



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/2002/1
14 December 2001

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
(Sixty-fourth session, 18-21 February 2002)

**NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND SUGGESTED TIMETABLE
FOR THE COMMITTEE'S SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION**

Note by the secretariat

Monday, 18 February 2002 starting at 3 p.m.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA ECE/TRANS/138

I. Questions relating to the work of the Committee in general¹

2. RESULTS OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU MEETINGS TRANS/2002/6

The Committee will have before it document TRANS/2002/6 containing the results of the Bureau meetings held in 2001 after the last session of the Committee.

¹ The documents of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies may be consulted on the following website of the ECE Transport Division : www.unece.org/trans.

² Subsequent to a decision by its Bureau, the Committee may wish to discuss the agenda items in accordance with the following three categories: (i) items which may be taken note of; (ii) items which may be considered; and (iii) items which may be decided upon/endorsed/approved. In line with the above categories, the Committee may focus its discussion on categories (ii) and (iii).

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND OTHER
UNITED NATIONS BODIES**

**TRANS/2002/3
TRANS/2002/5**

The Committee will have before it a note prepared by the secretariat containing information on the discussions and decisions of the Commission (fifty-sixth session, 8-11 May 2001) which have a bearing on the work of the Inland Transport Committee. The Commission's Annual Report (E/2001/37-E/ECE/1387) contains the full account of discussions.

The Committee may wish to consider, in particular, questions on intersectoral cooperation related to environment, energy, trade and transport; the Millennium Declaration: Challenges for Europe; ECE strategic directions; and matters arising from the work of the subsidiary bodies requiring decision by, or meriting the attention of, the Commission as reflected in document TRANS/2002/3. The Committee may take these issues duly into account when dealing with the relevant agenda items and **indicate** appropriate follow-up.

The Committee may also wish to **consider** the question of gender mainstreaming on the basis of a document (TRANS/2002/5) prepared by the secretariat, which aims at providing an overview of the international mandate, the current situation in the work of the ITC subsidiary bodies, as well as the recent policy developments at ECE level, especially those concerning the Transport Division.

**4. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER ECE PRINCIPAL
SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF
INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE**

Informal document

The Committee will have before it an informal note prepared by the secretariat on the activities related to transport, being carried out within other ECE principal subsidiary bodies and international organizations. The secretariat will report orally on the relevant activities of other PSBs. The Committee may wish to take note of the above contributions and **provide guidance** on the follow-up to be given to the issues raised therein, in particular as regards the Blue Corridor project.

5. FOLLOW-UP TO CONFERENCES ON TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

**(a) Follow-up to the 1997 Regional Conference
on Transport and the Environment**

**JMTE/AC.1/2001/2
JMTE/2001/5
(www.unece.org/poja)**

The Committee will have before it the report of the first session of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Transport and the Environment (Geneva, 26-27 February 2001) (JMTE/AC.1/2001/2) and the report of the fourth session of the Joint Meeting on Transport and the Environment (Geneva, 6 June 2001) (JMTE/2001/5). In this connection, it is recalled that the Joint Meeting on Transport and the Environment had been established by the Programme of Joint Action (POJA) (in 1997) as a joint meeting of the Bureaux of the Committee (ITC) and the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) .

The Committee may wish to **consider** the results of the sessions of the Joint Meeting and its Ad Hoc Expert Group. The Committee may wish to **evaluate** in particular the progress made in the identification of priority areas within the Vienna Programme of Joint Action (POJA) and in the preparation of the 2002 mid-term review meeting. In this context, the Committee may wish to consider how to undertake the mandated Vienna mid-term review, taking account of (a) its earlier decision to undertake the review by a joint meeting of the Committee (ITC) and the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP), (b) the rationalization of the Vienna and London follow-up processes and (c) the proposal of the Joint Meeting session that the second High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, scheduled to be held on 5 July 2002, should endorse the Vienna mid-term review (see also item 5 (b) below).

The Committee may wish to **review** the decision of the Joint Meeting to **create** an extended Bureau to assure continuous assistance to the secretariat as well as its decision to establish a Joint UNECE-WHO Ad Hoc Expert Group on Transport, Environment and Health together with the Group's Terms of Reference as a follow-up to the High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health. The first session of the Joint Expert Group was held on 26 and 27 November 2001 and its report will be made available as soon as possible. The Committee may wish to **clarify** the mandate of the Joint Expert Group in view of the work already carried out in transport and the environment taking account of its decision on further work in this field taken at its sixty-third session (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 15).

**(b) Follow-up to the London Charter on
Transport, Environment and Health**

**ECE/AC.21/2001/1
ECE/AC.21/2001/3**

The Committee may wish to consider progress made in the follow-up to the 1999 London Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health which, in the adopted Charter on Transport, Environment and Health, has mandated WHO and the UNECE to review existing international agreements with a view to improving their implementation and to further developing them as needed.

