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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Twenty-second session
Geneva, 8-9 September 2009

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

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 8 September 2009

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Monitoring of the developments relevant to pan-European transport corridors and areas
 - (a) The European Commission briefing on the progress made in the development of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)
 - (b) Pan-European Transport Corridors, Trans European Motorway (TEM) and Trans European Railway (TER) projects

¹ 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/wp5/wp5.html>). 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 2 weeks prior to the session by email (violet.yee@unece.org) or by fax (+41-22-917 0039). Delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on our website <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>).

- (c) Transport infrastructure bottlenecks
- 3. Hinterland Connections of Seaports
 - (a) Report of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports
 - (b) Follow-up activities
- 4. Euro-Asian Transport Links
 - (a) Report of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links
 - (b) Other Euro-Asian transport initiatives
- 5. Transport in the Mediterranean Region
 - (a) Report of the Mediterranean Transport Study Centre
 - (b) The Euro-Mediterranean transport network
- 6. Transport trends and challenges
 - (a) Review of the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region
 - (b) The Turkish experience
 - (c) Internalization of external costs of transport
 - (d) Financing of transport infrastructure
- 7. Transport monuments as world heritage in the ECE region
- 8. Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party
 - (a) Inland Transport Committee
 - (b) Inland transport security
- 9. Assistance regarding the institutional adaptation of government administration and transport enterprises to market economy
- 10. Biennial evaluation 2008-2009
- 11. Other business
- 12. Date of next session
- 13. Adoption of the report

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/45 - Annotated provisional agenda

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is its adoption.

Item 2 Monitoring of the developments relevant to pan-European transport corridors and areas

(a) The European Commission briefing on the progress made in the development of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44 - Report of the twenty-first session

2. At its twenty-first session (9-10 September 2008), the European Commission (EC) informed the Working Party about the progress made in the development of trans-European transport (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44, para. 3). The Commission will brief the Working Party about the implementation of TEN-T projects and extension of the network to countries in the neighbourhood of the European Union (EU).

(b) Pan-European Transport Corridors, Trans European Motorway (TEM) and Trans European Railway (TER) projects

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

3. Managers of selected Pan-European Transport (PET) Corridors, TEM and TER projects are expected to provide an update on relevant developments and activities regarding the extension of major trans-European transport axes. Representatives of the countries concerned may wish to provide additional information on major developments relevant to pan-European transport networks in their respective countries.

4. In view of recent developments, the Working Party may wish to discuss how it can contribute to the success of both TEM and TER projects.

(c) Transport infrastructure bottlenecks

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/1 - Publication of the report on bottlenecks and related activities; Informal documentation (available at the session)

5. During its twenty-first session, the Working Party asked the secretariat to ensure the publication of the report entitled "Methodological basis for the definition of common criteria regarding bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks." The final draft of the report was approved by the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-first session in February 2009 and then published by the UN. The secretariat will inform the Working Party about subsequent developments concerning the methodology for the identification of bottlenecks and its use in international infrastructure planning.

Item 3 Hinterland Connections of Seaports

(a) Report of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.1/9 - Report of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports on its fourth session; Informal documentation (available at the session)

6. The Chair of the Group of Experts on Hinterland Connections of Seaports will inform the Working Party about completed activities of the Group and introduce a draft of the Group's final report for the consideration by delegates.

(b) Follow-up activities

7. The secretariat will present possible follow-up activities for consideration by the Working Party.

Item 4 Euro-Asian Transport Links

(a) Report of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/2 - Report of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links on its first session; Informal documentation (available at the session)

8. The Chair of the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) will inform the Working Party about completed and planned activities of the Group. The Working Party will be asked to approve the extension of the Expert Group's mandate by another two years.

(b) Other Euro-Asian transport initiatives

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

9. Representatives of invited Euro-Asian transport initiatives will brief the Working Party about their activities and actual or planned cooperation with the EATL Expert Group. The Working Party may wish to endorse such cooperation.

Item 5 Transport in the Mediterranean Region

(a) Report of the Mediterranean Transport Study Centre

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/2 - Transport in the Mediterranean region; Informal documentation (available at the session)

10. The Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) had been asked to prepare a report on CETMO activities for the twenty-second session of WP.5. The information on recent activities of CETMO will be circulated in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2008/2 for consideration by the Working Party.

(b) The Euro-Mediterranean transport network

11. The European Commission will brief the Working Party on its activities pertaining to the development of the Euro-Mediterranean transport network.

Item 6 Transport trends and challenges

(a) Review of the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/3 - Review of the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region; Informal documentation (available at the session)

12. The secretariat prepared a review of the transport situation and emerging trends in the ECE region, based on available statistics and national contributions (available as informal documents and at <http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome.html>). Following a brief introduction of the updated review (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/3), the Working Party may wish to consider the resolutions adopted by rail and road industry representatives, aiming to mitigate effects of the economic crisis on transport operators.

(b) The Turkish experience

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

13. The Turkish Ministry of Transport will make a presentation concerning the country's experience with improving the quality of transport services and inter-modal coordination (including hinterland connections of seaports) in the context of ongoing liberalization, EU enlargement and economic downturn. The Working Party may wish to discuss the Turkish experience with the adaptation to cyclical and structural changes in the market for inland transport services and indicate whether it would like to receive a similar national report next year.

(c) Internalization of external costs of transport

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

14. The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) will present the rail sector's view on the internalization of external costs. The Working Party may wish to compare the conclusions with those presented by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) and invited expert during its twenty-first session.

(d) Financing of transport infrastructure

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/4 – Financing of transport infrastructure; Informal documentation (available at the session)

15. Following two presentations on the impact of the global economic crisis on the financing of transport infrastructure, the Working Party will discuss how to protect existing investment programmes. The ways and means necessary to revitalize transport infrastructure investment in countries with transition economies will be considered.

Item 7 Transport monuments as world heritage in the ECE region

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

16. The secretariat will present an informal document discussing the importance of preserving major transport monuments in the ECE region and possible activities in this area. The Working Party may wish to discuss whether such activities could be incorporated into its programme of work.

Item 8 Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party

(a) Inland Transport Committee

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/206 - Report of the seventy-first session

17. The Inland Transport Committee (ITC) held its seventy-first session in Geneva from 24 to 26 February 2009. The Working Party will be informed about the Committee's decisions on the issues related to its programme of work.

(b) Inland transport security

18. The secretariat will inform the Working Party about recent and planned ITC activities in the area of inland transport security.

Item 9 Assistance regarding the institutional adaptation of government administration and transport enterprises to market economy

Documentation: Informal documentation (available at the session)

19. The Working Party will be informed about activities of the Regional Adviser and the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) during the first half of 2009.

20. The Working Party may wish to invite governments and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and indicate the type of assistance which may be forthcoming.

Item 10 Biennial evaluation 2008-2009

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2009/5 - Biennial evaluation 2008-2009

21. The secretariat will introduce a questionnaire aiming to evaluate the session and invite delegates to complete it. Answers to the previous questionnaire are summarized in the report of the twenty-first session of the Working Party (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44, para. 26).

Item 11 Other business

22. At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.

Item 12 Date of next session

23. The Working Party's twenty-third session is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva on 7 - 8 September 2010.

Item 13 Adoption of the report

24. In accordance with the decision of the Working Party taken at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chair and Vice-Chair with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to the Inland Transport Committee.

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