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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-fifth session
Geneva, 27-30 October 2009

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE
WORKING PARTY ON THE TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 27 October 2009

Addendum

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Item 2: Activities of ECE bodies of interest to the Working Party

(a) Inland Transport Committee

2. The Working Party will be informed about the results of the seventy-first session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) (24-26 February 2009) as reflected in its report (ECE/TRANS/206). The Committee noted with satisfaction that there are now forty-five Contracting Parties to the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP).

3. The Committee welcomed the official adoption by the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) of the ATP Handbook, which would be a useful tool for clarifying provisions of the ATP, and also WP.11's consideration of the possible extension of the scope of the ATP to cover fresh fruit and vegetables.

4. The Committee urged ATP Contracting Parties to accept the proposed amendments adopted at the sixty-fourth session of WP.11 in October 2008, including a revised text of Annex 1 of the ATP.

5. The representative of Germany informed the Committee that on 15 May 2009 the Bundesrat (Federal Assembly) was scheduled to discuss the proposed amendments to the ATP circulated to Contracting Parties in March 2008 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/216 and Add.1) and that hopefully it would be in a position to accept them.

6. The ITC endorsed documents ECE/TRANS/2009/6-9 on gender issues in transport and requested the secretariat to circulate them to all the ITC's subsidiary bodies for consideration (ECE/TRANS/206, para. 13). These documents can be accessed at the following link: http://unece.org/trans/main/itc/itc_doc_2009.html.

7. The ITC requested its subsidiary bodies to address the subject of global warming and transport, as appropriate, within their work, and the secretariat to ensure the necessary coordination and backstopping of activities related to global warming and transport (ECE/TRANS/206, para.28).

8. The ITC endorsed the report of the Chairman of the Multidisciplinary Expert Group on Inland Transport Security, agreed that the group should be re-activated annually as an informal group to discuss horizontal issues addressed at the ITC's subsidiary bodies and provide an international platform for exchange of best practices, and decided to include the subject of inland transport security on the agenda of its next session (ECE/TRANS/206, paras. 53 and 54).

9. The Working Party is invited to consider this issue under item 11 of its provisional agenda. The Recommendations of the Multidisciplinary Expert Group on Inland Transport Security and comments on them made at the seventieth session of the ITC are presented in Informal document INF.4.

10. The ITC also requested its subsidiary bodies to address the subject of transport and trade facilitation from the perspectives of global supply chains with a view to explore potential synergies, including new areas of multimodal and intersectoral cooperation, electronic transport documents and interface with intelligent transport systems (ITS) applications, as well as possible ways of implementing innovative technological solutions for border crossing facilitation, and submit proposals to the Bureau for consideration and reporting to the ITC at its next session (ECE/TRANS/206, para. 68).

(b) Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

11. The Working Party will be informed about the recent activities of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7).

Item 3: Activities of other international organizations dealing with issues of interest to the Working Party

(a) International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR)

12. The Working Party will be informed about the results of the meeting of the IIR sub-commission held in Castelo Branco, Portugal, from 4 to 5 June 2009 and other relevant work of IIR.

(b) Transfrigoroute International

13. The representative of Transfrigoroute International is invited to present the recent activities of his organization.

(c) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

14. The representative of ISO is invited to present the activities of ISO that have a bearing on the work of WP.11 including on standards for temperature recorders and maritime containers.

(d) Compatibility of ATP and European Union legislation

15. The representative of the European Commission is invited to present the current work and future plans of the European Commission regarding regulatory or other activities concerning the transport of perishable foodstuffs. The Working Party is also invited to discuss issues concerning the compatibility of the ATP and European Union legislation.

(e) ATP project for countries of Central Asia

16. The Working Party will hear a presentation regarding the European Commission's ongoing project to establish ATP testing stations in the Central Asian countries. A summary of the latest developments regarding the project is presented in Informal document INF.3.

