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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**  
(Sixty-sixth session, 17-19 February 2004)

**ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION**

**(Facilitation of Participation of Central Asian and Caucasus Countries  
in the Meetings of Inland Transport Committee and selected SBs)**

Note by the secretariat

**INTRODUCTION**

In recent years, there has been a lack of participation of delegates from certain Central Asian and Caucasus countries in the meetings of the UNECE ITC and its SBs. It is generally understood that the reason is not lack of interest in the work of the ITC, but financial difficulties that do not allow them to cover their experts' travel expenses.

The secretariat believes that it is in the interest of all UNECE members that these countries be present and have an active participation in the ITC and, at least, in some of its SBs. Their participation will facilitate the integration of their transport systems and economies as well as the harmonization of their transport legislation with that in other UNECE member countries.

**BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES**

It is therefore proposed that an effort be made to facilitate a wider country participation in the work of ITC and selected SBs by adopting a precise pilot project aimed at financing the participation of delegates from the following 8 countries:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

**MEETINGS**

The meetings at which the attendance of participants of the above-mentioned beneficiary countries could be facilitated are the following:

Inland Transport Committee (ITC)

Road Transport (SC.1)

Rail Transport (SC.2)

Working Party on Road Safety (WP.1)

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5)

**ESTIMATED COST**

The project should cover the air ticket and DSA for 3 days for **one participant** from each of the beneficiary countries. The relevant cost may be estimated as follows:

Air ticket :	8 delegates X 5 meetings X Euros 2,400	(40 trips)	Euros	96,000
DSA :	40 trips X 3 days X Euros 209	(120 days)		25,080
			Total Euros	121,080

**FINANCE**

This pilot project would be financed through voluntary contributions from donors.

**PROPOSED PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION**

It is proposed that the project will start as soon as funds are available and will last for one year.

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