



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TRANS/2005/01  
10 December 2004

Original : ENGLISH

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

(Sixty-seventh session, 15-17 February 2005,  
agenda item 1)

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

**Note by the secretariat**

**Tuesday, 15 February 2005 starting at 10 a.m.**

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** [ECE/TRANS/158](#) <sup>1/2/</sup>

**I. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN GENERAL**

**2. RESULTS OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU MEETINGS** [TRANS/2005/2](#)

C: The Committee will have before it document TRANS/2005/2 containing the results of the Bureau meetings held in 2004 since the last session of the Committee.

The Committee may wish to **refer** to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.

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

<sup>2/</sup> Subsequent to a decision taken by its Bureau on 7 June 2004, the Committee may wish to discuss the agenda items/sub-items in accordance with the following three categories: A) points of a political nature or which need discussion, B) points needing approval by the Committee and C) points of an informative nature or which do not require discussion (TRANS/BUR.2004/17, item 3). In line with the above categories, the Committee may focus its discussion on categories (A) and (B).

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND CONFERENCES** [TRANS/2005/3](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to **consider** the note prepared by the secretariat containing information on the discussions and decisions of the Commission (fifty-ninth session, 24-26 February 2004), which have a bearing on the work of the Committee. The Commission's Annual Report ([E/2004/37-E/ECE/1416](#)) contains the full account of the discussions.

**C:** The Committee may wish to **take note** of, in particular, economic developments in the UNECE region; policies to stimulate competitiveness and growth; the UNECE reform; UNECE's cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); UNECE's achievements, constraints and perspectives; preparations for and follow-up to global and regional conferences; technical cooperation; report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) as reflected in document TRANS/2005/3. The Committee may wish to **take into account** these issues when dealing with the relevant agenda items.

**4. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE** [TRANS/2005/11](#)

**C:** The Committee will be informed orally on the activities related to transport, which are being carried out within other international organizations.

**5. INTERSECTORAL ACTIVITIES**

**(a) Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)** [ECE/AC.21/2004/14](#)  
[TRANS/2005/5](#)

**B:** The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) was established in 2002 at the second High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health to consolidate and focus the relevant UNECE and WHO/Europe's follow-up activities on the so-called Vienna (Transport and Environment-1997) and London (Transport and Health-1999) processes. The Committee may wish to **take note** of the summary report of THE PEP Steering Committee (29-30 March 2004) providing an overview of the main activity areas implemented as part of its programme of work for 2003-2005 and reporting on progress made, for instance on the implementation of THE PEP Clearing House on Transport, Environment and Health. The third session of the Steering Committee will be held on 11 and 12 April 2005.

**C:** In line with the request of its Bureau, the Committee may also wish to **take note** of document TRANS/2005/5 highlighting the extent to which items emanating from the 1997 Vienna Conference on Transport and Environment have been integrated into THE PEP and the way in which THE PEP takes account of transport-related issues.

(b) **Blue Corridor Project**

C: The Committee will be informed about progress on the Blue Corridor Project since the last session of the Committee.

6. **REVIEW OF THE TRANSPORT SITUATION IN UNECE** [TRANS/2005/6](#)  
**MEMBER COUNTRIES AND OF EMERGING DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

C: The Committee may wish to **consider** the document on the transport situation and trends in member countries in 2004, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of national contributions and other sources, following the decision taken by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session ([ECE/TRANS/139](#), para. 17). Discussion of this item may focus on international transport aspects of the information submitted.

7. **TRANSPORT AND SECURITY** [TRANS/2005/14](#)  
[TRANS/SC.2/2004/2](#)

C: Following the request by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session to its subsidiary bodies to accelerate the work already in progress and the considerations on new activities in this field the Committee may wish to take note of documents TRANS/2005/14 and TRANS/SC.2/2004/2 reflecting the activities of the subsidiary bodies on the item under consideration. The Committee may also wish to be **informed** by Governments and by intergovernmental organizations of the measures taken in this field at national and intergovernmental level.

8. **ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH** [TRANS/WP.5/2004/8](#)  
**ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION** [TRANS/WP.5/36](#)

C: The Committee may wish to **note** the activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken in the year 2004, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/8 and the updated informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2004.

(a) **Pilot project for the facilitation of participation of central Asian and Caucasus countries in meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies**

C: The EU funded Pilot project for the facilitation of participation of central Asian and Caucasus countries in meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies over the period September 2004 - August 2005 is being successfully implemented by the secretariat.

B: Based on the positive evaluation of the beneficiary countries for this project and the substantive contribution of the project in supporting the harmonization process of their transport legislation and their transport systems integration with those of other UNECE member countries, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **consider** expressing its appreciation to the EU for its contribution and **request** that all efforts be made that this project be continued in the following

years.

