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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety  
(Forty-fourth session, 6-8 April 2004)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-FOURTH SESSION \***

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 April 2004

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda  | TRANS/WP.1/93   |
| 2. | Adoption of the report of the<br>forty-third session  | TRANS/WP.1/92   |
| 3. | Sixty-sixth session of the Inland Transport<br>Committee  |   |
| 4. | Amendments to and implementation of the<br>1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and on<br>Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European<br>Agreements supplementing them | TRANS/WP.1/2003/1/Rev.3<br>TRANS/WP.1/2003/2/Rev.3<br>TRANS/WP.1/2003/3/Rev.3<br>TRANS/WP.1/2003/4/Rev.3<br>TRANS/WP.1/2003/5/Rev.3 |

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\* Delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division) and to transmit it at least two weeks before the session to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by email ([caroline.jeunet@unece.org](mailto:caroline.jeunet@unece.org)). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are required to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, please telephone the ECE secretariat (extension 73242).

5. Revision of the Consolidated Resolutions  
on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on  
Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2)

TRANS/SC.1/294/Rev.5  
TRANS/SC.1/295/Rev.3

R.E.1

- (a) Safety in tunnels

TRANS/WP.1/2002/28  
Informal documents

- (b) Roadside checks

TRANS/WP.1/2003/13  
Informal document

- (c) Driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs  
and medication

TRANS/SC1/336/Rev.1  
Informal document

- (d) Improving motorcyclist safety

TRANS/WP.1/2004/6

- (e) Increasing seat belts usage

TRANS/WP.1/2004/7

- (f) Overtaking

Informal document

- (g) Pedestrian rules and signs

- (h) Variable message signs

- (i) 1949 driving permits

TRANS/WP.1/2004/1

- (j) Restructuring of Consolidated Resolution R.E.1

TRANS/WP.1/2004/2

R.E.2

New signs for fuelling stations selling  
sulphur-free fuel and compressed natural gas

TRANS/WP.1/2004/3  
TRANS/WP.1/2004/4

6. Fourth Road Safety Week in the ECE Region

7. Future role of the Working Party

TRANS/WP.1/2003/14  
TRANS/2004/11 and Add.1  
TRANS/WP.1/2004/5

8. Other business

9. Adoption of decisions

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES <sup>1</sup>**

### **1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

### **2. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY**

The Working Party is invited to adopt the report on its forty-third session which was prepared after the session by the secretariat.

### **3. SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

The Working Party will be informed about the results of the sixty-sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee (17-19 February 2004). The follow-up to General Assembly Resolutions on road safety and the future role of WP.1 will be discussed under item 7 of this agenda.

### **4. AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM**

The Working Party will be informed about the consideration by the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-sixth session of the amendment proposals to the 1968 Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, the 1971 European Agreements supplementing them, and the Protocol on Road Markings additional to the European Agreement supplementing the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals.

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about which country(ies) has (have) volunteered to transmit the amendment proposals to the United Nations Secretary-General and about the likely schedule for their notification to Contracting Parties and adoption.

The final texts of the amendment proposals are contained in documents TRANS/WP.1/2003/1-5/Rev.3.

### **5. REVISION OF THE CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTIONS R.E.1 AND R.E.2**

At its forty-third session, the Working Party agreed that now that work had been finalised on the package of amendments to legal instruments, the focus of future work in the short term should be on updating and completing the Consolidated Resolutions and on improving their presentation.

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<sup>1</sup> For reasons of economy, delegates are kindly requested to bring to the meeting copies of the documents received by mail prior to the meeting or downloaded from the Internet.

Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (R.E.1)(a) Safety in tunnels

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party had examined proposals made by a small group (TRANS/WP.1/2002/28) comprising France, Norway, Switzerland (chairman), the European Commission, PRI, IRU and the secretariat on the follow-up to be given to the recommendations of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels and to the measures contained in the declaration adopted in Zurich by the Ministers of Transport of the Alpine countries in November 2001.

The Working Party will have before it an Informal document in English and French in the form of a table showing the follow-up given to the recommendations on safety in tunnels by different ITC subsidiary bodies including WP.1. It will also be informed about the result of discussions by the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) at its session in January 2004 on the transport of dangerous goods through tunnels.

(b) Roadside checks

At its forty-second session, the Working Party established a small group (France, Switzerland, PRI, secretariat, under the chairmanship of Switzerland) to draw up a new chapter for R.E.1 on roadside checks. A proposal was considered by the Working Party at its forty-third session (TRANS/WP.1/2003/13).

The Working Party will be informed by the small group about progress made in its work.

(c) Driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs and medication

At its forty-third session, the Working Party established a small group (Finland, Italy, Romania, United States and WHO, under the chairmanship of Italy) to draw up new recommendations addressing alcohol, drugs and medication, starting with alcohol, using the 1989 resolution (TRANS/SC1/336/Rev.1) and ECMT and EU documents as reference.

An Informal document summarizing the preliminary work of the small group will be circulated as soon as it is received.

(d) Improving motorcyclist safety

At its forty-third session, the Working Party established a small group on improving motorcyclist safety (United States, FEMA, FIM, IMMA under the chairmanship of the United States) and requested it to draw up a questionnaire on motorcyclist safety for discussion at the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Party. Other government representatives were asked to consider taking part in the small group. The questionnaire is contained in TRANS/WP.1/2004/6.

(e) Increasing seat-belt usage

At its forty-third session, the Working Party established a small group on increasing seat-belt usage (Finland, Spain, United Kingdom, United States and the FIA Foundation under the chairmanship of the United States) and requested it to draw up a questionnaire for discussion at the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Party. The questionnaire is contained in TRANS/WP.1/2004/7.