Further to the mandated "Synthesis Report" prepared by the UNECE and WHO secretariats (ECE/AC.21/2001/1), a High-Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health was convened (Geneva, 4 May 2001) to decide on further steps needed to achieve transport that is sustainable for health and the environment (ECE/AC.21/2001/3). The Committee may wish to **provide guidance** on concrete follow-up activities to the decisions and recommendations adopted by the High-Level Meeting, pertaining particularly to the rationalization of the existing institutional mechanisms established under the Vienna and London follow-up processes, to a better implementation of existing international agreements and legal instruments and to further preparatory work to be able to decide whether to start negotiations of a Framework Convention covering transport, environment and health issues in an integrated manner.

**6. REVIEW OF THE TRANSPORT SITUATION IN
ECE MEMBER COUNTRIES AND OF EMERGING
DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

TRANS/2002/7

The Committee may wish to **consider** the document on the transport situation and trends in member countries in 2001, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of national contributions and other sources, following the decision taken by the Committee at its sixty-third session (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 16)

7. TRANSPORT AND SECURITY

The 11 September attacks and the further threats evoked in their wake (collapsing of main bridges, driving of trucks with dangerous goods against human gatherings or urban centres) have highlighted the vulnerability of the transport system to terrorist or criminal actions and the gravity that such actions can reach. The first question that could be raised is whether the current level of security in inland transport in ECE countries can be considered acceptable. If the answer is negative, the second question would be what the minimum inland transport related security requirements could be to help prevent similar attacks or threats from happening in future. A quick look at the work programme of the ITC and at the legal instruments developed under its auspices indicates that transport-related security issues have almost never been directly addressed. However, in the aftermath of 11 September, it may be reasonably considered that a number of specific transport areas dealt with by the ITC might need some kind of security requirements. Some examples could be: (a) vehicles: anti-theft devices, new systems for swift detection of stolen vehicles; (b) issuing of transport and driving documents: transport company licensing and issuing of driving permits, particularly for the carriage of dangerous goods; (c) transport companies: adoption of self-security programmes; (d) border crossings: additional criteria for border controls; (e) infrastructure networks: surveillance of key tunnels and bridges; etc. To address this matter, as requested by the Bureau, the secretariat will contact the ECMT secretariat in order to discuss how best to handle this matter taking into account the work of the ECMT Group on Crime in Transport and will prepare a note outlining the issues which might require additional security consideration. The Committee may wish to **consider** the note prepared by the secretariat and **provide guidance** on how to proceed.

**8. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH
ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION**

TRANS/WP.5/2001/9

The Committee will have before it document TRANS/WP.5/2001/9 containing a summary of activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken up to June 2001. The Committee will also **be informed** of: (i) the South-east European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), (ii) the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), (iii) the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC), (iv) progress on the TEM and TER Projects, and (v) other advisory services provided.

Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **have an exchange of views** on this item. It may also wish to **invite** Governments and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT).

9. STATUS OF APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL UNECE TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS **Informal Document**

The Committee will have before it a document in English prepared by the secretariat containing tables on the status as at 31 January 2002 of signatures, ratifications and accessions concerning international instruments on inland transport concluded under the auspices of the Committee. The Committee will also be informed of the accessions registered since its last session.

The Committee may wish to **take note** of this information and **invite** countries which have not yet done so to become Contracting Parties to ECE Agreements and Conventions in the field of transport as soon as possible.

II. Questions dealt with by the Committee's subsidiary bodies

10. TRANSPORT TRENDS AND ECONOMICS **TRANS/WP.5/30**

The Committee will have before it for **consideration** and **approval** the report of the fourteenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) (TRANS/WP.5/30).

(a) Progress in the implementation of Pan-European transport corridors and areas

The Committee will be **informed** by the representative of the European Commission on recent developments concerning Pan-European transport corridors and areas.

(b) Methodologies for evaluation of inland transport infrastructure projects

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the Working Party's endeavour to develop a harmonized European-wide methodology for a transport infrastructure investment project appraisal based on the European Commission methodology (cost-benefit analysis and strategic environmental assessment) and the prevailing practice in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The Committee may wish to **support** the convening of an informal meeting of interested institutions (the EC, the World Bank, European Investment Bank, EBRD, etc.) and interested member countries in order to bring together various methodologies and practices into a harmonized and coherent European-wide methodology for transport infrastructure investment project appraisal (TRANS/WP.5/30, paras. 16-21).

(c) Euro-Asian transport links**TRANS/WP.5/2001/14
TRANS/2002/10**

The Committee may wish to **endorse** the common ECE/ESCAP Strategic Vision on Euro-Asian transport links which was adopted by the Working Party at its fourteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/2001/14) (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 31) and which took into account the findings of the 2nd International Euro-Asian Conference on Transport which was held in St. Petersburg from 12-13 September 2000.

The Committee may wish to **support** the convening of an informal meeting of the countries concerned to analyse the infrastructure and regulatory shortcomings of Euro-Asian links and determine further substantive and organizational steps regarding activities for the development of such links (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 33). The Committee may wish to **invite** an interested country to host this meeting.

The Committee may wish to note the Declaration of the first IRU Euro-Asian Road Transport Conference, which has been circulated in TRANS/2002/10.

The Committee may also wish to **encourage** the work related to the development of the southern corridor and the future run of the demonstration block-train between Istanbul (Turkey) and Almaty (Kazakhstan) which is scheduled to take place on 19 December 2001 and **underline** its importance for the further promotion of railway links between Europe and Asia (TRANS/WP.5/30, paras. 38-39).