(b) **UN Development Account Project on Capacity Building for developing Interregional Transport Linkages**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** the progress of the UN Development Account Project on Capacity building for developing Interregional Transport Linkages, which is jointly implemented by the five UN Regional Commissions over the period 2003-2006, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/8 and the updated informal report on Operational Activities January-December 2004, and particularly its UNECE-UNESCAP joint project component on developing Euro-Asian transport linkages, which has already produced tangible results.

**B:** Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **consider reiterating** its request that the secretariat, in close cooperation with UNESCAP and the other Regional Commissions, continue its efforts for the successful development of this project.

(c) **TEM and TER Master Plans**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** the progress of the TEM and TER Master Plans aimed at establishing a realistic and consistent medium-long term investment strategy for the development of transport infrastructure in the wider TER region, as reflected in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/8 and the updated informal report on Operational Activities January - December 2004.

**B:** Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to **consider** ways to better use the valuable results of this work, as well as **to support** the proposed follow-up actions.

(d) **Other activities (SPECA, SECI, etc.)**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** the activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken in the year 2004, related to the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the South-east European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), the transit transport cooperation of landlocked and transit developing countries, etc. and the efforts made by the secretariat for raising funds to support these activities.

**B:** Based on the above documentation and information, the Inland Transport Committee may wish to (i) **consider reiterating** its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat for the substantive backstopping and further development of these activities; and (ii) **encourage** member countries to make voluntary contributions for operational activities to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT).

## 9. STATUS OF APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL UNECE TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS

**C:** The Committee will have before it a document in English, French and Russian prepared by the secretariat containing tables on the status as at 31 January 2005 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 UNECE 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.5/36](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it for **consideration** and **approval** the report of the seventeenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) (TRANS/WP.5/36).

#### (a) Euro-Asian transport links

**B:** The Committee may wish to **bear in mind** the work carried out on this question under the UN Development Account Project on Capacity Building for developing interregional transport linkages, in particular, the joint UNECE-UNESCAP component on the development of Euro-Asian Transport Linkages (see also agenda item 8 (b)). Furthermore, the Committee may wish **to support** the initiative by the Working Party to convene a one-day informal meeting in Geneva, in April 2005, with the participation of a limited number of concerned countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Germany, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) and UNESCAP. The task of the meeting would be to study ways in which the monitoring and coordination of the ongoing work on the development of Euro-Asian transport links in various international bodies could be most efficiently ensured, and to provide recommendations for cooperation by the involved countries, international organizations and institutions (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 14). However, the Committee may also wish **to consider** ways and means of ensuring participation at the informal meeting of countries concerned.

#### (b) Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links

**B:** Bearing in mind that the last information on infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links in the European transport infrastructure was collected in 1994, before the AGR and AGC were extended into the Caucasus and Central Asia, the Committee may wish **to support** the decision of the Working Party to collect updated information on the above-mentioned infrastructure features. It may further wish **to invite** all member Governments to actively participate and reply to the relevant secretariat's questionnaire (TRANS/WP.5/36, para. 10).

(c) **Transport in the Mediterranean**

C: The Committee may wish to consider the problems of transport in the Mediterranean on the basis of the work of the centres, the EU and other groupings of countries or individual countries and provide guidance for future work to be undertaken in this field.

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

[TRANS/2005/7](#)

C: The Committee may wish to **take note** of the information received from the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) (TRANS/2005/7), the European Commission (EC) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

11. **ROAD TRANSPORT**

[TRANS/SC.1/375](#)

B: The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1), on its ninety-eighth session, for **consideration and approval** (TRANS/SC.1/375) pending final adoption at SC.1's ninety-ninth session in October 2005.

(a) **Road transport infrastructure**

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

B: The Committee may wish to **endorse** the proposals adopted at the ninety-eighth session of SC.1 to amend Annex I and Annex II to the AGR (TRANS/SC.1/375, Annex I and TRANS/SC.1/375/Add.2). These proposals will be sent to the Secretary-General for the notification procedure after approval by the Committee.

C: The Committee will be **informed** about the latest developments concerning the Asian Highway Agreement, which was adopted at the 2004 session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Shanghai.

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

[TRANS/SC.1/2004/4](#)  
[TRANS/WP.5/36](#)

C: The Committee may wish to take **note** of the progress report of the TEM Project (TRANS/SC.1/2004/4) and the decisions of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics as reflected in paras. 24 and 26 of its report, in document TRANS/WP.5/36, 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 2004, for the implementation of the new short-term strategy for further integration of TEM into the new European transport context and the elaboration of the TEM Master Plan.