(f) Overtaking

At its forty-second session, the Working Party took note of an informal document prepared by the Russian Federation on problems related to overtaking. The Working Party considered that, before envisaging any amendments or additions to the Vienna Convention, it was necessary to have a specific view of the problem in terms of national practices. It therefore entrusted a small informal group (Russian Federation, Estonia and Poland) with the preparation of a draft questionnaire. The draft questionnaire is contained in an Informal document in English, French and Russian.

(g) Pedestrian rules and signs

The small group established to propose future work on pedestrian rules and signs (Israel, Netherlands, FIP and GRSP under the chairmanship of FIP) will report on progress made in its work.

(h) Variable message signs

The small group established to propose future work on variable message signs (France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain) is invited to report on developments in its work.

(i) 1949 driving permits

At its forty-third session, the representative of the Russian Federation, Chairman of the small group on driving permits, proposed that the Working Party consider the possibility of amending the 1949 Geneva Convention on Road Traffic on the subject of driving permits so as to avoid the problem of non-compatibility between the 1949 and 1968 Conventions.

The Working Party created a small group (Portugal, Spain, Russian Federation, IMMA, under the chairmanship of the Russian Federation) to make a proposal on this subject for the 45<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Party. The Working Party also agreed to consider the possibility of drawing up a resolution requesting Contracting Parties to the 1949 Convention to recognise 1968 Convention permits and vice versa.

Although the proposal of the small group will not be submitted for consideration until the forty-fifth session of the Working Party in September 2004, the representative of the IRF has made a proposal on this subject which the Working Party may wish to take into account. The proposal is contained in TRANS/WP.1/2004/1.

(j) Restructuring of Consolidated Resolution R.E.1

At a meeting on 9 January 2004, a small group composed of the representatives of France, Switzerland, PRI and the secretariat drew up a proposed new structure for the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (R.E.1). The proposal is contained in TRANS/WP.1/2004/2.

Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2)

The Working Party will have before it proposals for new road signs to denote a fuelling station selling sulphur-free fuel (TRANS/WP.1/2004/3) and a fuelling station selling compressed natural gas (TRANS/WP.1/2004/4). If adopted, the Working Party may wish to propose their inclusion in the Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals pending the preparation of the next package of amendments to the Conventions.

#### 6. FOURTH ROAD SAFETY WEEK IN THE ECE REGION

The Working Party may wish to conduct a preliminary evaluation of the Seminar on Aggressiveness on the Road held at the Palais des Nations on 5 April 2004. It may also wish to decide whether the findings of the Seminar call for the introduction of new areas of work by the Working Party.

The secretariat will provide information on activities carried out by the secretariat for the Fourth Road Safety Week.

Delegates are invited to inform the Working Party about national activities which are being undertaken during or in association with the Fourth Road Safety Week.

#### 7. FUTURE ROLE OF THE WORKING PARTY

On 29 May 2003, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/57/309 on the global road safety crisis. In it, the General Assembly welcomed, *inter alia*, the designation by the World Health Organization of "Safe Roads" as the theme of World Health Day 2004. It further requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the global road safety crisis to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

The report of the Secretary-General (A/58/228), with input from the Transport Division and other organizations dealing with road safety issues, was submitted to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly as requested. On 5 November 2003, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/58/9 on the global road safety crisis, calling, *inter alia*, for a special plenary meeting of the General Assembly to be held on 14 April 2004 to increase awareness of the magnitude of the road traffic injury problem at a high level and inviting the Economic and Social Council, working with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and through its regional commissions, to facilitate the exchange of information on best road traffic safety practices and the development of recommendations for road traffic injury control.

One of the recommendations made in the report of the Secretary-General is that a coordinating body be designated to facilitate and coordinate these activities at the international level. Several countries and organizations in WP.1 considered that WP.1 should assume this new role and should become a Global Forum for Road Safety, in a similar way that WP.29 has become a Global Forum. This issue is likely to be debated at the Special Session of the General Assembly on 14 April 2004 in New York.

At its sixty-sixth session (17-19 February 2004), the Inland Transport Committee will examine documents on the follow-up to General Assembly Resolutions on road safety (TRANS/2004/11) and a proposal to convert WP.1 into a Global Forum for Road Safety (TRANS/2004/11/Add.1) which was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chairman of WP.1 as requested by the Bureau of the ITC.

Since the subject of nominating a global road safety body may be raised at the plenary session of the General Assembly on 14 April 2004, it is important that WP.1 itself discusses this issue before that session. Because of problems of timing, the proposal was presented first to the Inland Transport Committee.

The Working Party will be informed about the results of the ITC discussion of these two documents and may wish to decide whether to request its Chairman and the Director of the UNECE Transport Division to formally present the proposal at the special session of the General Assembly in New York on 14 April 2005.

A document has also been submitted by the FIA Foundation further supporting a future global role for the Working Party (TRANS/WP.1/2004/5).

#### 8. OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Party may wish to discuss any other business under this agenda item. The Working Party is informed that its forty-fifth session will be held from 6-8 September 2004.

#### 9. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS

The Working Party will adopt a list of decisions taken at its forty-fourth session based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.

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## UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

### Conference Registration Form

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Title of the Conference

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, forty- fourth session, 6-8 April 2004

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☐

Family Name

First Name

Mrs.

☐

Ms.

☐

Participation Category

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☐

Observer Organization

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Delegation Member

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