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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Rail Transport
(Fifty-second session, 5-7 October 1998,
agenda item 16)

INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN VARIOUS RAILWAY FIELDS

Addendum 5

Transmitted by the Government of Belarus

Please note that the distribution of documentation for the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) is no longer "restricted". Accordingly, the secretariat has adopted a new numbering system whereby all working documents other than Reports and Agendas will be numbered as follows: TRANS/SC.2/year/serial number. Reports, Agendas, resolutions and major publications will retain their previous numbering system (i.e. TRANS/SC.2/189).

(a) Environmental questions related to railway operations

The environmental measures taken in the sphere of rail transport include primarily the \ certification of hazardous goods, the installation of the necessary equipment at treatment facilities and the procurement, to the extent that economic circumstances allow, of environmentally friendly vehicles.

(b) Safety in railway transport

Ensuring rail-transport safety through the implementation of a range of organizational, technical and economic measures is a matter of particular attention . The measures taken include principally: the operation of a system for identifying and eliminating breaches of safety rules; the use of modern diagnostic devices; development of sources for the financing of repairs; creation of the necessary engineering facilities for the servicing and repair of rolling stock; and acquisition of new rolling stock.

(c) Use of computers in rail transport operations, in particular in the management of rail goods traffic

Computers are widely used for train and freight scheduling and providing information on train and freight movements and as management-support tools. They are bought on the country's emerging information-technology market.

(d) Introduction of new transport technologies and application of modern techniques to railway operations, in particular regarding the interface between rail transport and other transport modes

In compliance with obligations under agreements with CIS States, Belarusian Railways is currently preparing for the introduction of combined-transport technology and the expansion of the carriage of containers by rail.