B: The ITC may wish to ask the secretariat to start working on the development of projects like TEM in other sub-regions, notably central Asia.

(b) **Facilitation of international road transport**

- (i) **European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)** [TRANS/SC.1/375/Add.1](#)

**B:** The Committee may wish to **endorse** the package of proposed amendments to the AETR introducing the digital tachograph definitively adopted by SC.1 at its ninety-eighth session (TRANS/SC.1/375/Add.1). Following approval by the Committee, the proposed amendments will be sent to the United Nations Treaty Section for transmission to all Contracting Parties.

- (ii) **Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR)** [TRANS/SC.1/375](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that, at its ninety-eighth session, SC.1 decided between two alternative proposals for a new draft Protocol to the CMR introducing the possibility of an electronic consignment note (TRANS/SC.1/375). It requested UNIDROIT to revise and complete its draft as soon as possible so that the secretariat could send the new draft to Contracting Parties for comments well in advance of the next meeting of SC.1. The SC.1 is aiming to finalize the text of the new Protocol at its ninety-ninth session in October 2005.

- (iii) **Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4)** [TRANS/SC.1/2002/4/Rev.4](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to take **note** of TRANS/SC.1/2002/4/Rev.4 which contains the final adopted text of R.E.4 as requested by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session and the list of reservations which appears in TRANS/SC.1/2004/1. This table will be modified in light of the withdrawal of any reservations.

- (iv) **Issuance of visas to professional drivers** [TRANS/2005/2](#)  
[TRANS/2005/8](#)

**A:** At its sixty-sixth session, the Committee had discussed the need to encourage pragmatic solutions to the problems encountered by professional drivers in obtaining visas to engage in international transport and the lack of competence of Ministries of Transport to legislate in this area. In view of the divergences in the positions expressed, the Committee requested the countries concerned to send it a technical note with full details of the specific problems encountered by their carriers.

The Committee may wish to take **note** of document [TRANS/SC.1/2004/5](#) containing letters and a technical note received from eight countries detailing the problems, which their professional drivers routinely encounter in applying for visas (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine) and of document TRANS/2005/8 transmitted by the IRU on the facilitation of visa issuance for professional drivers which proposes the establishment of an ad hoc multidisciplinary group of interested countries and organizations with a mandate to analyse the subject matter and make proposals for



facilitation and harmonization, in particular regarding the list of documents to be submitted with a visa application.

The Committee may wish to **consider** this issue bearing in mind the discussions which took place at the ninety-eighth session of SC.1 (TRANS/SC.1/375) and the proposals of the ITC Bureau contained in TRANS/2005/2.

## 12. ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

[TRANS/WP.1/94](#)

[TRANS/WP.1/96](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) on its forty-fourth session (TRANS/WP.1/94) and on its forty-fifth session (TRANS/WP.1/96) for **consideration and approval** pending final adoption at the forty-sixth session of the Working Party in March 2005.

**(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)**

[TRANS/WP.1/2003/1/Rev.4](#)

[TRANS/WP.1/2003/2/Rev.4](#)

[TRANS/WP.1/2003/3/Rev.4](#)

[TRANS/WP.1/2003/4/Rev.4](#)

[TRANS/WP.1/2003/5/Rev.4](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that the amendment proposals to the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements supplementing them as well as the Protocol on Road Markings contained in documents TRANS/WP.1/2003/1-5/Rev.4 were transmitted to the United Nations Secretary-General by the Russian Federation. The depositary notifications to Contracting Parties were issued on 28 September 2004. From that date, Contracting Parties have 12 months to state whether they accept or reject the proposals. Proposals accepted will enter into force six months after the end of the 12-month period.

**C:** The Committee may also wish to **note** the progress made on updating and completing the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) and the work of informal working groups dealing, *inter alia*, with roadside checks; driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs and medicines; driving permits issued in accordance with the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic; pedestrians; variable message signs; safety of motorcyclists; and seatbelt usage (TRANS/WP.1/96, paras. 10-35).

**(b) Follow-up to the Fourth Road Safety Week in the UNECE Region (5 - 11 April 2004) and the Seminar on Aggressive Driving Behaviour (5 April 2004)**

**C:** The Committee will **be informed** about the holding of the Fourth Road Safety Week in the UNECE Region and about the seminar on aggressive driving behaviour held in the Palais des Nations on 5 April 2004 in cooperation with the World Health Organization.

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that at its forty-fifth session, the WP.1 examined the conclusions of the Seminar (TRANS/WP.1/2004/11) and asked the secretariat to send a questionnaire to member countries in order to evaluate the impact of the Fourth Road Safety Week.