The Committee may further wish to **take note** that the Memorandum of Understanding on the planning and implementation of demonstration runs of container block-trains along the Trans-Asian railway Northern Corridor was signed in November 2001 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, during the ESCAP Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure. These container block-trains will, in their demonstration runs, be expected to start in the first half of 2002, connect Europe through Poland, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation with ports in Vostochny (Russian Federation), Lianyungang and Tianjin (China), Pusan (Republic of Korea) and Rajin (Democratic People's Republic of Korea).

(d) Transport in the Mediterranean**(i) Seminar on Transport Facilitation in the Mediterranean****TRANS/WP.5/2001/8**

The Committee may wish to **be informed** about the findings of the Seminar on facilitation of international transport of goods between the Western Mediterranean countries, organized by CETMO in cooperation with the Transport Division of the UNECE (3-4 May 2001, Barcelona) (TRANS/WP.5/2001/8) (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 44).

(ii) Work of the Transport Study Centres in the Mediterranean

The Committee will have before it documents on the work of the Centres.

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the work carried out by the centres and **provide guidance** for the future work.

(iii) **Major Transport Projects in the Mediterranean**

**Europe-Africa permanent link through
the Strait of Gibraltar**

E/2001/19

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the UN Economic and Social Council resolution E/2001/19 and the work plan outlined in it which provides for a number of activities to be carried out under the project.

(e) **Studies on transport economics and track costs
undertaken by other organizations**

TRANS/2002/9

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the information received from the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) (TRANS/2002/9), the European Commission (EC) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Tuesday, 19 February 2002 (morning)

11. ROAD TRANSPORT

TRANS/SC.1/369

The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Road Transport, on its ninety-fifth session, for **consideration and approval** (TRANS/SC.1/369).

(a) **European road networks**

(i) **European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)**

The Committee may wish to **note** that amendments adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-fourth session (14-16 November 2000) concerning E roads in Finland, Kazakhstan, Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey entered into force on 4 December 2001. Amendments to Annex I proposed by the Russian Federation and adopted at the ninety-fifth session of SC.1 have been transmitted to the Secretary-General in order to initiate formal notification procedures (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 23-26 and annex I).

The Committee will also **be provided** with a new map of the AGR network which is intended to provide, for information purposes only, a geographical picture of the routes followed by the traffic arteries defined in Annex I to the Agreement.

In light of possible proposals to amend Annex II of the AGR emanating from other activities including the recommendations on safety in tunnels, the Transport, Environment and Health process, and the TEM Standards and Recommended Practice, as well as from a Hungarian proposal to amend Annex I, the Working Party decided that it would be necessary to

convene the eighteenth session of the Ad hoc Meeting on the Implementation of the AGR (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 26-33).

It requests the ITC to **approve** the holding of that meeting on 30 and 31 May 2002.

(ii) **Activities of the Trans-European North-South
Motorway (TEM) Project**

TRANS/SC.1/2001/11

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the progress report of the TEM Project (TRANS/SC.1/2001/11) and the relevant paragraphs of the report of the Working Party on Road Transport (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 34–36) and, particularly, the efforts made by the UNECE Transport Division in close collaboration with the TEM member countries and the Project Central Office during the year 2001, for the elaboration, approval and the first steps of implementation of a new short-term strategy for further integration of TEM into the new European transport context. It may also wish to **consider** reiterating its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat, and in particular for the uninterrupted services of a second Regional Adviser, which has proved to be indispensable for the substantive backstopping and further development of this Project.

(b) **European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in
International Road Transport (AETR)**

The Committee may wish to **note** that, in accordance with a decision taken at its sixty-third session, a special session of SC.1 was held on 16 October 2001, with support from the EC and ERTICO, in order to familiarize national authorities, responsible for checking the implementation of the AETR, with the introduction of the digital tachograph which new EU vehicles will probably be equipped with from 2004 onwards.

Regarding the incorporation of the digital tachograph into the AETR, the Committee may wish to **note** that the SC.1, after an in-depth analysis of different possible solutions, decided to follow the advice of the Committee provided at its sixty-second session (February 2000), i.e. to make reference in the AETR to Annex 1B to amended Regulation (EEC) No.3821/85 of the European Community and to preface a new appendix 1B to the AETR with an introduction which, in summary form and by means of cross references, would bring out the points where adaptation is necessary. The Working Party was of the opinion that, in order to make it possible to adopt, at its ninety-sixth session, all the amendments required to incorporate the digital tachograph into the AETR (amendments to the Agreement itself, its annex and its appendices), it would be necessary to convene the Ad hoc Group on the Revision of the AETR to review all such amendments and to pay particular attention to their consistency in legal terms (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 14-22). The Committee may wish to **approve** the request of SC.1 to hold a meeting of this Group on 11 and 12 April 2002.

(c) **Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road
(CMR)**

As concerns the development of a protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) introducing electronic data interchange into its procedures, the Committee may wish to **note** that Unidroit submitted a draft text of the protocol

to the Working Party. The secretariat was requested to send the new draft protocol to CMR Contracting Parties with a questionnaire asking them which of three drafting options they preferred. The responses would be consolidated with the assistance of Unidroit and, if necessary, a drafting group would be established to draw up the final text. The goal would be to adopt the final text at the ninety-sixth session of SC.1 and invite countries to sign the protocol at the sixty-fifth session of the Committee (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 44 and 45). The Committee may wish to **endorse** this approach.

