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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-third session

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Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda

PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE ATP

New proposals

Paragraph 2 of Article 3

Transmitted by the Government of Finland

Note by the secretariat

The Programme of Work for 2006-2010 of the Inland Transport Committee adopted at its 68th session in 2006 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, Item 2.11 (a)) requires the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) to ensure the Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operations, *inter alia*, by the Consideration of amendment proposals to ATP to ensure it is updated as necessary. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

Background

In previous meetings, the representatives of Finland have discussed with representatives of many other countries about the length of the sea crossing referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the ATP for goods that are shipped in equipment used for the land journey. While sea crossings in the Baltic Sea often exceed 150 km, as between Finland and Germany, Finland and Sweden, Finland and Poland, it is possible to use ATP vehicles, which are not ATP-classified (please see map below).

The same problem concerns many countries situated around the Baltic Sea. It is possible that transportation may last even four days from the southern part of Germany to the northern part of Finland. Transportation equipment, which is not ATP-classified, can be used due to the fact that according to paragraph 1 of Article 3 of the ATP Agreement each land journey shall be considered separately. Finland would prefer to also include sea crossings in the ATP Agreement if the goods are shipped in equipment used for the land journey and the goods are loaded and unloaded in two different countries. Regarding paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the ATP, Finland would like to suggest increasing the distance from 150 km to 1500 km.

Proposed new text of paragraph 2 of Article 3

"2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this article shall likewise apply to sea crossings of less than **1500** km on condition that the goods are shipped in equipment used for the land journey or journeys without transloading of the goods and that such crossings precede or follow one or more land journeys as referred to in paragraph 1 of this article or take place between two such land journeys."

Map of the Baltic Sea



Length of sea crossings between Finland and Germany (approx. 1100 km), Finland and Poland (approx. 800 km), Finland and Sweden (approx. 470 km).