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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Ad hoc Group of Experts on the E-Rail Traffic Census

Second session
Geneva, 11 November 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SESSION^{1, 2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.00 hours on Tuesday 11 November 2008

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/transstatac4agenda.html>>. On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (wp.6@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22-917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>>. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (carole.marilley@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22-917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 740 30 or 734 57). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>>.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/3

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/3).

Item 2. Election of Officers

2. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Ad hoc Group of Experts will **elect** a Chairman.

Item 3. Mandate

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/155

3. At its fifty-ninth session (28-30 May 2008), the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) decided to establish an Ad hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census that should evaluate the results of the 2005 Census, prepare recommendations to Governments on procedures and methodologies for the 2010 Census and draft a resolution for adoption by the UNECE Inland Transport Committee in February 2009 (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/155, paragraph 37).

4. For the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census, an Ad hoc Group of Experts will be convened on 10 November 2008 in Geneva. The agenda and relevant documentation is available at <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/transstatac2agenda.html> .

Item 4. Results of the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census

(a) Presentation of the results of the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

5. The Ad hoc Group of Experts will be acquainted with the results of the 2005 Rail Traffic Census. Particular problems encountered in the preparation of the 2005 Census will be discussed on the basis of informal documentation which will be available at the meeting.

(b) Country notes to the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/2

6. The country notes accompanying the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census will be available in document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/2.

Item 5. Draft Recommendations to Governments on the E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2010 (“2010 E-Rail Traffic Census”)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1/Add.1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1/Add.2

7. Governments and interested international organizations are invited to prepare the recommendations for the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census. As a basis for discussion, the Ad hoc Group may wish to consider the draft recommendations for the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1 and Adds.1-2) and propose any modification considered necessary. These draft recommendations are essentially the same as those of the 2005 E-Rail Traffic Census and in the light of the experiences and results may need to be updated and adapted to new requirements and data needs.

8. The Ad hoc Group may wish to consider, in particular, the following issues:

Coverage of the Census

9. For purposes of the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census, the network referred to is that described in Annex I of the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) of 1985 (ECE/TRANS/63) and in Amendments to the Agreement (TRANS/SC.2/2004/10) and in any other amendment coming into force before 2010
<<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc2/sc2.html>>.

Purpose of the Census

10. Internationally comparable data on main international railway traffic lines are of major and increasing importance in Europe, given the growing volume of international and transit traffic.

11. Every effort should be made within the framework of the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census to arrive at data which are as comparable as possible at the international level and respond to new data requirements and changes in traffic patterns. This information also contributes to finding solutions to the problems raised by traffic congestion and facilitates the study of environmental issues, rail safety and energy consumption.

Scope of the Census

12. As E-railway lines constitute a relatively limited part of a country's national railway network, it is of particular interest to know the importance of traffic on main international railway lines in member countries.

Categories of trains to be counted

13. Counting should include passenger and goods trains.

Values to be calculated

14. For each E-railway line in a country, it is recommended that the annual number of trains per network segment and by train category be recorded. For the total railway network in each country, hauled train-kilometres for each train category should be provided for the year of the census.

Characteristics of rail lines

15. Information about the volume and distribution of traffic on these rail lines will be of greater value if information about the characteristics of such lines can be obtained.

Compilation and publication of the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census

16. It is recommended that Governments supply to the UNECE secretariat a report on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census carried out in their country. Since the usefulness of the publication of the Census depends to a large extent on its timeliness, it is desirable that Governments try, to any extent possible, to furnish the data (including a map, if necessary), before 30 June 2011.

Item 6. Draft Resolution on 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/3, annex

17. The Ad hoc Group may wish to **consider and approve** the draft Resolution on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census, as prepared by the secretariat and annexed to this agenda. The meeting may wish to **transmit** it to the Inland Transport Committee for adoption at its seventy-first session (24-26 February 2009).

Item 7. Other business

18. The Ad hoc Group may wish to **discuss** the possibilities of producing the 2010 Census results on a CD-ROM, as well as the possibilities for putting a portion of the data on the Transport Division's Internet Home Page.

19. Furthermore, the Ad hoc Group may wish to **consider and set** timetables and deadlines for the various phases (circulation of the questionnaire, collection of data, replies, consolidation and publication of the results).

Item 8. Adoption of the decisions

20. At the end of the meeting, the Chairman will make a brief summary of the decisions taken. Following the session, the secretariat, in cooperation with the Chairman, will establish a report on the outcome of the meeting, including the text of the draft ITC Resolution and the Recommendations to Governments for the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census.

Annex

**E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2010
("2010 E-Rail Traffic Census")**

Draft Resolution No. ...

to be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee
at its seventy-first meeting (24-26 February 2009)

The Inland Transport Committee,

Recalling its Resolution No. 255 adopted on 19 February 2004 (ECE/TRANS/156, annex 4),

1. *Invites* Governments:

(a) To take a census of traffic on the E-rail lines on their national territory, in accordance with the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC), and in line with the Recommendations to Governments for the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census as set forth in UNECE document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1.

(b) To supply the results of the combined E-Rail Traffic Census 2010 to the UNECE secretariat, if possible, before 30 June 2011, in conformity with the Recommendations set forth in UNECE document ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2008/1 and Add.1 and 2.

2. *Recommends* that Governments take a census of traffic on other non-urban rail lines in their national territory, applying where possible, the methods set out in the Recommendations mentioned under paragraph 1(a) above.

3. *Requests* Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) by 30 September 2009 whether they agree to implement the provisions of this resolution.
