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**PROPOSALS CONCERNING THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES
FOR THE BIENNIUM 2004-2005 IN THE FIELD OF THE FACILITATION
OF TRADE AND TRANSPORT**

The programme of work and priorities for the biennium 2004-2005 in the field of the facilitation of trade and transport includes a number of activities in several fields.

*1. The provision of technical services**(a) The provision of technical services*

- (i) The provision of technical services for the fifth session of the Committee on Transport;
- (ii) The provision of technical services for the sixth session of the Committee on Transport.

(b) Documents to be submitted to legislative institutions

- (i) The report on the fifth session of the Committee on Transport;
- (ii) The report on the sixth session of the Committee on Transport.

(c) Other services

- (i) Expert Group Meeting on the facilitation of trade and transport for regional integration 2004;
- (ii) Expert Group Meeting on the formation of interregional transport linkages.

*2. Other technical activities**(a) Regular publications*

- (i) The methodological framework of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM);
- (ii) The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) annual review of globalization and regional integration.

(b) Non-regular publications

- (i) Work plan for implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq;

- (ii) Report on the adoption and implementation of the Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq;
- (iii) Report on the adoption and implementation of the memorandum of understanding concerning cooperation in the field of maritime transport in the Arab Mashreq;
- (iv) Report on the establishment and activities of the national committees for the facilitation of trade and transport;
- (v) Practical criteria for progress achieved in respect of the facilitation of trade and transport in the region;
- (vi) The situation regarding the facilitation of trade and selected services in the framework of the World Trade Organization;
- (vii) The development and integration of maritime freight services in the ESCWA region under the memorandum of understanding concerning cooperation in the field of maritime transport in the Arab Mashreq.

(c) *Electronic issuances and audio-visual materials*

- (i) Media campaign on the facilitation of trade and transport;
- (ii) The development and updating of the ESCWA Internet Web site page on globalization and regional integration.

3. *Technical cooperation*

(a) *Consultancy services*

In the field of the facilitation of trade and transport, at the request of Governments.

(b) *Group training (the holding of training courses, study sessions and workshops)*

- (i) Seminar on capacity-building with respect to the facilitation of trade and transport for regional integration;
- (ii) Two training courses on capacity-building with respect to the evaluation of interregional transport linkages, one to be held in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in June 2004, and the other to be held in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Africa in October 2004;
- (iii) A training course on capacity-building in border-crossing formalities and related conventions to be conducted throughout the period from January to December 2005.

(c) *Field projects*

- (i) Capacity-building through cooperation in the development of interregional land and land-sea linkages;
- (ii) The development of an ITSAM database;
- (iii) Capacity-building in the facilitation of trade and electronic business in the Mediterranean region.