UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Working Group on the Trans-Asian Railway Network

5th meeting
Busan, Republic of Korea, 13-14 June 2017

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the 5th meeting of the Working Group on the Trans-Asian Railway Network (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I.   Provisional agenda

1.   Opening of the meeting.

2.   Election of officers.

3.   Adoption of the agenda.

4.   Status of implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network.

5.   Consideration of proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network.

6.   Policies and issues relating to the development of the Trans-Asian Railway network.

7.   Building the missing links in the Trans-Asian Railway network.

8.   Perspectives and challenges in operationalizing the Trans-Asian Railway network.

9.   Other matters.

10.   Adoption of the report.

II.   Annotations

1.   Opening of the meeting

The tentative programme for the opening of the meeting will be circulated in due course.

2.   Election of officers

The Working Group will elect a chair, vice-chair(s) and a rapporteur.

3. **Adoption of the agenda**

    Documentation

    Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/L.1)

    Annotation

    The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the meeting, subject to such changes as may be deemed necessary.

4. **Status of implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network**

    Documentation

    Status of implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/1)

    Annotation

    The Working Group will be informed of the current status of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network with regard to the number of signatories and parties to the Agreement and the obligations of the parties. Member States may wish to update the Working Group on the progress made towards ratification, acceptance, accession to or approval of the Agreement. Member States may also wish to update the Working Group on ongoing or planned projects to develop or upgrade the Trans-Asian Railway network in their respective territories.

5. **Consideration of proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network**

    Documentation

    Proposals for amending the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/2)

    Annotation

    Parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network have been invited to submit their proposals for amending the Agreement. The Working Group will consider the proposals received from member States in accordance with articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Agreement.

6. **Policies and issues relating to the development of the Trans-Asian Railway network**

    Documentation

    Policies and issues relating to the development of the Trans-Asian Railway network (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/3)

    Annotation

    The Working Group will be informed of the decisions of legislative bodies relevant to the Trans-Asian Railway network and the work of the secretariat with member States in respect of the Trans-Asian Railway network. Member States are invited to circulate information materials on the progress on and plans for developing Trans-Asian Railway routes within their territory. The Working Group may share and consider policies and

approaches for (1) promoting investment in the Trans-Asian Railway network; (2) using the Trans-Asian Railway network as a driver of seamless connectivity in the region; (3) launching international intermodal services along the routes of the Trans-Asian Railway network; (4) integrating the Trans-Asian Railway network with maritime ports and dry ports; and (5) keeping the secretariat informed of priority development projects.

7. **Building the missing links in the Trans-Asian Railway network**

Documentation

Building the missing links in the Trans-Asian Railway network (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/4)

Annotation

The routes of the Trans-Asian Railway network already offer conduits for the movement of international trade. However, the operational capability of the network varies widely between subregions. In particular, a number of missing links still prevent the full realization of the network's potential to provide a solid basis for the development of international intermodal corridors reaching all corners of the region. The Working Group will receive from member States an update on the status of Trans-Asian Railway missing links in their respective countries and on the ongoing as well as planned actions being implemented or envisaged to construct them.

8. **Perspectives and challenges in operationalizing the Trans-Asian Railway network**

Documentation

Perspectives and challenges in operationalizing the Trans-Asian Railway network (E/ESCAP/TARN/WG(5)/5)

Annotation

The Working Group will be informed about the ongoing implementation of Commission resolution 71/7 on the adoption of the Regional Cooperation Framework for the Facilitation of International Railway Transport. In the resolution, the Commission expressed its support for the operationalization of the Trans-Asian Railway network by addressing key issues and promoting cooperation among member States for the facilitation of international railway transport. Member States may share current initiatives and proposed measures to address operational issues along the Trans-Asian Railway network, including, but not limited to, those identified in the Regional Cooperation Framework for the Facilitation of International Railway Transport.

9. **Other matters**

The Working Group may raise any matter not covered under the items mentioned above.

10. **Adoption of the report**

The Working Group will adopt the conclusions and recommendations emanating from its 5th meeting.

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