DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010-2014

Note by the secretariat

1. At its seventieth session in 2008 the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) required its subsidiary bodies to examine their programmes of work every two years. Such arrangement, however, would not exclude the possibility for the Committee’s subsidiary bodies to modify their respective programmes of work annually if there was a need to do so (ECE/TRANS/200, paragraph 120).


3. The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2010-2014 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 2011. Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.

4. In drafting this programme of work, the secretariat has taken into account the request made by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes. The background of these
biennial evaluations is briefly reminded below. The expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat have also been introduced into the programme of work.

I. BACKGROUND

5. At its sixty-ninth session (6-8 February 2007), the ITC was informed of the request made by UNECE 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).

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

7. These biennial evaluations are being carried out for the first time in the 2008-2009 biennium. In 2008, the Committee on Inland Transport agreed on an expected accomplishment per cluster of activity together with related indicators of achievement and measurement methodologies.

8. Working Parties including SC.1 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.

9. In 2010, the Committee will 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.

II. PROPOSED CRITERIA

10. The expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat for SC.1 appear below:

(a) Expected accomplishment:
   Enhanced implementation of the European Agreement Concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) in general and of the digital tachograph in particular.

(b) Indicator of achievement 1: Number of problem areas identified and proposals to address them

(c) Indicator of achievement 2: Number of seminars and workshops requested by the Member Countries
(d) Indicator of achievement 3: Number of participants in the seminars and workshops

III. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010-2014

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.2: ROAD TRANSPORT

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

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 the end of 2011:

- 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) Enhancing AGR standards which have an impact on road safety, environmental protection and energy saving. Output expected by 2008–2009 the end of 2011:

- Preparation and possible adoption of new amendments to the AGR to include provisions on road safety audits and possibly on or recommendations which relate to safety and security. Priority: 1

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 (SC.1) 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 the end of 2011

- Monitoring the development of the TEM Project and assisting the TEM Project whenever possible and appropriate. 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 (SC.1) will elaborate and update, as necessary, appropriate international legal instruments and/or recommendations and will consider study selected aspects of international transport of passengers and goods by road, particularly those related to the facilitation of road transport between countries and sub-regions in the UNECE area in eastern and western Europe and including the simplification and harmonization of administrative procedures and documentation.

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

Work to be undertaken:

(d) Implementation of the European Agreement on the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) in general and of the digital tachograph in particular. Enhanced implementation of the AETR within the framework of the biennial evaluation.

Output expected by 2008-2009 the end of 2011:

- Adoption implementation of new provisions concerning the regulation of driving and rest periods for professional drivers. Priority: 1

- To the extent possible and based on the sufficient number of Member country replies, evaluation of the survey (to be conducted every 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

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

Output expected by 2008-2009 the end of 2011

- Encourage and facilitate membership of the Green Card System. Consider possibilities for the establishment of a similar international motor insurance system for countries beyond the area covered by the Green Card System Central Asian States. Priority: 2

(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 the end of 2011: Development of proposals regarding the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in international road transport. Priority: 3
ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

Work to be undertaken:

(g) Modification of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4).
   Output expected by 2008-2009 the end of 2011:
   - 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

(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 international road transport between countries and sub-regions in the UNECE area and beyond.
   Output expected by 2008-2009 the end of 2011:
   - Cooperation including joint meetings where appropriate with other UNECE bodies such as the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) on the facilitation of border crossing e.g. visa issuance to professional drivers, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) on the safety of infrastructure, and the Committee on Trade on the use of electronic consignment notes. Priority: 1
   - Adoption of a new global multilateral legal instrument on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus Priority: 1

(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

(j) Implementation of transport-related UNECE agreements and conventions.
   Output expected by 2008-2009 the end of 2011: 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.
   - Entry into force of the Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) introducing the electronic consignment note and wide use of it Priority: 1
   - Follow-up on the Implementation of the digital tachograph in non-EU AETR countries. Priority: 1
   - Define and put in place well-functioning implementation monitoring mechanisms for the legal instruments dealt with by the Working PartyPriority: 1