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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
(Thirty-third session, 28 September - 1 October 1999)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION */

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 28 September 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda TRANS/WP.1/66

2. Amendments to and implementation of the
1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and on
Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European
Agreements supplementing them
 - (a) Questionnaire on the implementation
of the Vienna Conventions and
the 1971 European Agreements
supplementing them TRANS/WP.1/1999/18
TRANS/WP.1/1999/18/Add.1
TRANS/WP.1/65
TRANS/WP.1/1999/2

*/ New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Therefore, delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division) and to transmit the duly filled-in form at the latest two weeks before the session to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by E-mail (caroline.jeunet@unece.org). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, telephone the ECE secretariat (Int. 73242).

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| (b) | Documents transmitted by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) | TRANS/WP.1/1999/27
TRANS/WP.1/1999/4 and
Add.1-3 |
| (c) | International driving permit | TRANS/WP.1/1999/22
TRANS/WP.1/1999/23
TRANS/WP.1/1999/6 and Add.1 |
| (d) | Definition of mopeds and motorcycles | TRANS/WP.1/1999/16
TRANS/WP.1/1999/20 |
| 3. | Revision of the 1975 Agreement on Minimum Requirements for the Issue and Validity of Driving Permits (APC) | ECE/TRANS/13
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.107
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.120
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.121
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.124
TRANS/WP.1/1999/1 |
| 4. | Revision of the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) | TRANS/SC.1/294/Rev.5
TRANS/SC.1/295/Rev.3
TRANS/WP.1/1999/28 |
| (a) | Pedestrians | |
| (b) | Assistance to victims of road accidents | TRANS/WP.1/1999/3 |
| (c) | Safety in tunnels | TRANS/WP.1/1999/15 |
| (d) | Speed control humps | TRANS/WP.1/1999/19
TRANS/WP.1/1999/7
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.114 |
| (e) | Road works signing | TRANS/WP.1/1999/17
Informal document No.1 |
| 5. | Follow-up to the 1997 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment | ECE/RCTE/CONF./3/FINAL |
| 6. | Preparation of the Third Road Safety Week in the ECE Region | TRANS/WP.1/1998/10
TRANS/WP.1/1999/24 |

7. Collection and dissemination of information
 - (a) National road safety requirements
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/1 and Add.1-2
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/2 and Add.1-2/Corr.1
TRANS/SC.1/1997/5 and Add.1-7
 - (b) Exchange of experiences in the field of road safety
TRANS/WP.1/1999/13 and Add.1-2
 8. Application of informatics in road safety
TRANS/WP.1/1999/14
TRANS/WP.1/1999/26
 9. Consideration of possible approaches to the work on a United Nations Long-Term Strategy on Road Safety
TRANS/WP.1/1999/21
TRANS/WP.1/1999/5 and Add.1
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/3/Rev.1
 10. Collaboration with other ECE bodies and international organizations
TRANS/WP.1/1999/30
 11. Future work
 - (a) Consideration of the issues dealt with by the ECMT Group on Road Traffic, Signs and Signals, transmitted to ECE for follow-up
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/13
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.140 and Add. 1-7
 - (b) Copyright of signs and signals
TRANS/WP.1/1999/25
 - (c) Draft Programme of Work for 2000-2004
TRANS/WP.1/1999/29
 12. Assistance to countries in transition
TRANS/WP.1/1999/12
 13. Other business
 14. Election of officers
 15. Adoption of the report
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EXPLANATORY NOTES **/

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM

(a) Questionnaire on the implementation of the Vienna Conventions and the 1971 European Agreements supplementing them

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party endorsed the questionnaire as proposed by the small group in TRANS/WP.1/1999/2 with slight revisions. The questionnaire was issued by the secretariat as TRANS/WP.1/65 and disseminated to member countries with the request that replies should be sent back to the secretariat by 20 June 1999.

Responses to the questionnaire are contained in document TRANS/WP.1/1999/18 and Add.1. Countries which have not yet replied are requested to do so at their earliest convenience.

(b) Documents transmitted by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT)

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party decided to base its discussion of this item on two documents: 1. a consolidated document prepared by the secretariat containing the text of draft amendments to the Convention on Road Traffic (CRT) and to the Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2), concerning cyclists and moped riders, as originally proposed by ECMT and, subsequently, agreed by the Working Party on a preliminary basis in the course of its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions (TRANS/WP.1/1999/4); and 2. a document prepared by the Government of Norway which provided separate definitions for "cycle lane" and "cycle track".