(d) Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4)

The Committee may wish to **note** that, in accordance with a decision taken at its sixty-third session, the informal Ad hoc Working Group on the Revision of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of Road Transport (R.E.4) met on 10-11 May 2001 to prepare a new simplified text of R.E.4 that might be acceptable to all countries and be harmonized as much as possible with the related ECMT resolution. The Working Party was presented with the new text but, in light of continuing discussion, it decided to request the secretariat to send the text to member countries before the end of 2001 asking for further comments and concrete proposals to amend the text if necessary. Based on the comments, a new draft would be prepared and presented to the ninety-sixth session of the Working Party in October 2002 (TRANS/SC.1/369, paras. 37-40).

The Committee may wish to **endorse** the holding of a special one-day session at the start of the ninety-sixth session, i.e. on 30 September 2002, to conduct a close examination of the new draft of R.E.4 so that the final text can be adopted and consequently transmitted to the sixty-fifth session of the Committee for adoption.

12. ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

**TRANS/WP.1/76
TRANS/WP.1/78**

The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1), on its thirty-sixth session, for **consideration and approval** (TRANS/WP.1/76) and on its thirty-seventh session for **consideration** (TRANS/WP.1/78) pending its final adoption at the thirty-eighth session of the Working Party in March 2002.

(a) International instruments related to road safety (Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, European Agreements supplementing them, Consolidated Resolutions R.E.1 and R.E.2)

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the draft amendments to the Vienna Conventions and the European Agreements supplementing them adopted by WP.1 regarding issues such as priority at roundabouts, incorporating the distinguishing sign into the registration plate and blue road markings (TRANS/WP.1/78, paras. 12-17 and annex 1).

The Committee may also wish to **endorse** the work of WP.1 on the siting of road signs, mobile phone use while driving, the definition of mopeds and motorcycles, harmonization of road signing, and the visibility and legibility of road signs (TRANS/WP.1/78, paras. 18-34).

In light of the decision of WP.1 to submit a package of amendment proposals to the Committee in 2003, the Committee may wish to **approve** the holding of a special session in 2002, if necessary, to allow it to finalize its work on amendments to the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements supplementing them. The dates of 25 to 29 November 2002 are proposed for that meeting.

As regards the revision of the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2), the Committee may **note** that the Working Party adopted new chapters on the safety of pedestrians and assistance to victims of road accidents (TRANS/WP.1/76, annexes 1 and 2) and, in collaboration with WP.29, a new annex concerning periodical technical inspections (TRANS/WP.1/78, para. 35 and documents TRANS/WP.1/2001/25 and Corr.1).

(b) Evaluation of the Third Road Safety Week in the ECE Region

In accordance with the decision of the Committee at its sixty-third session, the Working Party held a special day of evaluation of the Third Road Safety Week on 10 September 2001. The Committee may wish to **take note** of the results of that evaluation including the decision by WP.1 to hold the road safety week campaigns every four years in future and the next one in 2004 (TRANS/WP.1/78, paras. 5-9). The choice of subject for the Fourth Road Safety Week will be made by the Working Party.

13. SAFETY IN TUNNELS

TRANS/AC.7/6
TRANS/AC.7/8
TRANS/AC.7/9

(a) Recommendations of the Group of Experts on Safety in Road Tunnels

The Committee will have before it the reports of the third and fourth meetings of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels which were held on 20-21 March 2001 and 9-11 July 2001 for **consideration and approval**. It will also have before it the final report of the Group of Experts (TRANS/AC.7/9). The Committee may wish to **take note** of this final report.

The Committee will also **be informed** of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts which is scheduled to be held on 17-18 January 2002 to assess the accident in the Gotthard tunnel (24 October 2001).

At its sixty-third session, the Committee had requested its relevant subsidiary bodies (SC.1, SC.2, WP.1, WP.15, WP.29) to comment on the recommendations in the autumn of 2001 in advance of their consideration and adoption by the Committee. The Committee may wish to **take note** of the initial considerations of those subsidiary bodies.

The Committee may wish to **adopt** a new consolidated resolution on safety in tunnels (No. 5) prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the recommendations of the Group of Experts and **request** its subsidiary bodies to start its work of incorporating them without delay and to the extent possible into relevant legal instruments and resolutions.

(b) Future work

The Committee may also wish to **approve** the proposal of the Group of Experts dealing with road tunnels to hold regular meetings (at possibly two-yearly intervals or when required) in the future to review new developments in the field of tunnel safety and to be informed about the follow-up by ITC subsidiary bodies in incorporating the recommendations into the various legal instruments (TRANS/AC.7/8, para. 12).