(c) **Follow-up to General Assembly Resolutions on the Global Road Safety Crisis**

**B:** The Committee may **note** that, at its special session on 14 April 2004, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/58/289 on improving global road safety which in operative paragraph 2 “invites the World Health Organization (WHO), in close cooperation with the UN regional commissions, to act as a coordinator on road safety issues within the United Nations system”. In addition, in operative paragraph 3, the United Nations Secretary-General is requested, in submitting his report to the General Assembly, at its sixtieth session, in accordance with resolution 58/9, “to draw upon the expertise of the United Nations regional commissions, as well as the World Health Organization and the World Bank”.

**C:** The Directors responsible for transport in the five UN regional commissions, who met in Geneva on 29-30 September 2004, attended part of the forty-fifth session of WP.1 and subsequently another meeting with WHO on 1 October 2004 to discuss future cooperation as a follow-up to the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution. The Committee will be informed about developments on this item.

(d) **Participation of non-UNECE member countries in UNECE transport related meetings**

[TRANS/2005/9](#)

**C:** In light of decisions made by the Committee in resolution No. 253 ([ECE/TRANS/156](#), Annex 2), orientations given by the Bureau at its June 2004 meeting and General Assembly Resolution 58/289, the WP.1 agreed at its forty-fifth session to propose the extension of participation in the Working Party to States outside the UNECE region which are Contracting Parties to the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals. The WP.1 proposal appears in document TRANS/2005/9.

**B:** The Committee may wish to **approve** this proposal and, since the UNECE Terms of Reference allow participation of non-UNECE countries in a consultative capacity only, **request** the approval of the UNECE at its sixtieth session (22-25 February 2005).

**13. HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS**

[TRANS/WP.29/992](#)  
[TRANS/WP.29/1016](#)  
[TRANS/WP.29/1037](#)

**B:** 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 six subsidiary Working Parties (GRPE, GRSG, GRRF, GRE, GRB, GRSP) during 2004, as reflected in the reports of WP.29 on its one-hundred-and-thirty-second (TRANS/WP.29/992), one-hundred-and-thirty-third (TRANS/WP.29/1016) and one-hundred-and-thirty-fourth (TRANS/WP.29/1037) sessions.

(a) **The 1958 Agreement and annexed UNECE Regulations**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that, with the accession on 1 May 2004 of new Countries to the European Union, Cyprus and Malta have become Contracting Parties to the Agreement and that, after the accession of the Republic of Korea to the Agreement, effective on

31 December 2004, the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement reached 44. Five new UNECE Regulations were adopted raising the number of Regulations annexed to the Agreement to 121. Forty-five amendments to thirty-six existing Regulations were adopted.

**(b) The 1998 (global) Agreement**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that, during 2004, the number of Contracting Parties remained the same (22). The Executive Committee (AC.3) of the Agreement adopted the first global technical regulation (gtr) concerning door locks and door retention components. Work continued in the sixteen other priorities for establishing new draft global technical regulations and on the draft Special Resolution No. 1 (S.R.1) on common definitions of vehicle categories, masses and dimensions of vehicles to be utilized in all future global technical regulations. The six subsidiary Working Parties continued to work not only on these sixteen priorities, but also on the five items that the Executive Committee of the Agreement (AC.3) had authorized to continue or begin.

**(c) The 1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections**

**B:** The Committee might wish to **note** that the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement remained the same (seven) and that the amendment to the Agreement clarifying that the mutual recognition of the periodical technical inspections needs the agreement of the Contracting Parties where the vehicle is registered and where the periodical technical inspection is to take place entered into force on 1 December 2004. This amendment was adopted to facilitate the European Community accession to the Agreement. The Committee may again **consider** inviting the 18 countries, which signed the Agreement on 13 November 1997, to speed up their national ratification procedures and **decide** to invite the European Community to accede to the Agreement. The Committee may **note** that the proposal for draft Rule No. 2, concerning inspections with respect to safety of heavy commercial passenger and goods vehicles used in international transport, remained under consideration.

**(d) Additional resources for the WP.29 secretariat**

**B:** The Committee may **note** that its request for a new P4 post (ECE/TRANS/156, para. 5) to perform the technical and administrative functions related to the development of global vehicle regulations in the framework of the 1998 Agreement was expected to be included in the programme budget proposal for 2006 – 2007, and that, in the meantime, the UNECE requested the United Nations Headquarters to provide the Transport Division with this P4 post through internal redeployment. The Committee may **also note** that, in view of the increasing workload in the development of global technical regulations in the framework of the 1998 Agreement, the provision of this post is urgently needed. In this connection, the Committee may **note** that the Permanent Missions of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the United States of America sent verbal notes to the Executive Secretary expressing their support for the allocation of the post.

