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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**
**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
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DEVELOPMENT OF A EUROPEAN TRANSPORT DATABASE SYSTEM

Status Report of the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) and the Trans-European
Railway (TER) Databanks

Note by the secretariat

## 1.    BACKGROUND

At its twelfth session, the Working Party learned about the contents of the TEM and TER databases, as well as other data collection efforts carried out by the UN/ECE.

With a view to identify data sources that could facilitate a multimodal analysis of the European Transport System in the future, the Working Party asked the secretariat to report on the progress made in the development of these transport database systems (TRANS/WP.5/26, paras. 35 and 36). Following this request, the secretariat has produced this note.

## 2.    TEM AND TER DATABASES

The TEM and TER projects have developed databases that primarily intend to serve as a means for the follow-up of the implementation of the project. Accordingly, the network is split into a large number of links, and detailed information on traffic, infrastructure parameters and on the degree of progress of the construction projects is gathered. Both databases are supported by Geographic Information Systems.

The degree of data availability is different for TEM and TER. Whether the TEM database is fully operational, the TER database has been developed only to what is called "section I" (in

85%). Section I includes data on traffic, infrastructure, and rolling stock. Section II should include data on the progress of the construction projects.

## 3.    AGC AND AGR DATABASES

The relevant ITC subsidiary bodies have being collecting information in recent years on the AGC, AGR and AGTC networks. This information corresponds to the different priorities defined by these Working Parties:

-    The "Road Census", first developed in 1995, includes information on traffic and infrastructure parameters in the AGR network. It is developed every five years. The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) and the Working Party on Statistics (WP.6) are currently involved in the preparation of the year 2000 census.

-    The so-called *yellow book*, first developed in 1992 contains information on the infrastructure parameters contained in AGC and the combined transport operational parameters contained in the AGTC. 1997 data has been recently published.

-    The Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) has been also collecting traffic data on the AGC network every 5 years, beginning in 1990.

The data collected is not covering the whole region, as many countries have not been providing information. It is intended to improve in the future data collection for the rail sector, in order to put it in line with road data. WP.6 and SC.2 have begun to co-operate on this. Perhaps because rail data can be obtained from the railways when needed, countries have not found it necessary to push international co-operation in this field. However, the situation should change in the future, as railway reform progresses.

## 4.    CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

It seems that the data currently available makes it difficult to get a clear picture about the status of the E-networks, particularly in the rail sector: information is lacking from many countries and the information collected may be too general.

*Any further initiative from the Working Party in this area should probably be linked to its intention to analyse the coherence of the various European modal networks (see). Accordingly, the Ad hoc group proposed in document TRANS/WP.5/2000/12 should probably include an assessment of future data needs in order to make recommendations to the relevant working parties to improve data collection in the future.*

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