The Working Party considered each of the proposals made in these two documents in detail and gave its final endorsement to those which it had already discussed and provisionally agreed at previous sessions. The secretariat has consolidated the Working Party's decisions in TRANS/WP.1/1999/27. The Working Party may wish to consider the proposals in that document to which it has not yet given its final endorsement and decide whether it is ready to communicate the package of amendment proposals to the Secretary-General for final amendment procedures.

(c) International driving permits

At the thirty-second session of the Working Party, the small group established to examine the issue of international driving permits (Czech Republic, Israel and AIT/FIA) reported that it did not see the justification for continuing the exercise of harmonizing the different formats of IDPs found in the 1949 and 1968 Road Traffic Conventions as had been suggested in a working paper prepared by the small

**/ For reasons of economy, delegates are kindly requested to bring to the meeting copies of the documents mentioned in this agenda received by mail prior to the meeting. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room.

group for the thirty-first session (TRANS/WP.1/1998/9). It considered that the use of IDPs would be gradually phased out and that it was of greater importance to encourage the universal recognition of DDPs.

The Working Party requested the small group to prepare a working document presenting the findings of the group and making practical proposals on how the Working Party could work to increase the recognition of DDPs with a timetable for its work in this regard.

The document prepared by the small group is presented in TRANS/WP.1/1999/22. Additional information on IDP fraud is presented in a report by the AIT & FIA (TRANS/WP.1/1999/23).

The Working Party will also have before it TRANS/WP.1/1999/6/Add.1 (in English only) containing contact information for national associations authorised to issue IDPs transmitted to the secretariat since the beginning of March 1999. Countries which have not yet submitted the addresses of associations authorised to issue IDPs are requested to do so.

(d) Definition of mopeds and motorcycles

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party decided that before considering the desirability of embarking on the harmonization of definitions of mopeds and motorcycles, it would be useful to consider the work already done on this issue by the ECMT which was contained in a report on vulnerable road users to be issued for the ECMT Conference of Ministers in May 1999 in Warsaw.

The relevant section of that report is made available to the Working Party in TRANS/WP.1/1999/16.

Delegates were also requested to inform the secretariat about the number of quadricycles registered in their countries so that the Working Party could decide whether a definition of a quadricycle should be introduced into the Convention on Road Traffic. Any such information received by the secretariat before the document deadline has been issued in TRANS/WP.1/1999/20.

3. REVISION OF THE 1975 AGREEMENT ON MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE AND VALIDITY OF DRIVING PERMITS (APC)

The Working Party, at its thirty-second session, considered the discussion paper on the above item prepared by the small group of experts (Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, Ukraine and European Commission) and noted the lack of interest in revising the APC. The Working Party requested the secretariat to consider organising a meeting of the six Contracting Parties to the APC (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Luxembourg, Morocco and Yugoslavia) with the view to identifying the problems which revising the APC would raise.

The Working Party considered that the preparation of a new agreement based on the EU Directive might be an alternative to the revision of the APC and requested the small group to provide a discussion paper on this issue for the next session of WP.1.

The proposal of the small group will be issued when it is received.

4. REVISION OF THE CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC (R.E.1) AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS (R.E.2)

Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (R.E.1)

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party approved with small modifications proposals for the improvement of the English text of R.E.1 contained in a secretariat document (TRANS/WP.1/1998/1), proposals by the Government of Norway (TRANS/WP.1/1999/8), proposals regarding recommendation 1.4 and 3.6 made by the Russian Federation (TRANS/WP.1/1999/8/Add.1) and a proposal by the delegations of Israel and Denmark summarizing the provisions of the Guidelines on speed control humps and proposing that they be placed in Chapter 5 "Road Installations" of the new structure of R.E.1 (TRANS/WP.1/1999/7).

The Working Party will have before it TRANS/WP.1/1999/28 containing corrections to R.E.1 transmitted by the delegate of Switzerland.

(a) Pedestrians

Concerning a new section 6 of R.E.1 on pedestrians, the Working Party noted that it had not received a proposal from the International Federation of Pedestrians (IFP) and therefore established a small group made up of the delegates of Hungary, Netherlands and FEVR under the chairmanship of the Netherlands to draft a text.