## 14. RAIL TRANSPORT

[TRANS/SC.2/202](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it the report of the fifty-eighth session of the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) (TRANS/SC.2/202) for **consideration** and **approval**.

### (a) Rail transport infrastructure

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

**B:** The Committee may wish to **take note** that in total 24 countries are at present Contracting Parties to the AGC Agreement. It may also wish to **note** the amendments proposed by Germany to Annex 1 of the AGC (TRANS/SC.2/202, annex 1). 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.2/202, para.21). 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 (TRANS/SC.2/202, para.22).

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

[TRANS/SC.2/2004/13](#)  
[TRANS/WP.5/36](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to take **note** of the progress report of the TER Project (TRANS/SC.2/2004/13) and the decisions of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics as reflected in paras. 24 and 26 of its report, in document TRANS/WP.5/36, particularly, the major efforts made by the UNECE, in close collaboration with the TER member countries and the Project Central Office during the year 2004, for the implementation of the new short-term strategy for further integration of TER into the new European transport context and the elaboration of the TER Master Plan.

**B:** The ITC may wish to ask the secretariat to start working on the development of projects like TER in other sub-regions, notably central Asia.

### (b) Facilitation of border crossing in international rail transport

[TRANS/SC.2/2004/7](#)  
[TRANS/SC.2/2004/15](#)  
[TRANS/2005/15](#)

**B:** The Committee may also wish to **support** the preparatory activities carried out, so far, by the UNECE secretariat, the OSZhD, involved countries and international organizations on the facilitation of border crossing procedures in international rail transport. It further may wish to **support** the convening of an International Conference on Facilitation of Railway Border Crossing and the Plan of Action for its preparation as adopted at the First preparatory meeting. Furthermore, the Committee may wish to **invite** the Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport (WP. 30) to initiate, as soon as possible, the elaboration of a new Annex on Railway Border Crossing facilitation to the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods (1982) or, alternatively, to consider updating the International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage carried by Rail, of

10 January, 1952 and the International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Goods Carried by Rail, of 10 January 1952.

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that 11 countries and 27 border crossing stations provided the data on border-stopping times in the observed period in 2004. The questionnaire allows monitoring of border-stopping times in international rail transport on AGC lines. It aimed to cover all border crossing stations on the AGC lines, with the objective of identifying not only border-stopping times but also the type and average duration of different checking controls as well as the compliance with the ITC's resolution No. 248 of 1999 which calls for the reduction of the border stopping time of shuttle trains in international traffic to 60 minutes (TRANS/SC.2/202, para. 13).

**B:** The Committee may wish to **support** continuation of this activity of the Working Party.

**(c) Safety and security in rail transport** [TRANS/SC.2/202](#)

**B:** The Committee may wish **to support** the decision by the Working Party that, at this point in time, there is no need for the establishment of an Ad hoc group which would be entrusted to develop recommendations for security and safety in rail transport, and its decision to review, at its next session, all relevant international agreements and other legal instruments in the area of rail safety and security (TRANS/SC.2/202, para. 8).

**B:** Furthermore, the Committee may wish **to approve** the Working Party's intention to invite member Governments to consider and discuss at the next session, the need for convening an International Conference on Transport Security and Safety. The conference, dealing with security and safety issues in all transport modes, would include all actors involved in security and safety issues at the technical level (Governments, transport operators, international organizations, transport associations, specialized bodies (COLPOFER), etc. (TRANS/SC.2/202, para. 8).

**15. INLAND WATER TRANSPORT** [TRANS/SC.3/163](#)

**B:** The report of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport, on its forty-eighth session, has been circulated for **consideration** and **approval** by the Committee as TRANS/SC.3/163.

**(a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways** [ECE/TRANS/120](#)  
**of International Importance (AGN)** [TRANS/SC.3/163](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/2004/17](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/159/Corr.1](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/144](#) and Adds [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish **to note** that the Working Party provisionally agreed on the draft text of amendments to the AGN Agreement and to its annexes (TRANS/SC.3/2004/17) and intends to consider and adopt them at its next session in October 2005 (TRANS/SC.3/163, paras. 17-19).

