



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

**TRANS/AC.8/1
28 March 2002**

**ENGLISH
Original : ENGLISH AND FRENCH**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

**Ad hoc Meeting on the Convention on
Civil Liability for Damage caused during
Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road,
Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD)**
**(First session,
10-12 June 2002)**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SESSION*

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 10 June 2002**

IMPORTANT

In view of the new security measures concerning access to the Palais des Nations, delegations are requested to inform the secretariat (UNECE Transport Division) of their exact composition. Access to the Palais des Nations will be restricted to the bearers of an identity card which will be issued by the Security and Safety Section, Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page).

Each participant named on the list of members of the delegation is requested to complete in advance the enrolment form on the second-last page and forward it by fax (41 22 917 00 39) or by e-mail (mireille.chavet@unece.org) at latest one week before the session opens.

* As part of the secretariat's efforts to reduce expenditure, documents distributed prior to the session by mail will not be available in the conference room for distribution to session participants. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to the meeting.

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of Officers
3. Mandate of the Ad hoc Meeting
4. Results of the questionnaire related to the CRTD TRANS/WP.15/2001/17,
-/Add.1 to -/Add.8

5. Main obstacles to the entry into force of the CRTD
 - (a) Limits of financial liability
 - (b) Scope of CRTD
 - (c) CRTD articles that would need to be amended
6. Programme of work
7. Any other business
8. Adoption of the report

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Election of Officers

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the meeting will elect a Chairman and possibly a Vice-Chairman.

3. Mandate of the Ad hoc Meeting

On the basis of a proposal made by the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the Inland Transport Committee established an Ad hoc Meeting of experts on the CRTD with the following mandate:

- "(1) to consult experts from all sectors concerned by the CRTD (e.g. legal experts on liability, insurance industry, consignors, carriers) in order to determine how to eliminate the obstacles –such as those related to the limit of liability and compulsory insurance- to the entry into force of the CRTD;
- (2) to propose, on the basis of these consultations and of proposals by Governments, modifications to the existing articles of the CRTD which would provide a better basis for application of the CRTD to the various modes of transport;
- (3) to report to the Inland Transport Committee at its 2003 session on progress made and difficulties encountered;
- (4) to submit to the Inland Transport Committee a reviewed text of the CRTD incorporating the modifications mentioned above for possible adoption as a new convention at its 2004 session."

It was also decided that the Ad hoc Meeting of experts on the CRTD would meet twice in 2002 and twice in 2003.

4. Results of the questionnaire related to CRTD

The Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-third session (13-15 February 2001) requested the Working Party to consider the results of a questionnaire on the CRTD Convention, and, if it deemed appropriate, establish an ad hoc group of experts to consider how the Convention could be modified to encourage accessions.

The meeting of the Ad hoc group of experts took place on Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 November 2001 and was attended by representatives from the following countries: Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Netherlands (Chair), Spain, Sweden and the United States of America.

The following organizations were also represented: European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) and Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI).

This meeting considered the following documents prepared by the secretariat: TRANS/WP.15/2001/17 and Add. 1-6, as well as informal documents (INF.24, 37, 42 and 44).

5. Main obstacles to the entry into force of the CRTD

Taking into account the results of the questionnaire, the following items have to be considered:

(a) Limits of financial liability

The main obstacle to the entry into force of the CRTD would be linked to the height of the limits of liability established in the Convention and the relation of these limits to the existing insurance capacity.

(b) Scope of CRTD

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to consider if the CRTD has to be maintained for all or specific risks related to inland transport carried out by the various modes (road, rail and inland waterways).

(c) CRTD articles that would need to be amended

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to consider the CRTD articles that would need to be amended. The following inventory was made of examples for articles of the Convention that would need updating or revision:

Articles 1(8)(b); 4(c); 5(4)(c); 5(7)(b); 9; 13 and 14.

6. Programme of work

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to consider its programme of work.

7. Any other business

8. Adoption of the report

In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the report on its first session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.



