
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Working Group on Dry Ports

3rd meeting

Bangkok, 13 and 14 November 2019

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the 3rd meeting of the Working Group on Dry Ports (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Status of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports.
4. Policies and issues related to the operationalization of dry ports of international importance.
5. Development of intermodal transport corridors and multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific.
6. Consideration of proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports.
7. Other matters.
8. Adoption of the report of the Working Group on its 3rd meeting.

II. Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Working Group will elect a chair and two vice-chairs, who shall hold office until their successors are elected.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/L.1)

Annotation

In accordance with the rules of procedure of ESCAP, the Working Group will be invited by the Chair to consider and adopt the provisional agenda, as contained in part I of document ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/L.1, subject to such changes as may be necessary.¹

3. Status of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports

Documentation

Status of the implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/1)

Annotation

At its 2nd meeting, the Working Group considered and adopted amendments to annex I to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports (see E/ESCAP/DP/WG(2)/2). At its 3rd meeting, the Working Group will be informed about depositary notifications issued and the entry into force of amendments to annex I since its previous meeting and about changes in the number of parties, if any.

Member States that have not yet become parties to the Agreement may also wish to update the Working Group on their progress towards ratifying, accepting, acceding to or approving the Agreement.

4. Policies and issues related to the operationalization of dry ports of international importance

Documentation

Policies and issues related to the operationalization of dry ports of international importance (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/2)

Annotation

The Working Group will be informed of the decisions of legislative bodies relevant to the development of dry ports and the work of the secretariat with member States in that respect.

In particular, the Working Group will be informed about the implementation of the Regional Framework for the Planning, Design, Development and Operation of Dry Ports of International Importance, which it welcomed at its 2nd meeting, and of the related Commission resolution 74/2 of 16 May 2018 on the promotion of the Regional Framework.

Member States may also wish to update the Working Group on ongoing or planned projects to develop dry ports of international importance in their respective territories and highlight specific challenges. Member States may wish to circulate informational material on their progress and plans with regard to the development of dry ports of international importance within their territories. The Working Group may wish to consider policies and approaches for dry port development and provide guidance to the secretariat on how it can work with development partners to best assist member States in developing dry ports.

¹ The tentative programme, list of participants and documents of the meeting will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/third-meeting-working-group-dry-ports.

5. Development of intermodal transport corridors and multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Development of intermodal transport corridors and multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/3)

Harmonization of legal frameworks for multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/INF/1)

Annotation

The Working Group will be informed about the establishment, development and operation of intermodal transport corridors in the Asia-Pacific region and of the role of dry ports of international importance in increasing the efficiency of such transport corridors. Member States may also wish to update the Working Group on existing practices and plans to integrate dry ports located in their respective territories into international intermodal transport corridors.

In addition, the Working Group will be informed of the secretariat's ongoing and planned activities related to the facilitation of multimodal transport operations, including the introduction of simplified procedures, streamlined workflows and favourable legal frameworks for multimodal transport. The Working Group may wish to consider the possibility of developing a harmonized legal framework for multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific.

6. Consideration of proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports

Documentation

Proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/4).

Annotation

On 10 June 2019, a note verbale was sent to the parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports, inviting them to submit to the secretariat proposals for amending the Agreement. In accordance with article 7, paragraph 3, article 8, paragraph 3 and article 9, paragraph 3 of the Agreement, the secretariat circulated the proposals to be considered at the 3rd meeting of the Working Group 45 days before the opening of the meeting. The Working Group may wish to consider the amendment proposals as contained in document ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/4.

7. Other matters

The Working Group may wish to consider other matters brought to its attention.

8. Adoption of the report of the Working Group on its 3rd meeting

Documentation

Draft report (ESCAP/DP/WG/2019/L.2)

Annotation

The Working Group will consider and adopt the report on its 3rd meeting.