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QUESTIONS RELATED TO TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Work of the transport study and training centres
in the Mediterranean region

Information submitted by the United Nations Transport
Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO)

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Please note that the distribution of documents for the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) is no longer "restricted". Accordingly, the secretariat has adopted a new numbering system whereby all working documents will be numbered as follows: TRANS/year/serial number. Reports, provisional agendas, resolutions and major publications will continue to follow the previous numbering system: ECE/TRANS/serial number.

Update of the

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRANSPORT
STUDY CENTRE FOR THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (CETMO)

Period 2001-2002

I. INTRODUCTION

The Programme of Work of CETMO for the period 2001-2002 is a revision of the previous version and is adapted to, and coordinated with, the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2000-2004. It contains the main topics adopted by the fifth meeting of national coordinators in November 1999.

In particular, it takes into account the resolutions and decisions of various United Nations bodies concerning the coordination of the Centre's Programme with that of the Committee and their complementary nature and the granting to CETMO of United Nations Centre status; these are mainly to be found in WP.5 documents and in ECE/TRANS/72 (forty-ninth session of the Inland Transport Committee), ECE/TRANS/74 (fiftieth session of the Inland Transport Committee), E/1988/36-E/ECE/1170 (forty-third session of ECE) and decision 169/88 of the Economic and Social Council.

The Programme of Work covers the period January 2001 to December 2002. It is more detailed for the first year and, as it is progressive, it can be rapidly updated. It comprises four subprogrammes and has one annex.

Another document (CETMO/TRANS/R.46, December 2000) sets out in detail CETMO's activities in 2000.

II. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE PERIOD 2001-2002

SUBPROGRAMME 1: Functional

1.1 Organizational activities

Brief description: Mention should be made of the following organizational activities of the Centre:

The definition and negotiation of the terms of the United Nations status of the Centre;

Meetings with national coordinators: The fifth meeting of national coordinators of CETMO took place on 30 November 1999. CETMO's work was reviewed during the meeting and the main lines of the programme of work established. These comprise: the updating and improvement of the CETMO database and the tools for its use and dissemination; the analysis

and forecasting of transport flows in order to identify medium and long-term priorities in the Western Mediterranean; support for the work of GTMO and the follow-up of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in transport; and the facilitation of transport in the region. Regular contacts with the national coordinators are scheduled for the period 2001-2002.

1.2 Development of transport projects for the Western Mediterranean

Brief description: The work of the Centre may result in the preparation of projects dealing with a particular question (infrastructure, data transmission, facilitation of documents, etc.) involving various countries in the activity area. The Centre assists in developing these projects and acts as coordinator and distributor, with a view to ensuring their full integration into the programmes of work on the Mediterranean as a whole. The countries concerned may also give the Centre responsibility for the full or partial implementation of these projects. The Centre uses the results obtained in the context of these projects to formulate proposals for use by other countries in the region, by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic Commission for Africa and by the European Union.

1.3 CETMO's participation in the work of WP.5 and the UN/ECE Inland Transport Committee

Brief description: CETMO participates in and collaborates with the work of the WP.5 Working Party and with the Inland Transport Committee in the context of its regular relations with UN/ECE. Mention should be made of the importance of this collaboration in view of the Mediterranean activities of the Inland Transport Committee's programme. CETMO submits an annual report to the Committee so that all ECE countries can benefit from the activities carried out by the Centre, including the organization of workshops. New efforts are being made to ensure that the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee/WP.5 gives priority to questions involving the Mediterranean.

1.4 Formulation of proposals for the Transport Committees of ECE and the Economic Commission for Africa

Brief description: The Centre's activity takes the form of proposals to the Transport Committees of the regions concerned. These proposals may comprise: a request for the approval of international measures to facilitate transport in the region covered by the Centre; a request to study problems of transport originating in countries outside the Centre's normal area of activity; a request to include certain questions in the programmes of work of the Committees, etc.

1.5 Cooperation with other international bodies and institutions in the Western Mediterranean

Brief description: CETMO cooperates on a continuing basis with the Ministries of Transport of the countries of the region, with the European Commission and with various national and international bodies also involved with the Mediterranean: SNED (Morocco), SECEG (Spain), INRETS (France), CNET (Algeria), chambers of commerce, etc.

1.6 Documentation service

Brief description: CETMO continues to improve the computerization of the service and the distribution of the studies it publishes and of the CETMO bulletin, a quarterly information publication (French and Spanish editions) with a section, Dossier CETMO, containing information on the main findings of the various CETMO studies.

In addition to telematics links to various databases, the service has an e-mail address (e-mail: cetmo@retemail.es) and a Web site (<http://www.cetmo.org>). The catalogue of the document collection may be consulted from the Centre's Web site.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: Transport prospects

2.1 Analytical studies of Mediterranean transport flows

Brief description: CETMO will continue with the analysis of international flows of goods and passengers in the Western Mediterranean. It will simultaneously make a closer study and a more accurate estimate of regionalized flows of goods. Output expected: Updating of the methodology for estimating regionalized flows of goods used by the CETMO-FLUX sub-base; biennial report on the development of international flows in the Western Mediterranean; preparation for updating the CETMO 1989/1990 report on the analysis of France/Iberian Peninsula/Maghreb traffic flows.

2.2 Definition of socio-economic and transport base scenarios

Brief description: CETMO will continue to promote thinking on the definition of socio-economic and transport base scenarios in the Western Mediterranean, taking account of work already done in the INFRAMED study. Output expected: Participation of experts from the Maghreb countries and CETMO in the THINK-UP thematic network on understanding mobility forecasts of the European Union's Fifth RTD Framework Programme; communication of experiences concerning traffic forecasts and planning of port and airport infrastructures in the Western Mediterranean; report on base scenarios for international transport in the Western Mediterranean.