**B:** The Committee may also wish **to note** the request of the Working Party to the secretariat to prepare a revised publication of the Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network (“Blue Book”) (TRANS/SC.3/144 and Add.1-4) based on the information received from Governments (TRANS/SC.3/163, para. 20). In this connection, the Committee may wish **to note** that, at the forty-eighth session of the Working Party, the Romanian delegation objected to the introduction in the Blue Book at this stage of data presented by the Government of Ukraine in the draft TRANS/SC.3/144/Add.4 concerning the so-called “Bystroe Arm Outlet” leading from the Danube (E80 waterway, according to the AGN Agreement) via its Kilia Arm (E80-09) to the Black Sea. In reply, the delegation of Ukraine stated that the reopened Danube - Black Sea navigable waterway via the Bystroe Branch should be retained as an integral component of the E80-09 waterway providing a reliable navigable outlet to the Black Sea for this E waterway. Summaries of the two declarations are reflected in document TRANS/SC.3/163, paras. 22 and 23 respectively. In discussing the item, the Committee may wish **to bear in mind** that the Blue Book is not a part of AGN. It was conceived by the Working Party as a tool to enable Governments to monitor the progress in the implementation of the AGN Agreement.

The Committee may wish to note that the Bureau of the Committee when considering this question at its meeting of 2-3 December 2004, recommended that the Blue Book be published based on the information received from the Governments. Concerning the information submitted by the Government of Ukraine on the updating of the E80-09 waterway, it was agreed that the secretariat prepare a draft text for a footnote, based on the discussions held in the ITC Bureau meeting of 2-3 December 2004. This draft text will be subject to the approval by the Governments of Romania and of Ukraine by 20 January 2005 at the latest. In the absence of an agreement by this date, each Government will submit individual comments, which will be reflected in separate footnotes.

The Committee may wish to **approve** the recommendations of the Bureau. It will also be informed of the latest developments of this issue.

**C:** It may also wish **to note** the adoption by the Working Party of a corrigendum to the Inventory of the most important bottlenecks and missing links in the E waterway network (annex to resolution No. 49) appearing in TRANS/SC.3/159/Corr.1.

**B:** The Committee may wish **to note and endorse** the adoption by the Working Party of resolution No. 52 on a Recreational navigation network as set out in TRANS/SC.3/164.

**B:** It may equally **note and endorse** the decision of the Working Party to proceed with updating the Map of European Inland Waterways which was issued the last time in 1999 (TRANS/SC.3/163, para. 33).

(b) Technical and legal questions regarding the development and facilitation of international transport by inland waterway

[TRANS/SC.3/104/Add.6](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/2004/6](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/2004/7](#)  
[TRANS/SC.3/2004/8](#)

**B:** The Committee will be orally informed, and may wish **to take note**, of the progress made by the Working Party in implementing the Committee's resolution No. 250 on the Promotion of Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/139, annex 2). In this connection, it may wish to **take note and endorse** the intention of the Working Party, jointly with ECMT and River Commissions, to organize in September 2005 a preparatory Workshop for the 2006 Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport, which is expected to be hosted by ECMT in Paris (TRANS/SC.3/163, paras. 57-65).

**B:** The Committee may wish **to take note of and endorse** the adoption by the Working Party of resolution No.53 on amendment of the Recommendations on Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels with an appendix reflecting safety signs to be used on board inland navigation vessels (TRANS/SC.3/104/Add.6); No.54 on amendment of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (TRANS/SC.3/2004/6); No. 55 on Prevention of air pollution by diesel engines used on inland navigation vessels (TRANS/SC.3/104/Add.6); No.56 on Minimum manning requirements and working and rest hours of crews of vessels in inland navigation (TRANS/SC.3/104/Add.6); No. 57 on Common principles and technical requirements for a Pan-European river information service (RIS) (TRANS/SC.3/2004/7); and No.58 on Vessel traffic services (VTS) on inland waterways (TRANS/SC.3/2004/8).

**C:** The Committee may also wish **to take note** that the Working Party, acting under its instructions (ECE/TRANS/152, para. 22 and ECE/TRANS/156, para. 30) studied the situation with regard to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Inland Waterway (CVN) of 1976, which has only a single Contracting State and never entered into force. Bearing in mind the responses by Governments to the questionnaire circulated to this effect by the secretariat, revealing a rather modest interest by Governments in a revision of the Convention, the Working Party agreed not to pursue this item, for the time being, and to revert to it at a later stage (TRANS/SC.3/163, para. 57).

**16. INTERMODAL TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS**

[TRANS/WP.24/105](#)  
[TRANS/WP.24/103](#) and [Corr.1](#)

**B:** The reports of the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) on its forty-first and forty-second sessions have been circulated for **consideration and approval**.

