Report of the Special session of the Working Party on Road Transport concerning a proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS)

I. Attendance

1. The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) held its special session in Geneva from 10 to 12 July 2013, chaired by Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine). The following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) member States were represented in the meeting: Czech Republic, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

2. The following non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were also represented: Association of International Road Carriers, International Road Transport Union (IRU), and Lithuanian National Road Carriers Association.

II. Adoption of the agenda


III. Proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS)

4. The Working Party discussed the text for a draft multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/2013/1). As a result, SC.1 made a number of changes which will be included in the document’s revised version (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/2013/1/Rev.1) to be prepared by the secretariat. The Working Party asked the secretariat to distribute ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/2013/1/Rev.1 – once it has been prepared – to all UNECE members states for information and comments as well as to invite EU member States and the
European Commission to take active part in developing this agreement. The revised draft agreement, including any subsequent comments received by the secretariat, will form the basis of discussion at the next SC.1 session. (The Working Party asked the secretariat to set aside a one day for OmniBus discussion at the next SC.1 session from 28 to 30 October 2013.) The Chair requested SC.1 members to reflect, in particular, on Annexes V, V(a) and VI.

IV. Other business

5. The secretariat informed the Working Party of the 11 July 2013 decision by the UNECE Executive Committee to extend the mandate of the AETR Expert Group until the end of 2014.

V. Adoption of decisions

6. The Working Party adopted a list of decisions taken at this special session.