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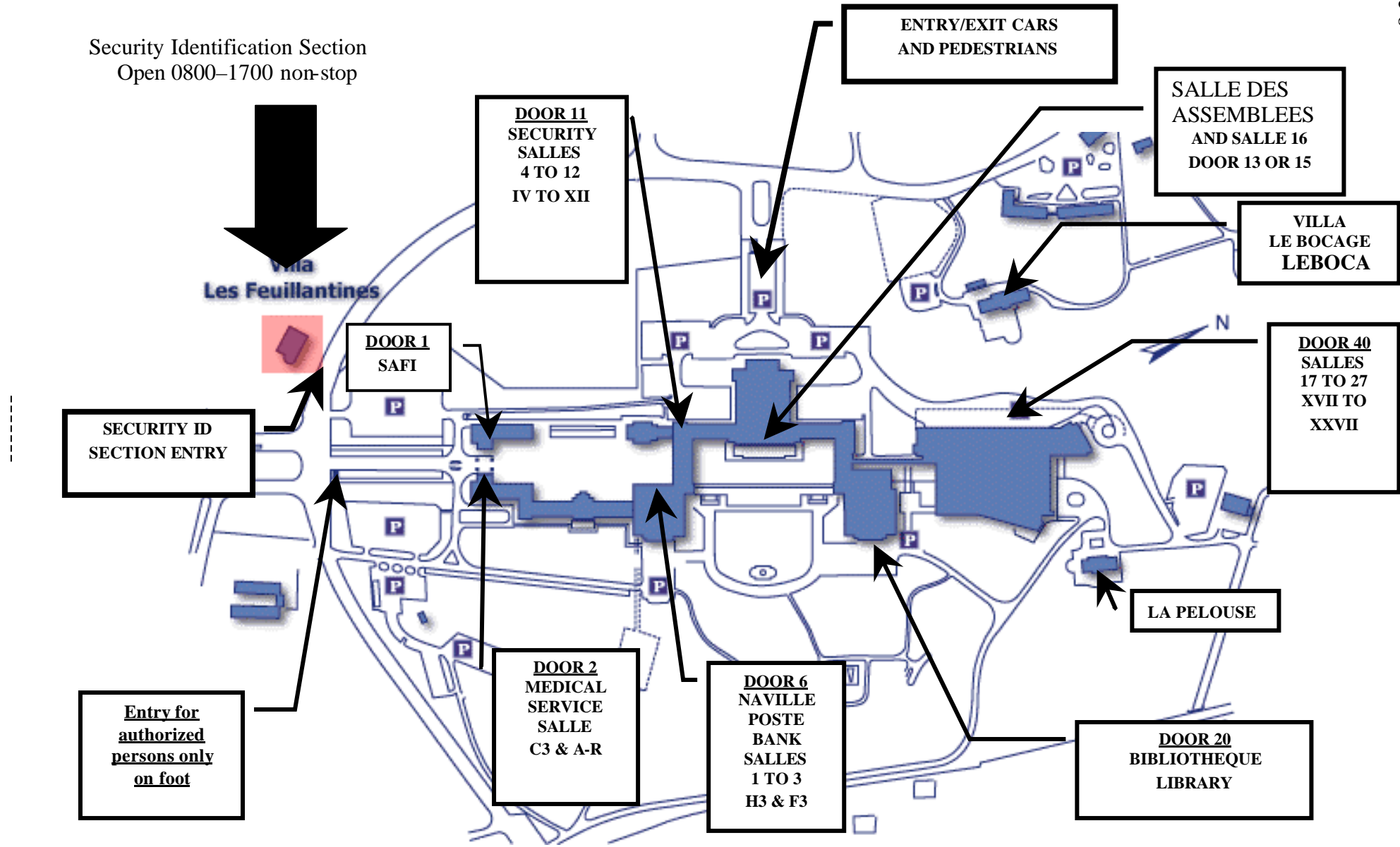
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