The Group of Experts recommended that new experts be selected to continue the work of examining safety in rail tunnels and requested the sixty-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee to take a decision regarding the holding of the first meeting on safety in rail tunnels (TRANS/AC.7/8, para. 11). The Committee may wish to **invite** member Governments to designate experts on safety in rail tunnels and **approve** the holding of the first meeting on this issue.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Working Parties WP.1, SC.1, WP.15 and WP.29 had a preliminary discussion on relevant parts of the recommendations at their sessions in autumn 2001 and decided to pursue the work, without delay, of considering to what extent and in what way they could be incorporated into existing legal instruments and consolidated resolutions. The WP.1 insisted on the need for it to decide freely on the best approach to be followed in its particular areas of competence (TRANS/WP.1/78, paras. 30-31).

The Committee may wish to **endorse** the decision of the Working Party on Rail Transport that the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels should be reconvened to deal with safety provisions in long rail tunnels (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 48). The Committee may also wish to **take note** of the information that will be provided to it on this question by the Chairman of the Working Party on Rail Transport.

14. HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS

TRANS/WP.29/776
TRANS/WP.29/792
TRANS/WP.29/815

The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** the work carried out by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and by its subsidiary Working Parties (GRPE, GRSG, GRRF, GRE, GRB, GRSP) during 2001. This is reflected in the reports of WP.29 on its one-hundred-and-twenty-third (TRANS/WP.29/776), one-hundred-and-twenty-fourth (TRANS/WP.29/792) and one-hundred-and-twenty-fifth (TRANS/WP.29/815) sessions.

(a) The 1958 Agreement and annexed ECE Regulations

The Committee may wish to **note** that during 2001, with the accession of South Africa, the total number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement reached 37. In this period, two new Regulations entered into force, bringing the total number of Regulations annexed to the Agreement to 114. A total of 59 amendments updating 45 existing Regulations were adopted by the Administrative Committee of the Agreement.

(b) The 1998 (Global) Agreement

The Committee may wish to **note** that the current sixteen Contracting Parties to the Agreement are continuing deliberations concerning the development of future global technical regulations, their format, and priorities for this work.

(c) The 1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections

The Committee may wish to **note** that Rule No. 1 concerning the environmental performance of passenger vehicles carrying more than eight passengers and goods vehicles, both with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes and used in international transport, entered into force on 4 December 2001 and was annexed to the Agreement. A proposal for draft Rule No. 2, concerning safety of the same categories of vehicles, is under consideration by WP.29. The Committee should **consider** inviting the 18 signatories of the Agreement which have not yet done so to speed up their national ratification procedures.

15. RAIL TRANSPORT

**TRANS/SC.2/196
TRANS/SC.2/2001/20**

The Committee will have before it the report of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) (TRANS/SC.2/196) for **consideration** and **approval**.

(a) European rail networks

(i) European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC)

The Committee may wish to **take note** that in total 22 countries are at present Contracting Parties to the AGC Agreement. It may also wish to **note** that amendments proposed by the Czech Republic, the Republic of Moldova and Greece to Annex 1 of the Agreement entered into force on 1 January 2002 (Depositary notification C.N.826.2001. TREATIES-3 of 16 October 2001) (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 40). The Committee may wish to **endorse** the invitation to those Governments that have not yet acceded to the AGC, to examine the possibility of doing so (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 41). It may also wish to **endorse** the Working Party's approval of the updated version of Annex 1 of the AGC and the decision to set up a consolidated version of the Agreement, including a map of the AGC network (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 43).

**(ii) Activities of the Trans-European Railway
(TER) Project**

TRANS/SC.2/2001/20

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the progress report of the TER Project (TRANS/SC.2/2001/20) and the relevant paragraph of the report of the Working Party on Rail Transport (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 54) and, particularly, the major efforts made by the UNECE, in close collaboration with the TER member countries and the Project Central Office during the year 2001, for the elaboration, approval and the first steps of implementation of a new short-term strategy for further integration of TER into the new European transport context. It may also wish to **consider** reiterating its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat,

and in particular for the uninterrupted services of a Regional Adviser, which has proved to be indispensable for the substantive backstopping and further development of this Project.

(b) Facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport

The Committee may wish to **note** that the questionnaire testing the monitoring system regarding the progress made in the facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport was circulated to 7 ECE member countries covering 10 border stations with a view to identifying border-stopping times. In view of the results obtained, the Working Party asked the Governments involved to provide the additional information on type and average duration of different checking controls at each border station (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 28-30). The Committee may wish to **support** this activity of the Working Party.

(c) Role of railways in the promotion of combined transport

The Committee may wish to **support** the decision of the Working Party to invite the European Community to report, at its next session, on the status of the implementation of Directive 2001/16/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2001 on the interoperability of the trans-European conventional rail system (TRANS/SC.2/196, para. 38).

Tuesday, 19 February 2002 (afternoon)

16. INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

TRANS/SC.3/155

The report of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport, on its forty-fifth session, has been circulated for **consideration** and **approval** by the Committee as TRANS/SC.3/155.

(a) European inland waterway network

**ECE/TRANS/120
and Corr.1**

**European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of
International Importance (AGN)**

TRANS/SC.3/2001/4

The Committee may wish **to note** that the Agreement which entered into force on 26 July 1999 has 12 Contracting Parties: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Switzerland.

