quantitative and qualitative, of the results achieved.

Proposal for SC.1

15. The expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat for the Working Group on Road Transport (SC.1) appear below:

Expected accomplishment: Enhanced implementation of the European Agreement Concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR).

Indicator of achievement 1: number of countries responding to the survey on the effective application of the AETR.

Indicator of achievement 2: number of problem areas identified and of proposals to address them within the framework of the follow-up of this survey.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY - 02.2: ROAD TRANSPORT

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

I. Implementation and amendment of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)

Description: In order to adapt the European road network to future requirements, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will take suitable action to implement the Agreement and amend as necessary its provisions taking into account the evolution of traffic flows, as well as the safety and security of the network.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Consideration of the AGR Agreement in the light of new traffic flows.

Output expected by 2008-2009: Adoption of amendments to Annex I to the AGR including new-E-roads. Issuance of an updated map of the network **in 2008.**

Priority: 1

- (b) ~~Consideration of the AGR Agreement or recommendations with a view to~~ **Enhancing** AGR ~~provisions and~~ standards which have an impact on road safety, environmental protection and energy saving.

Output expected by 2008-2009: Preparation and possible adoption of new amendments to Annex II of the AGR **or recommendations** which relate to safety and security.

Priority: 1

II. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project

Description: In order to assist in the construction of the TEM network as part of an integrated international road infrastructure, the Working Party on Road Transport will continue its close cooperation with TEM.

Work to be undertaken:

- (c) Review of ongoing and expected future progress in the TEM network and consideration of possibilities to contribute to its further development (e.g., combined transport, financing).

Output expected by 2008-2009: Monitoring the development of the TEM Project.

Priority: 2

02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations

Description: In order to simplify and harmonize requirements concerning international road transport and the facilitation of its operation, the Working Party on Road Transport will elaborate and update, as necessary, appropriate international instruments **and/or recommendations** and study selected aspects of international transport of passengers and goods by road, particularly those related to the facilitation of road transport between eastern and western Europe and the simplification and harmonization of administrative procedures and documentation.

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

Work to be undertaken:

- (e)(d) Implementation of the European Agreement on the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). **Enhanced implementation of the AETR within the framework of the biennial evaluation.**

Output expected by 2008-2009: ~~Alignment of the AETR with new provisions adopted by the European Union~~ **Adoption of new provisions concerning the regulation of driving and rest periods for professional drivers.** ~~Organization of a Seminar on the introduction of the digital tachograph for non-EU States.~~ Priority: 1

Evaluation of the survey (to be conducted each two years) on the effective application of the AETR and number of problem areas identified and proposals to address them within the framework of the follow-up to the survey. Priority: 1

- (d)(e) Consideration of questions concerning the Green Card International Motor Insurance System.

Output expected by 2008-2009: Encourage and facilitate membership of the Green Card System. Consider possibilities for the establishment of an international motor insurance system for Central Asian States. Priority: 2

- (e)(f) Promote the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in order to avoid any discriminatory practices in international road transport.

Output expected by 2008-2009: Development of proposals regarding the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in international road transport. Priority: 3

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

~~02.2.3-~~

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

Work to be undertaken:

- (~~f~~)(g) Modification of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4).

Output expected by 2008-2009: Consideration of the need to modify or add to R.E.4 on certain subjects, such as the security of passenger **and goods transport and access to the profession of road transport operator.**

Priority: 2

- (~~g~~)(h) Consideration of new challenges, opportunities and developments in the facilitation of border crossings and consideration of possibilities for effective measures other than legal measures on border crossing and border facilities for road transport between eastern and western Europe.

Output expected by 2008-2009: Cooperation **where appropriate** with the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) on aspects of the new proposed annex 8 to the Harmonization Convention on the facilitation of border crossing such as visa issuance to professional drivers, ~~an international vehicle weight certificate and road worthiness certificate,~~ **the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety on the safety of infrastructure, and the Committee on Trade on the use of electronic consignment notes.**

Priority: 1

- (~~h~~)(i) Consideration of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) with a view to the introduction of electronic data interchange (EDI) into its procedures.

Output expected by 2008-2009: **Opening for signature** of a new protocol to the CMR introducing **the electronic assignment note.**

Priority: 1

- (~~i~~)(j) ~~Analysis of the~~ **Implementation** of transport-related UNECE agreements and conventions.

Output expected by 2008-2009: ~~Launching of a survey to evaluate the implementation of different agreements and conventions concerning road transport by Contracting Parties.~~

Adaptation of the contents of Annex 1B of the EU Regulation dealing with the digital tachograph to the context of Appendix 1B to the Annex to the AETR and translation of Appendix 1B (more 250 pages) in Russian.

Priority: 1

Follow-up on the implementation of the digital tachograph in non-EU AETR countries.

Priority: 1