The proposal of the small group will be issued when it is received.

(b) Assistance to victims of road accidents

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party considered a document by the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR) on assistance to victims of road accidents (TRANS/WP.1/1999/3).

The Working Party decided to have an in-depth discussion of the document at its thirty-third session and invited Governments to submit comments on it in writing. Any comments will be issued by the secretariat as soon as they are received.

The Working Party also requested FEVR to make a proposal as to where in R.E.1 the provisions on assistance to victims of road accidents should be included.

(c) Safety in tunnels

Also at its thirty-second session, in light of the recent accident in the Mont Blanc Tunnel, the Working Party invited Governments to transmit relevant sections of their national legislation to the secretariat so that the Working Party could discuss the issue of safety in tunnels at its next session and decide whether there was a need to add provisions to any of its legal instruments.

Proposals received from Hungary and the Russian Federation are contained in TRANS/WP.1/1999/15. Any other material received from Governments will be issued as documents by the secretariat.

Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2)

Referring to the consolidated text of R.E.2, the Working Party approved with small modifications proposals by the Government of Norway (TRANS/WP.1/1999/8) and the Government of the Russian Federation (TRANS/WP.1/1999/8/Add.1).

(d) Speed control humps

With regard to the provisions on speed control humps, the Working Party requested the delegates of Denmark, Israel and the Russian Federation to provide a proposal regarding signing for speed humps to be included in R.E.2.

That proposal is contained in TRANS/WP.1/1999/19.

(e) Road works signing

The Working Party decided to continue its consideration of this issue using as a basis a draft recommendation for road works signing and safety adopted by the Group of Experts on Road Traffic Safety (GE.20) at its fifty-second session in October 1986 (TRANS/SC.1/GE.20/55, Annex 2). That draft recommendation has been reproduced in TRANS/WP.1/1999/17. Relevant provisions from the TEM and ARROWS projects have also been reproduced in Informal document No.1.

The twenty-third session of the Working Party (10-13 October 1994) recommended that the revision should include both updating of the existing provisions and supplementing them with provisions concerning lay-out of signs in various traffic situations associated with road works, particularly on motorways (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/46).

5. FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1997 REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

At the thirty-second session of the Working Party, Governments were invited to review again the Programme of Joint Action (ECE/RTCE/CONF./3/FINAL) and inform the secretariat of their views regarding activities to which WP.1 might be able to contribute and regarding the modalities for making such a contribution (TRANS/WP.1/64, paras. 42-44).

Any submissions by Governments will be circulated as soon as they are made known to the secretariat.

6. PREPARATION OF THE THIRD ROAD SAFETY WEEK IN THE ECE REGION

The Working Party will be informed orally of the progress made in implementation of the Programme of the Third Road Safety Week (RSW) (TRANS/WP.1/1998/10), particularly regarding the web site and the issuance of the brochure. The Working Party will also have before it the report on an informal meeting between the secretariat and two members of the small group on the Third Road Safety Week held on 25 June 1999.

Governments are invited to transmit to the secretariat information on national activities to be held in the framework of the Third Road Safety Week. Such information will be disseminated by the secretariat to all ECE member Governments.

7. COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

(a) National road safety requirements

The latest information on national road traffic safety requirements appears in TRANS/SC.1/1997/5 and Add.1-7, on national legal instruments in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/1 and Add.1 -2 and on national methods of training and follow-up for categories A and B driving licences in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/2 and Add.1 and Add.2/Corr.1

Since the thirty-second session of WP.1, information has been received from Spain on new blood alcohol limits (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/5/Add.6) and from Sweden on new national requirements concerning road traffic safety (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/5/Add.7) and on national legal instruments on road safety (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/1/Add.2). Corrected information regarding methods of training and follow-up for categories A and B driving licences has been received from Luxembourg (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/2/Add.2/Corr.1).

Any additional information from Governments will be circulated as soon as it reaches the secretariat.

(b) Exchange of experiences in the field of road safety

Information has been received from the Czech Republic (on a newly adopted Programme of Action to Increase Road Traffic Safety which aims to reduce fatalities of road accidents by 5 per cent annually between 1999 and 2001) (TRANS/WP.1/1999/13), from France (TRANS/WP.1/1999/13/Add.1) and from the Russian Federation (TRANS/WP.1/1999/13/Add.2). Any other information submitted by Governments will be circulated as soon as it is received.