The Committee may also wish **to take note** that the Working Party agreed on the text of an Inventory of the Most Important Bottlenecks and Missing Links in the E Waterway Network, as set out in TRANS/SC.3/2001/4, and envisages to introduce it as its resolution to be prepared and adopted at its next session (TRANS/SC.3/155, paras. 18-21).

(b) **Development and facilitation of international transport by inland waterway**

**TRANS/2002/8
TRANS/SC.3/2001/10
TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.2
TRANS/SC.3/2000/1/Add.1
TRANS/SC.3/2001/6
ECE/TRANS/20
ECE/TRANS/33**

The Committee may wish **to consider and adopt** the draft resolution on the Promotion of Inland Water Transport agreed by the Working Party as a follow-up to the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport (Rotterdam, 5 and 6 September 2001), appearing in TRANS/2002/8. The draft resolution provides for a Plan of Action for the implementation of decisions taken by the Rotterdam Conference (TRANS/SC.3/2001/10).

The Committee may wish to **take note of** and **endorse** the provisional approval by the Working Party of a second set of amendments to the Recommendations on Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (TRANS/SC.3/2000/1/Add.1) aimed at their harmonization on a pan-European level with due regard to relevant EU and CCNR provisions and river basin-dependant requirements (TRANS/SC.3/155, para. 26).

As a result of three years of work, the Working Party completed the revision of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) bringing it in line with the technical progress in the inland navigation industry. It is expected that the second revised edition of CEVNI would be made available shortly in the form of a colour loose-leaf publication. The Committee may wish **to take note** of this new publication of CEVNI containing rules of the road, marking of vessels and signs and signalling on inland waterways.

The Committee may also wish to **endorse** the adoption by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport of resolution No. 48 containing a Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS) (TRANS/SC.3/2001/1). The adoption of the above UNECE Recommendation is aimed at the setting up in Europe of one and the same standard for electronic navigational charts to be used in inland navigation which is compatible with the standard used in merchant marine and is to enhance further the safety of international transport by inland waterway.

The Committee will **be informed** of the outcome of the signing ceremony of the Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway (CMNI) which took place on 22 June 2001 in Budapest, as well as of the actual status of this legal instrument elaborated under the auspices of UNECE, CCNR and the Danube Commission.

Following the instructions of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 21), the Working Party paid special attention to the implementation of UNECE instruments on inland navigation questions on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the secretariat (TRANS/SC.3/2001/6). Since the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Inland Waterway (CVN), of 1976, as amended by the Protocol of 1978 (ECE/TRANS/20 and ECE/TRANS/33) has not yet entered into force and has only one Signatory State and one Contracting Party, the Working Party requested the secretariat to prepare

a questionnaire and circulate it to Governments concerned with a view to identifying the difficulties which might have prevented their accession to CVN and the action which should be taken in this regard (TRANS/SC.3/155, para. 40-42). The Committee may wish **to endorse** this decision of the Working Party.

17. COMBINED TRANSPORT

TRANS/WP.24/91
TRANS/WP.24/93

The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Combined Transport (WP.24), on its thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions (TRANS/WP.24/91 and 93), for **consideration** and **approval**.

(a) European combined transport network

TRANS/WP.24/93
TRANS/WP.24/2001/8

European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC)

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Working Party, as a follow-up to the joint meeting held 19 April 2001 with the Working Party on Rail Transport (TRANS/WP.24/2001/8), had decided to establish two informal ad hoc expert groups on “Partnership models and best practices in combined transport” as well as on “Efficiency of/in combined transport terminal operations”. The two groups had been mandated to develop two discussion papers on the possibilities for new recommendations and effective procedures to improve the performance of combined transport services in the framework of the AGTC Agreement, including proposals for monitoring mechanisms. The Committee may wish to **endorse** the thrust of these new concrete activities of the Working Party with a view to promoting the role of combined transport (TRANS/WP.24/93, paras. 34-42).

(b) Possibilities for reconciliation and harmonization of civil liability regimes governing combined transport

TRANS/WP.24/93
TRANS/WP.24/2001/3
TRANS/WP.24/2000/2
and Corr. 1

The Committee may wish to **note** that two meetings of the ad hoc expert group on civil liability rules in multimodal transport were held in 2001. The Committee may also wish to be **informed** about an inter-secretariat meeting organized between the UNECE, UNCITRAL and UNCTAD secretariats to coordinate all United Nations activities in the field of transport law for multimodal transport. The Committee may wish to **decide**, following the extensive work carried out by the Working Party on this subject, to prolong the mandate of the Working Party and its ad hoc expert group to pursue the complex task of reconciling and harmonizing civil liability regimes governing multimodal transport. The Committee may also wish to **endorse** the cooperation with other United Nations bodies.

18. BORDER CROSSING FACILITATION

TRANS/WP.30/194
TRANS/WP.30/196
TRANS/WP.30/198

The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30), on its ninety-seventh, ninety-eighth and ninety-ninth sessions (TRANS/WP.30/194, 196 and 198), for **consideration** and **approval**.

**(a) Customs Convention on the International
Transport of Goods under Cover
of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975)**

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/61
TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/63

The Committee will also have before it for this item the reports of the two sessions of the TIR Administrative Committee, serviced by the secretariat, which are contained in documents TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/61 and TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/63.

