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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work, 2012–2016 and biennial evaluation

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Note by the secretariat

1. The Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) approved its previous programme of work at the fifty-eighth session in 2009 (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2009/5).
2. The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2012-2016 and, in particular, the continued relevance of priorities assigned to individual work elements and the expected outputs identified for this period. Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.

Draft Programme of Work for 2012-2016

Programme activity 02.4: ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

Description:

Mindful of the worldwide scope of its work, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) will examine ~~matters~~ **issues** and adopt measures aimed at improving road traffic safety. To this end, it will consider, inter alia, the implementation of the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, 1968, and the European Agreements of 1971 supplementing them and elaborate proposals for updating these legal instruments as well as the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.1 and R.E.2). WP.1 will also seek to promote the global application of its work and adapt itself to the dynamics of road safety by including in its debates more policy-related issues. WP.1 will also develop activities to promote road traffic safety awareness in the framework of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020).

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Road Traffic Safety will pursue the following activities:

Continuing Activities

- (a) Encouraging accession to and effective implementation of the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, 1968, and the European Agreements of 1971 supplementing them and the Protocol on Road Markings, and elaboration of amendment proposals to these legal instruments with a view to strengthening and harmonizing road safety standards.

Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of **2011**:

- Consideration and/or adoption where appropriate of new amendment proposals to the above instruments concerning, inter alia, the relationship between the Convention on Road Traffic, 1968 and UNECE Vehicle Technical Regulations, and possibly the relevant security measures concerning road traffic recommended by the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security.
- Wide dissemination of the consolidated versions of the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, 1968, in all official United Nations languages.

~~Publication and~~ Wide dissemination of the **published** Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2)

Priority: 1

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- (b) Publication of the two resolutions in a more attractive and modern form and wide dissemination, with priority to the other Regional Economic Commissions;
- (c) ~~Define and put in place~~ **Definition and implementation of** a well-functioning implementation monitoring mechanism for the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, 1968. Priority: 1
- (d) ~~Define~~ **Definition of** a mechanism of inquiry with the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949, in order to identify their possible difficulties in ratifying acceding to and implementing the 1968 Conventions **and design support measures for the Contracting Parties to be in a position to overcome such difficulties.** Priority: 1
- (e) ~~Launch the inquiry and design support measures for the Contracting Parties to overcome the difficulties~~ Priority: 2
- (f) ~~Provide support to the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949, in overcoming the difficulties they may have in ratifying the 1968 Conventions;~~ Priority: 3 2
- (g) **Further** promote and strengthen **international**, national and regional cooperation amongst competent authorities involved in road traffic safety, **within the framework of the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020), proclaimed by UN General Assembly resolution 64/255 of March 2010.** To this end, **continue** to make full use of the findings of the project “Improving global road safety: setting regional and national road traffic casualty reduction targets”, funded by the United Nations Development Account, **as well as all ongoing Road Safety studies and those undertaken in the previous years.** Priority: 2 1
- (h) Exchange of information on national road safety programmes, in particular taking into account means **and mechanisms** of financing of road safety activities, **under the Decade of Action for Road Safety cluster of activities.**

Priority: 3 1

- (i) **Exchange information** on road safety regulations and requirements in force in member States and circulation of such information in order to avail Governments of the practice and experience gained on these matters.

Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2011:

Updated set of tables reflecting current national road traffic safety requirements, national legal instruments and national methods of training and follow-up for categories A and B driving licences. Possible addition of new tables dealing, for example, with complementary safety equipment required on board vehicles **as well as** issuance of information regarding road safety campaigns conducted by member countries.

- (j) Assisting countries in transition and developing countries in the establishment of sound and up-to-date traffic safety practices and procedures.

Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2011:

~~Respond~~ **Replies** to requests for technical assistance from other regional commissions or their member countries.

- (k) Encouraging the establishment by Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) of Regional Road Safety Groups, following (working structures similar to those of WP.1), aimed at bringing member States closer and improving collaboration between all the road safety stakeholders in that specific ~~region~~ **their respective regions**.

Priority: 3

- (l) Considering to develop a ~~global~~ **draft legal** instrument on road traffic safety, open to worldwide participation, covering actual **and measurable** needs, **that are not currently** dealt with by other (existing) instruments.

Priority: 2

- (m) Consideration of selected timely topics related to road safety in the form of an in-depth discussions based on papers prepared by experts and undertaking appropriate follow-up action with a view to finding concerted solutions to the most urgent problems in the field of traffic safety **in view of the increased demand for road safety solutions under the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety**.

Priority: 2 1

~~Output expected by the end of 2011: Identification of at least one timely topic for in depth discussion.~~

Activities of limited duration

- (n) ~~Acting as facilitator in promoting~~ **Facilitation of** the setting-up of a “Club of Road Traffic Safety Councils”.

Priority: 2

- (o) ~~Contribute to the organization of the Second Global Road Safety Week (in case it is organized).~~

Priority: 2

~~Output expected by the end of 2011: Analysis of the impact of the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week in the UNECE region and consideration of the possibility of~~

~~holding a Second Global Road Safety Week and organizing a seminar in the UNECE region.~~

- (p) **Regular and coordinated organization of high visibility/ high impact road safety campaigns and events aimed at awareness raising, with the cooperation of member States and other international and regional governmental and non-governmental organizations.**

Priority:1

Priority: 2

- (q) **Establishment of a new Group of Experts on Safety at Level Crossings**

Priority: 1

Output Expected:

Description, assessment and better understanding of the safety issues at a road/rail interface as well as development of a multi-disciplinary strategic plan aimed at reducing the risk of death and/or injury at level crossings.

- (r) Encouraging Contracting Parties to ~~the Vienna~~ UNECE Conventions from outside the UNECE region to attend WP.1 and participate actively in the activities of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration.

Priority: 1

- (s) Encouraging additional countries ~~beyond~~ outside of the UNECE region to ~~adhere~~ **accede** to the ~~Vienna~~ **UNECE road safety** conventions.

Priority: 1
