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Economic Commission for Europe

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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

Group of Experts on Improving Safety at Level Crossings

Fourth session

Geneva, 29-30 January 2015

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the Agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fourth session^{1,2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 29 January 2015

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Programme of Work:
 - (a) A review and analysis of the economic costs of level crossing accidents based on data provided by countries;

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp1.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (roadsafety@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² All delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (roadsafety@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext.75716 or 72401). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm.

- (b) An evaluation and analysis of the safety performance of types of level crossings in UNECE member States and in the selected non-UNECE member States of Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa;
 - (c) A summary of good practices including education;
 - (d) A survey of prevailing national legislation and/or legal arrangements at level crossings;
 - (e) A survey of technology and technological solutions to improve safety at level crossings;
 - (f) Identification of the key causes and possible solutions related to human factors contributing to unsafe conditions at level crossings;
 - (g) Enforcement;
 - (h) Development of a road/rail interface strategy with recommendations.
3. Other Business.
 4. Date and Place of Next Meeting.
 5. Adoption of Report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Group of Experts (GE.1) will be invited to adopt the session's agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.1/7

2. Programme of Work

(a) A review and analysis of the economic costs of level crossing accidents based on data provided by countries

At its third session, the Group of Experts agreed to invite the authors of the accident costs methodology developed by the World Bank to discuss the methodological development.

The Group of Experts will also consider Informal document No. 1 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Poland and the European Railway Agency (ERA). The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- A review of available methodologies for estimating rail/road accident costs to derive a method for the estimation of costs of level crossing accidents;
- A review of available studies that have produced estimates of economic costs of casualties and to make a recommendation on their use in the absence of nationally established estimates;
- The undertaking of a more detailed survey targeting relevant interested countries (and more specifically, GE.1 infrastructure managers) to get an overview of the typical costs incurred in level crossings accidents;

- A review of papers or case studies on economic costs received from GE.1 members; and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

(b) An evaluation and analysis of the safety performance of types of level crossings in UNECE member States and in the selected non-UNECE member States of Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 2 prepared by the subgroup comprised of France, Ireland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ERA, the International Union of Railways (UIC) and Community Safety Partnerships Ltd.,. The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- An analysis of the most suitable indicators of safety performance at level crossings taking account existing approaches and data available in UNECE countries, and proposal of the most appropriate benchmarking indicators;
- The collection of data from available sources such as ERA/Eurostat and UIC, in relation to most suitable identified indicators of safety performance, as well as to solicit data from GE.1 members which do not provide data to ERA (i.e. India Russian Federation, Turkey,); and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2

(c) A summary of good practices including education

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 3 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Finland and India. The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- An analysis of national case studies and examples of evaluated good practices provided by GE.1 members to this subgroup;
- Research on evaluated good practices, to potentially be compiled into examples to be included in good practices related to safety at level crossings in the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (RE.1); and
- A compilation of examples of good practices relating to items (a) to (g) provided by other GE.1 subgroups; and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 3

(d) A survey of prevailing national legislation and/or legal arrangements at level crossings

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 4 prepared by the subgroup comprised of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ERA and Instytut Kolejnictwa (Poland). The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- Exploring available information in studies and contacting GE.1 members for specific detailed information required by the subgroup;
- Ascertaining the details concerning the legal arrangements on accident costs reimbursement in countries in which GE.1 members have indicated that such arrangements exist;
- through the secretariat, contacting GE.2 with the view to coordinate complementary work in respect of the inventory of level crossings-related traffic signs under the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals presently being undertaken, and ascertaining information concerning the usage of such signs in Contracting Parties; and
- identifying whether there are aspects under this item that could be proposed for harmonization or other recommendation within UNECE member States, and if relevant, beyond; and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 4

(e) A survey of technology and technological solutions to improve safety at level crossings

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 5 prepared by the subgroup comprised of the Russian Federation and NICTA Victoria. The document analyses the information provided by UNECE member States in response to the questionnaire circulated by the secretariat on behalf of GE.1 in June 2014, and proposes next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

(f) Identification of the key causes and possible solutions related to human factors contributing to unsafe conditions at level crossings

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 6 prepared by the subgroup comprised of Austria, German Aerospace Center and Cognito Ltd. The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- An analysis of the accident reports concerning level crossing accidents in Italy, Belgium and other countries as may be provided by GE.1 members, and ERA level crossing accident reports;
- Finalization of the development of a level crossings toolbox; and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 6

(g) Enforcement

The Group of Experts will consider Informal document No. 7 prepared by the subgroup comprised of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The document presents the outcomes of the actions requested by the Group of Experts of this subgroup (below):

- The undertaking of a specific survey within GE1 for further enforcement related information;

- The inclusion of private crossings, regulatory enforcement, and variations in the nature and levels of sanctions in punitive and corrective measures, in this subgroup's further analysis; and
- Proposed next steps.

Documentation

Informal document No. 7

(h) Development of a road/rail interface strategy with recommendations

Facilitated by their discussions on items (a) to (g) above, the Group of Experts will consider starting work on this item, and identify next steps. The Group will also continue to discuss the presentation received by Ireland from the third session relating to its proposal of a level crossing safe system model comprised of 10Es and involving a process of continual improvement: expectations, economics, engineering, environment, ergonomics, enable, education, encourage, enforce, emergency preparedness.

3. Other Business

The Group of Experts may wish to discuss other issues of interest.

4. Date and Place of Next Meeting

The fourth session of the Group of Experts will be held on 15-16 June 2015 in Geneva.

5. Adoption of Report

The Group of Experts will adopt the report of its fourth session.