The Committee may wish to **note** that, following the completion of Phase II of the TIR revision process, which was concluded with the adoption of the relevant amendment package by the TIR Administrative Committee on 20 October 2000, the first amendments entered into force on 12 June 2001. It can be expected that most of the amendments will come into force in the first half of 2002 and will clarify the roles and responsibilities of the actors involved in TIR transport operations.

With a view to continuing the rapid progress on Phase III of the TIR revision process, focusing on the revision of the TIR Carnet and computerization of the TIR procedure, the Committee may wish to **decide** to prolong the mandate of the group of experts on the TIR revision process for the year 2002.

**(b) International Convention on the
Harmonization of Frontier
Controls of Goods, 1982**

TRANS/WP.30/198
TRANS/WP.30/2001/16
TRANS/2002/11

The Committee may wish to **take note** that the Working Party approved, in principle, the provisions of a new Annex 8 to the Convention on the facilitation of border crossing procedures for international road transport including two technical appendices on international technical inspection and vehicle weight certificates (TRANS/WP.30/2001/16). As a consensus could not yet be achieved on all provisions of the new Annex, the Contracting Parties to the Convention agreed to postpone the fifth session of the Administrative Committee to autumn 2002. The Committee may wish to **provide guidance** to the Working Party on the approach to be taken in finalizing all provisions of the Annex, which are intended to address, in a comprehensive manner, all elements important for efficient border crossing procedures in international road transport.

The Committee may wish to **note** the summary of an IRU report on "Problems of international carriers at CIS internal and external borders" which has been circulated in document TRANS/2002/11.

(c) **Draft Conventions on International
Customs Transit Procedures for the
Carriage of Goods by Rail**

**TRANS/2001/10
TRANS/WP.30/198**

For this item, the Committee will have before it document TRANS/2001/10 containing the text of the two draft Conventions prepared by the Working Party.

The Committee may wish to **note** that, following the transmission by the secretariat of the two draft conventions to the Contracting Parties of the COTIF Convention and the SMGS Agreement, for comments, the secretariat has received only a limited number of replies. In order to make further progress on the question, the secretariat plans to organize a meeting of the Contracting States of the SMGS Agreement to finalize the draft Convention covering the SMGS consignment note and the Contracting Parties to the SMGS Agreement only. It is the plan to hold this meeting in early 2002. The Committee may wish to be **informed** about the outcome of this meeting and to **decide** on the adoption of this draft Convention, as appropriate.

19. TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

(a) **The Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts on the Transport of
Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and
Labelling of Chemicals**

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Economic and Social Council adopted, on 28 July 2001, resolution 2001/34 on the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (TRANS/2002/3), and that the twelfth revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, has been published in English as a Sales publication (Sales No. E.01.VIII.4) and is being prepared in all the other official UN languages.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that:

- (i) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods met from 2 to 6 July 2001 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C3/38 and Add.1-2) and is holding its twentieth session from 3 to 11 December 2001;
- (ii) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals met from 9 to 11 July 2001 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C4/2) and is holding its second session from 12 to 14 December 2001.

- (b) **Harmonization of the technical requirements of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) and the Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)** **TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/84 and Add.1-2**
TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/86 and Add.1-4

The Committee may wish to **note** that the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting held two sessions (Bern, 28 May-1 June 2001 and Geneva 10-14 September 2001) and finalized a set of draft amendments to the common requirements of RID, ADR and ADN which include, inter alia, adaptations of these requirements to those of the twelfth revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations.

- (c) **European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)** **TRANS/WP.15/165 and Add.1-2**
TRANS/WP.15/167 and Add.1-3

The Committee may wish to **note** that, with the accession of Kazakhstan and Morocco, there are 38 Contracting Parties to the ADR. The Protocol amending articles 1 (a), 14 (1) and 14 (3) (b) of the ADR, adopted by the Conference of the Contracting Parties on 28 October 1993, has not yet entered into force as not all Contracting Parties to the ADR have become Parties to the Protocol. Twenty-four Contracting Parties have done so to date, and the Committee may wish to **urge** the remaining Contracting Parties (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Morocco, Republic of Moldova, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Yugoslavia) to take the necessary steps to allow the Protocol to come into force.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that the Working Party adopted new amendments to Annexes A and B of the ADR during its two sessions in 2001 (7-11 May 2001 and 5-9 November 2001). These amendments should enter into force on 1 January 2003 with a six-month transitional period. A consolidated list of all draft amendments adopted by the Working Party for entry into force on 1 January 2003 will be prepared by the secretariat and circulated under the symbol TRANS/WP.15/168.

- (d) **European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)** **TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/9 and Add.1**

The Committee may wish to **note** that the ADN has been signed (subject to ratification) by the following 10 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia. It was open for signature until 31 May 2001 and is now open for accession.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the ADN held a session from 16 to 18 January 2001 and adopted draft amendments to the Regulations annexed to the ADN which will be submitted to the ADN Administrative Committee as soon as the ADN enters into force. Pending this entry into force, the Committee may wish to **invite** ECE member States to implement the Regulations as amended through their national legislation.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that another session of the Joint Meeting of Experts is scheduled to be held from 21 to 25 January 2002 to discuss, inter alia, the restructuring of the Regulations annexed to the ADN (on the basis of the restructured RID and ADR) and questions related to the recognition of classification societies.