(a) European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) and its Protocol on Inland Waterways

[TRANS/WP.24/2004/5](#)

**B:** Progress has been made by the Working Party in the development of “model” action plans and partnership agreements to promote cooperation among Governments and the private sector

towards efficient international combined transport services. The Committee may wish to **endorse** the view of the Working Party that, at this stage, a recommendation or resolution for adoption by the Working Party in March 2005 should be prepared on that subject rather than detailed amendment proposals to the AGTC Agreement. Thereafter, such an instrument could possibly be endorsed by the ECMT Council of Ministers (May 2005) and the Committee (February 2006).

**B:** The Committee may wish **to encourage** Contracting Parties to finalize updating and the extension of the geographical scope of the AGTC Agreement, including also important Euro-Asian transport links. It may also wish **to invite** all concerned Contracting Parties to accede to the Protocol to the AGTC Agreement relating to inland waterways, particularly those Contracting Parties that have signed but not ratified the Protocol, i.e. Austria, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy and Portugal, in order to allow the Protocol to enter into force.

**(b) Reconciliation and harmonization of civil liability regimes governing intermodal transport** [TRANS/WP.24/103](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish **to note** that the Working Party has postponed further work on this subject in view of little progress made by the United Nations Commission on Intermodal Trade Law (UNCITRAL) in the preparation of an international instrument on maritime law that would extend to all contracts of carriage involving a sea leg, irrespective of their length or economic importance. The Working Party will, however, continue to closely monitor these activities.

**(c) ECMT/UNECE Seminar on Intermodal Transport between Europe and Asia** [TRANS/2005/12](#)  
[TRANS/WP.24/2005/1](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish **to take note** of the conclusions of a “Seminar on Intermodal Transport between Asia and Europe: Opportunities and Challenges” organized jointly by ECMT and UNECE in cooperation with the Government of the Ukraine (Kiev, 27 and 28 September 2004).

**17. BORDER CROSSING FACILITATION** [TRANS/WP.30/212](#)  
[TRANS/WP.30/214](#)  
[TRANS/WP.30/216](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it the reports of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30), on its one-hundred-and-sixth, one-hundred-and-seventh and one-hundred-and-eighth sessions (TRANS/WP.30/212, -/214 and -/216), 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.2/73](#)

**B:** 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.2/73 and TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/75.

With a view to continuing the progress on Phase III of the TIR revision process, focusing on the revision of the TIR Carnet and computerization of the TIR procedure, in particular, the Committee may wish to **decide** to prolong the mandate of the group of experts on the TIR revision process for the year 2005.

- (b) **International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982** [TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2005/1](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to be informed about the progress made in respect of the development of a new Annex 8 to the Convention, covering all elements of efficient border crossing procedures in international road transport of goods, including (i) an International Vehicle Weight Certificate, (ii) acceptance of the Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections or the concept regarding such agreement and (iii) provisions encouraging visa facilitation measures for professional drivers.

- (c) **Draft Conventions on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail** [TRANS/2005/13](#)

**B:** The Committee may wish to **consider** and **adopt** the final text of the draft Convention on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail under Cover of SMGS Consignment Notes, which had been adopted, in principle, by the Working Party at its session in February 2004.

## **18. 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**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods met from 5-14 July 2004 (see report [ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/50](#) and -/Add.1) and will meet again from 29 November to 7 December 2004. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals met from 14-16 July 2004 (see report [ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/14](#)) and will meet again from 7-9 December 2004. The Committee itself will hold its second session on 10 December 2004. It will consider the work of both Sub-Committees over the 2003-2004 biennium and adopt recommendations that should be published by the secretariat in 2005 as the fourteenth revised edition of the Recommendations on

the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations; amendments to the fourth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria; and the first revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

- (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.1/96](#) and [Add.1](#)

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting held one session (Geneva, 13-17 September 2004) and adopted draft amendments to the common requirements of RID, ADR and ADN which should come into force on 1 January 2007.

- (c) **European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)** [TRANS/WP.15/176](#)  
[TRANS/WP.15/178](#)  
and [Add.1](#) and [Corr.1](#)  
[TRANS/WP.15/181](#)

C: The Committee may wish to **note** that there are 39 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-six Contracting Parties have done so to date, and the Committee may wish to **urge** the remaining Contracting Parties (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, 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 wish to **note** that the draft amendments adopted in 2002 and 2003 (TRANS/WP.15/178 and Add.1 and Corr.1) have been deemed accepted by Contracting Parties and will enter into force on 1 January 2005 with a six-month transitional period. A new consolidated (2005) edition of ADR has been published by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/175, Vols. I and II, and -/Corr.1).

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 last sessions in 2004 (3-7 May 2004 and 25-28 October 2004). These amendments should enter into force on 1 January 2007.