2.3 Meetings of Ministers of Transport of the Western Mediterranean - GTMO Group

Brief description: The lines of work for the Western Mediterranean Transport Group (GTMO) were laid down following the Meetings of Ministers of Transport of the Western Mediterranean in Paris, Rabat (1995) and Madrid (1997). GTMO's programme of work is organized along of the following four main lines:

- definition of a multimodal transport network in the Western Mediterranean;
- promotion of the simplification of trade in the region;

- promotion of the participation of the Maghreb countries in Community research and development programmes; and
- financing of transport projects through MEDA and the search for profitable means of financing.

CETMO, which acts as secretariat, supports the Group's efforts.

Output expected: Convening of the fourth Meeting of Ministers in 2001; participation in the ad hoc group on infrastructures, established at the second meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Forum; participation of experts from the Maghreb countries and CETMO in the TRANS-TALK thematic network on methodologies for policy and project evaluation of the European Union's Fifth RTD Framework Programme.

2.4 Follow-up of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in transport

Brief description: As the international study centre for the region, CETMO is following ongoing events and events in preparation involving transport services in the Western Mediterranean.

In addition to the European Union-Maghreb projects, CETMO is paying close attention to the follow-up to the Barcelona Conference (Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and MEDA programme) and to the Third Pan-European Transport Conference in Helsinki (Mediterranean PeTrA).

CETMO is also following the strategy established by the European Commission at the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Forum which should permit an approach in greater depth to Mediterranean transport problems. The second meeting of the Forum was held in Brussels on 8 and 9 November and provided an occasion for supporting the submission of a regional project on the facilitation of transport in the Mediterranean ("Euro-Mediterranean Transport Policy and Training Project") to the MEDA programme, and the constitution of a number of groups of experts on infrastructures, maritime transport and research in the Mediterranean. The European Commission, however, has refused to give the priority requested by the Western Mediterranean countries to issues relating to the Mediterranean PeTrA or to the outline for the development of infrastructures in the Mediterranean. Output expected: Follow-up report.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: Transport operations and facilitation

3.1 Facilitation and harmonization of Customs and trade procedures

Brief description: The purpose of this item is to make progress on the subjects included in the joint reflection on the development of trade and transport in the region. They include facilitation, simplification and harmonization. The regional "Euro-Mediterranean Transport

Policy and Training Project” to be launched by the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Forum will enable progress to be made in specific areas. Output expected: Organization of a seminar in 2001 to consider how far the international agreements on transport facilitation have been implemented in the Western Mediterranean countries: follow-up of the “Euro-Mediterranean Transport Policy and Training Project”.

3.2 Dissemination of information technologies applied to transport

Brief description: CETMO will continue its general activities to disseminate the use of communication and information technologies applied to transport.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: International transport statistics and information

4.1 Harmonization of statistics

Brief description: CETMO will continue the following activities to ensure the quality of the statistics issued by the Centre:

- Inventory of existing sources: identification of centres producing information and documentation on goods and passenger transport in the Western Mediterranean;
- Analysis of selected sources: critical examination of statistics produced, comparative analysis, description of features, homogeneity, compatibility, etc., analysis of scatter and proposals for eliminating differences in connection with the establishment of a data bank;
- Collection of data for the updating of the CETMO database.

Output expected: These activities are ongoing with the collaboration of the national coordinators and benefit from CETMO participation in the MEDTRANS project on the harmonization of transport statistics in the Mediterranean, as part of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

4.2 CETMO database

Brief description: CETMO manages a database on flows of goods and passengers, infrastructures and transport regulation in the Western Mediterranean. The most recent update established 1997 as the reference year for the sub-base on flows (CETMO-FLUX), 1998 for infrastructures (CETMO-INFRA) and 1999 for regulation (CETMO-LEX). In addition, CETMO established a new sub-base with a selection of socio-economic data (CETMO-ASE) in 2000.

Output expected: CETMO will continue the biennial updating of its sub-bases CETMO-FLUX and CETMO-INFRA and the annual updating of CETMO-LEX. An effort is expected to be made in the course of 2001-2002 to improve and develop the information contained in the database along with its means of dissemination.

4.3 Circulation of statistics

Brief description: The national coordinators are the means of disseminating the CETMO database.

Output expected: A selection of the statistics available in CETMO will be made accessible to the public on its Web site.

As always, all of CETMO's work is available to the Inland Transport Committee and its working parties.

ANNEX

LINKING THE CETMO 1997 PROGRAMME OF WORK TO THE PROGRAMME OF WORK (2000-2004) OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF CETMO		PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
2.	TRANSPORT PROSPECTS	Activity 02.1
	2.1 Analysis of Mediterranean transport flows	Activity 02.2
		Activity 02.5
	2.2 Definition of socio-economic and transport base scenarios	
	2.3 Meetings of Ministers of Transport of the Western Mediterranean - GTMO	
	2.4 Follow-up of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in transport	
3.	TRANSPORT OPERATIONS AND FACILITATION	Activity 02.2.2
		Activity 02.5.2
	3.1 Facilitation and harmonization of Customs and trade procedures	Activity 02.7
		Activity 02.9
		Activity 02.10
	3.2 Promotion of information technologies applied to transport	Activity 02.11
4.	STATISTICS AND INFORMATION ON TRANSPORT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES	Activity 02.12
	4.1 Harmonization of statistics	
	4.2 CETMO database	
	4.3 Circulation of statistics	