(e) **Convention on Civil Liability for Damage caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD)** **TRANS/WP.15/167**

The Committee may wish to **note** that, in accordance with its instructions (ECE/TRANS/136, para.98), the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods decided to establish for its seventy-first session a parallel session of an ad hoc group of experts to consider the results of a questionnaire on the CRTD and to consider how the CRTD could be modified to encourage accessions. The report of this ad hoc group of experts has been issued as an annex to the report of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.15/167, annex 4). The Committee may wish to **note** that the main recommendation of this group, endorsed by the Working Party, is to establish an ad hoc meeting of experts on the CRTD which would meet twice in 2002 and twice in 2003 with the aim of submitting to the Committee a revised text of the CRTD for possible adoption as a new convention in 2004.

20. TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS **TRANS/WP.11/204**

The Committee will have before it the report of the fifty-seventh session of the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (TRANS/WP.11/204) for **consideration and approval**.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Working Party elaborated a draft of the ATP Handbook to facilitate the interpretation of the technical questions contained in the ATP Agreement.

Wednesday, 20 February 2002 (morning)

21. TRANSPORT STATISTICS

**TRANS/WP.6/141
TRANS/WP.6/2001/7
TRANS/WP.6/2001/8
TRANS/WP.6/2001/13**

The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Transport Statistics on its fifty-second session (14-16 November 2001) (TRANS/WP.6/141) for **consideration and approval**.

(a) Methodological development and harmonization of transport and road accident statistics

The Committee may wish to be **informed** of the revision process of the Glossary for Transport Statistics (TRANS/WP.6/2001/8). Furthermore, it may wish to **learn about** activities under way regarding the collection of data on gas pipelines and the follow-up to be ensured by Eurostat aiming at the gathering of statistics on the transport of dangerous goods according to the classes defined in the AGR.

In light of the decisions agreed upon at the Second Meeting of the Task Force on Definitions on Road Traffic Accidents and taking into account the gender perspective conforming with ECOSOC Resolution 1997/17 and the ECE Plan of Action E/ECE/1997, the Committee may wish to **note** the modifications made to the Questionnaire on Road Traffic Accident Statistics as reflected in the report of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.6/141) and in document TRANS/WP.6/2001/7.

(b) Status of the 2000 Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe

The Committee may wish to be **informed** about the status of the data collection regarding the 2000 Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe. In this connection, it is recalled that the final deadline for data transmission is 31 March 2002.

(c) Harmonization of statistics on transport and environment

The Committee may wish to **take note** that the Working Party on Transport Statistics asked Eurostat to establish a pilot questionnaire for the collection of data on environmental aspects of transport on the basis of the variables identified in the annex of document TRANS/WP.6/2001/13. Furthermore, the Working Party requested Eurostat to circulate the questionnaire among the 15 member countries of the EU to test the availability of the data and submit the synthesis of the Government replies to its next session.

(d) Classification of Goods for Transport Statistics (NST/2000)

The Committee may wish to **adopt** the final version of the new classification system for transport statistics (NST/2000), as reproduced in annex 2 of the report of the Working Party's fifty-second session (TRANS/WP.6/141, para. 41). The Committee may note that the new system will also be submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) for adoption, in order to be registered by the UN Statistical Commission and issued as a statistical standard and study with the next available number in that series.

22. TRANSPORT DIVISION WEBSITE

The Committee may wish to **note** the improvements of the website of the Transport Division (<http://www.unece.org/trans/Welcome.html>). The redesign of the website was started in April 2001 to make it more user-friendly, complete and consistent with the general layout of the UNECE website. Some of the main additions and improvements concern such areas as general information for delegates, registration forms, links to other national and international transport websites, latest news, list of UNECE legal instruments on transport, depositary notifications, etc.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that the main pages of all meetings now contain all relevant documentation (official and informal) of previous and upcoming sessions and **provide guidance** for further improvements.

**III. Organization of the work of the Committee
and its subsidiary bodies**

23. PROGRAMME OF WORK 2002-2006 **TRANS/2002/2**

The Committee may wish to **consider and adopt** its programme of work for the period 2002-2006 as contained in document TRANS/2002/2.

24. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS IN 2002 **TRANS/2002/4**

A preliminary list of meetings is being circulated for **consideration and adoption** by the Committee; the list is based on proposals made by the Committee's subsidiary bodies (TRANS/2002/4).

25. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2003 AND 2004

The Committee may wish to elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson for the sessions of the Committee in 2003 and 2004.

26. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU IN 2002 AND 2003

The Committee may wish to **decide** on the composition of its Bureau for the sessions of the Committee in 2002 and 2003.

IV. Miscellaneous

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next session

The Committee may note that its sixty-fifth session is tentatively scheduled to be held from 18 to 20 February 2003.

Wednesday, 20 February 2002 (starting at 3 p.m.)

Round Table on “New Vehicle Propulsion Technologies”

TRANS/2002/12

Thursday, 21 February 2002 (morning)

28. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION

In accordance with established practice, the Committee will **adopt** the report of its sixty-fourth session on the basis of the draft prepared by the secretariat.