8. APPLICATION OF INFORMATICS IN ROAD SAFETY

At the thirty-second session of the Working Party, the delegate of the Netherlands offered to transmit to the Working Party a short paper on experiments being carried out in the Netherlands on Intelligent Speed Adaptation. That paper is contained in TRANS/WP.1/1999/14. The European Transport Safety Council has also transmitted a report on the subject of informatics in road safety, the Executive Summary of which is reproduced in TRANS/WP.1/1999/26.

9. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO THE WORK ON A UNITED NATIONS LONG-TERM STRATEGY ON ROAD SAFETY

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party took note of the responses to a letter sent to international governmental and non-governmental organizations explaining the purpose of the Long-Term Strategy and inviting them to explore ways of possible cooperation with WP.1 on road safety issues (TRANS/WP.1/1999/5). The Working Party requested the secretariat to recontact the organizations listed in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/3/Rev.1 which had not yet responded to the secretariat's letter, inviting them to participate in the next WP.1 session and to submit written information on possible cooperation.

Written information from the organizations which responded to the reminder is contained in TRANS/WP.1/1999/5/Add.1.

The Working Party will also have before it latest information received from the secretariat of the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP), a new initiative by the World Bank, including a proposal to have the first decade of the next century declared the United Nations International Decade for Road Safety (TRANS/WP.1/1999/21). The Working Party may wish to decide how it could contribute to GRSP, perhaps through participation on GRSP's Steering Committee.

10. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ECE BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Representatives of international organizations are invited to provide information regarding the activities of their organizations that might be of interest to the Working Party.

A representative of the Cochrane Injuries Group will make a presentation to the Working Party under this agenda item. Information on the work of the Cochrane Injuries Group, particularly relating to a review of safety education for pedestrians, is made available in TRANS/WP.1/1999/30.

11. FUTURE WORK

(a) Consideration of the issues dealt with by the ECMT Group on Road Traffic, Signs and Signals, transmitted to ECE for follow-up

The Working Party, at its thirtieth session, considered the findings of the small group set up to examine the documents transmitted by ECMT (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/13), and decided to take up the issue of the definition of mopeds and motorcycles and address in the future the questions of behaviour of motorists at pedestrian crossings and the siting of traffic signs (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/60, paras. 36 and 37).

As agreed at the thirty-first session of WP.1 (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 53), the question of definition of mopeds and motorcycles has been transferred to item 2 (d) of this provisional agenda. The Working Party may wish to decide how to proceed with the consideration in future of questions concerning (i) behaviour of motorists at pedestrian crossings and (ii) siting of traffic signs (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.140 and Adds.3 and 4). It may also wish to consider taking up new issues as identified in the responses to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Vienna Conventions (TRANS/WP.1/1999/18 and Add.1).

(b) Copyright of signs and signals

At the thirty-first session of the Working Party, the delegate of Denmark raised the question of the copyright of road signs in UN instruments and offered to submit written information in this regard (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 58).

The information from the delegation of Denmark is contained in TRANS/WP.1/1999/25.

(c) Draft Programme of Work for 2000-2004

The Working Party may wish to review its draft Programme of Work for 2000-2004 and decide whether the objectives and priorities defined need any revision (TRANS/WP.1/1999/29).

12. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION

The Working Party has received a request from the Government of Tajikistan for assistance on road safety issues (TRANS/WP.1/1999/12). The Working Party may wish to consider this request and decide how it could respond to the request from Tajikistan.

Any other information received from Governments will be circulated as soon as it reaches the secretariat.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Party may wish to discuss any other business under this agenda item.

The Working Party is informed that its thirty-fourth session is scheduled to be held from 4-7 April 2000. The deadline for the submission of documentation for the thirty-fourth session is 17 December 1999.

14. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with a decision taken at its thirty-first session, the Working Party decided to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for each coming year at the end of its autumn session (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 61).

15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

As agreed by the Working Party at its thirtieth session, Part A of the report concerning decisions taken by the Working Party at its thirty-third session under agenda items relating to legislative work will be adopted on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. Part B of the report, reflecting in a concise form the discussion held on other agenda items, will be prepared by the secretariat after the session in consultation with the Chairman.



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE - GENEVA

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