Item 4: Status and implementation of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage

(a) Status of application of the Agreement

17. The number of Contracting Parties to ATP (45) is the same as at the sixty-fourth session in 2008: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan.

(b) Status of amendments

18. Proposed amendments to the Annexes to ATP adopted at the sixty-third session of WP.11 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/216, Annex 1 and ECE/TRANS/WP.11/216/Add.1) were circulated to Contracting Parties by the depositary on 6 March 2008 (C.N.138.2008.TREATIES-1). On 22 August 2008, the Government of Germany, in accordance with Article 18 (2) (b) of the ATP, informed the Secretary-General that although it intended to accept the proposals, the conditions for such acceptance were not yet fulfilled. Consequently, the amendments would be deemed accepted only if, before the expiry of a period of nine months following the initial notification period of six months (i.e. before 6 June 2009), the Government of Germany did not notify an objection to the proposed amendments. By depositary notification C.N.357.2009.TREATIES-2 of 11 June 2009, the Treaty Section informed Contracting Parties that Germany had not submitted an objection and that consequently the proposed amendments were considered accepted on 6 June 2009 and would enter into force on 6 December 2009.

19. The revised Annex 1 to ATP adopted at the sixty-fourth session of WP.11 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/218/Add.1) was circulated to Contracting Parties on 2 April 2009 (C.N.191.2009.TREATIES-1). Two corrigenda to that document have been issued. Barring objections, the revised Annex 1 will be considered accepted on 2 October 2009 and will enter into force six months later.

(c) Test stations officially designated by the competent authorities of countries Parties to ATP

20. The current list of test stations appears at the following web link: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp11/teststations.pdf> Contracting Parties are invited to check the information and to transmit corrections or new information to the secretariat.

(d) Exchange of information among Parties under Article 6 of ATP

21. At its sixty-fourth session, WP.11 decided to resume collection of information on the implementation of the ATP using the new questionnaire included in the ATP Handbook. The data received is presented in document ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/5. In a separate exercise, countries were asked whether ATP is used as the basis for domestic transport of perishable foodstuffs in their countries. The replies received are presented in Informal document INF.2.

Item 5: Proposals of amendments to the ATP

(a) Pending proposals

Sea crossings and inland waterways

22. At its sixty-fourth session, WP.11 agreed that the informal working group on the sea crossing should continue its work on the subject and should also discuss the possibility of extending the scope of the ATP to cover transport by inland waterways. The group worked by correspondence. A first draft proposal was sent by e-mail on 27 February and a second on 20 May 2009. The following countries sent comments: Denmark, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The proposal from Finland to amend articles 1, 2, 3, 5 and Annex 1 of ATP is contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/2.

Multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles

23. The Working Party is invited to consider the proposals made by France regarding tests for multi-compartment multi-temperature vehicles (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/14).

12-year ATP tests

24. The Working Party may wish to consider the amendment proposals made by France regarding the renewal of ATP certificates after 12 years (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/12).

6- and 9-year ATP tests

25. The Working Party is invited to consider the proposal by France regarding 6- and 9-year ATP tests for non-autonomous mechanically refrigerated equipment (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/13).

(b) New proposals

Annex 1, Appendix 1, paragraph 2 (a)

26. The Working Party is invited to consider the proposal made by France to introduce a type-test certificate in Annex 1, Appendix 1, paragraph 2 (a) (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/11).

Annex 1, Appendix 1, paragraph 2 (c) (ii)

27. The Working Party may wish to consider the proposal made by Portugal to amend Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 2 (c) (ii) in order to clarify the text with regard to eutectic plates (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/17).

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 29 (c)

28. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment to paragraph 29 (c) proposed by Spain in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/15 concerning the renewal of ATP certificates for equipment at 12 years and older.

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 49

29. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment to paragraph 49 proposed by Sweden in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/7 concerning the certificate of maintenance of cooling appliances.

Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 56

30. The Working Party is invited to consider the amendment proposed by France to correct an error in the test procedure defined in the French text of paragraph 56 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/10).

Annex 1, Appendix 3

31. The Working Party may wish to consider the proposal made by the Netherlands to include a transitional provision for the new model certificate of compliance (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/18).

Item 6: ATP Handbook

32. At its sixty-fourth session, the Working Party officially adopted the ATP Handbook which appears on the Transport Division website in English, French and Russian. The secretariat has prepared a discussion document looking at the example of the TIR Handbook and proposing how the ATP Handbook should be used and procedures for updating it (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/4).

33. At its sixty-fourth session, the Working Party invited Slovakia to submit a revised proposal regarding the ATP checklist, adding an introductory text and proposing where in the Handbook it could be included. The revised document appears in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/16.

34. The WP.11 also invited the Russian Federation to submit an official document regarding the placement of temperature measuring equipment for K value testing of tanks. This proposal has not yet been received.

35. The Working Party is invited to consider the proposal by Portugal to introduce a comment in the ATP Handbook after Annex 1, Appendix 1, paragraph 2 (c) (ii) regarding the checking of equipment with eutectic plates (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/17).

36. The Working Party is invited to consider the proposals by Sweden to introduce in the ATP Handbook a comment regarding kit bodies (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/9) and a certificate of maintenance of cooling appliances (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/8).

37. The WP.11 may wish to consider the proposal made by the Netherlands to include a comment in the ATP Handbook regarding the validity of the new model certificate of compliance (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/18).

Item 7: Scope of ATP

38. At its sixty-fourth session, the WP.11 suggested that the Russian Federation submit a formal proposal to the sixty-fifth session on extending the scope of the ATP to fruit and vegetables in cooperation with Spain, containing a justification and consideration of the economic impact, food safety, and other issues involved. This proposal has not yet been received.

39. In response to questions posed by one delegation, the secretariat has looked into old WP.11 documents for indications of the original intentions of WP.11 regarding the definition of "perishable foodstuffs", the sea crossing and other issues. Any passages which seem relevant are reproduced in Informal document INF.5 with an indication of the symbol and the date of the document in which they were found.

Item 8: Energy labelling, refrigerants and blowing agents

40. The Working Party is invited to discuss the issue of energy labelling, refrigerants and blowing agents and the possibility of holding a workshop on environmental aspects under the auspices of WP.11 in 2011.

Item 9: Programme of work and biennial evaluation

41. The Working Party is expected to discuss and adopt its programme of work for 2010-2014 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/1) and the biennial evaluation of its work presented in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/3.

Item 10: Rules of procedure

42. At the sixty-fourth session of WP.11, the secretariat was requested to propose draft rules of procedure for WP.11 in a working document drawing inspiration from those developed for other Working Parties serviced by the Transport Division. The secretariat has prepared a draft which appears in ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2009/6.

Item 11: Inland transport security

43. The Working Party is invited to consider the recommendations of the UNECE Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security (Informal document INF.4) which were approved by the Inland Transport Committee at its seventieth session. The report calls for ITC subsidiary bodies, *inter alia*, to review international legal instruments under their responsibility and to create an inventory of existing security measures and a list of potentially desirable additional security provisions.

Item 12: Election of officers

44. The Working Party is expected to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for its sixty-sixth session in 2010.

Item 13: Other business

45. The Working Party may wish to consider any other business under this item.

Date of the sixty-sixth session

46. The dates of 9-12 November 2010 have been tentatively reserved for the sixty-sixth session of WP.11.

Informal technical visit to CERN

47. There is a possibility that in the afternoon of Thursday 29 October 2009 an informal technical visit will be organized for WP.11 delegates to the refrigeration and insulation plants at the European Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva. Further information will be provided regarding the time and how to get to CERN by public transport if the informal technical visit is confirmed.

Item 14: Adoption of the report

48. The Working Party is expected to adopt the report on its sixty-fifth session based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.