B: Concerning the implementation of ADR, the Committee may wish to **invite** Contracting Parties which would not have yet done so to notify the secretariat of temporary bilateral or multilateral agreements (derogations); of the names and addresses of authorities and bodies designated by them which are competent in accordance with national law to implement ADR; of additional provisions (restrictions) within the scope of 1.9.3 (a) and (d), if any, applying on their

territory; and of reports on serious accidents or incidents taking place during the carriage of dangerous goods on their territory, in accordance with their obligations resulting from paragraphs 1.5.1.1, 1.8.4, 1.8.5.2 and 1.9.4 of Annex A of ADR.

**C:** For the strategic objectives, the Committee may wish to **note** the comments made by the Working Party (TRANS/WP.15/181, para. 81-85), as well as the request to delete the words “throughout Europe” in elements (a) and (c) of programme activity 02.7.

**(d)** **European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)** [TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/17](#) and [Add.1](#)

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that there are now three Contracting States to ADN: Hungary, the Russian Federation and the Netherlands. It is recalled that the ADN had also been signed (subject to ratification) by the following other 9 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia. It was open for signature until 31 May 2001 and is now open for accession.

**B:** The Committee may also wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the ADN held its eighth session from 26 to 29 January 2004. It adopted amendments to the Regulations annexed to the ADN. A consolidated list of amendments adopted in 2003 and 2004 has been issued as TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/17/Add.1. They 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** UNECE member States to implement the amended Regulations through their national legislation as from 1 January 2005. A consolidated version of the Agreement and the amended Regulations has been published by the secretariat as “ADN 2005” (ECE/TRANS/182, Vol. I and Vol. II).

New amendments should be adopted at the ninth session to be held from 26-30 January 2004 (report to be circulated as TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/19).

## **19. TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS** [TRANS/WP.11/210](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it the report of the sixtieth session of the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (TRANS/WP.11/210) for **consideration** and **approval**.

### **Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP)**

**C:** The Committee may wish to **note** that the amended Annex 3 to the ATP entered into force.

## **20. TRANSPORT STATISTICS** [TRANS/WP.6/147](#)

**B:** The Committee will have before it the report of the Working Party on Transport Statistics on its fifty-fifth session (9-11 June 2004) (TRANS/WP.6/147) for **consideration** and **approval**.

(a) **Methodological developments**

[TRANS/WP.6/2004/1/Rev.1](#)

**B:** The Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) adopted at its fifty-fifth session the final version of the new classification of transport statistics (NST/2000). The final version of the NST/2000 as reproduced in document (TRANS/WP.6/2004/1/Rev.1) is submitted to the ITC for adoption.

(b) **Preparations for 2005 E-Road and 2005 E-Rail Traffic Censuses**

**C:** The ITC will be **informed** about the activities that relate to the ongoing censuses: (i) 2005 Combined Census of Motor Traffic Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe, and (ii) E-Rail Traffic Census 2005.

**21. TRANSPORT DIVISION WEBSITE**

**C:** In 2004 the Transport Division website has undergone an overall restyling exercise in accordance with the new UNECE layout.

New sites have been set up for the Euro-Asian Transport Links Project and the first meeting of the Group of Experts on Monitoring Radiologically Contaminated Scrap Metal. The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals website has been improved and added to the section concerning Legal Instruments.

Work in 2005 will focus on keeping the website easy to navigate and up-to-date.

**III. ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

**22. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

[TRANS/2005/10](#)

**C:** At its sixty-sixth session, the Committee had adopted the draft Strategic Objectives of the Committee as prepared by its Bureau ([TRANS/2004/2](#), annex 3, Appendix 1). It had also taken note of a supplementary paper (Appendix 2), which indicated certain potential major areas of future work (annex 3, Appendix 1, paragraph 11) and had requested its subsidiary bodies to review the table in the supplementary paper and identify issues which might be added to their respective programmes of work (ECE/TRANS/156, para. 14).

**B:** The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** the revised table (TRANS/2005/10), which reflects the results of discussions by subsidiary bodies on the strategic objectives and the programme of work.

**23. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS IN 2005**

[TRANS/2005/4](#)

**B:** A preliminary list of meetings is being circulated for **consideration and adoption** by the Committee, based on proposals made by the Committee's subsidiary bodies (TRANS/2005/4).

**24. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**B:** The Committee is expected to **elect** its officers for the sessions of the Committee in 2006 and 2007.

**25. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU IN 2005 AND 2006**

**B:** The Committee may wish to **decide** on the composition of its Bureau for the preparation of the sessions of the Committee in 2006 and 2007.

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**26. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Date of next session**

**C:** The Committee may **note** that its sixty-eighth session is tentatively scheduled to be held from 7-9 February 2006.

**27. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

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

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