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Working Party on Road Transport
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agenda item 7)

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2002-2006

Note by the secretariat

The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2002-2006 and, in particular, the continued relevance of priorities assigned to individual work elements and the expected outputs identified for the next two-year period, i.e. by 2002/2003.

Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.2: ROAD TRANSPORT

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

I. Implementation and amendment of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)

Description: In order to adapt the European road network to future requirements and to extend it to Central Asian and Caucasus ECE member States, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will take suitable action to implement the Agreement and amend as necessary its provisions with regard, in particular, to the structure and numbering of the network (Annex I), applicable technical standards (Annex II) and user information and safety, taking into account the evolution of traffic flows.

GE.01-

Work to be undertaken:

- ~~(a) — Review of the E road network and conditions to which it should conform and adoption of necessary amendments to Annexes I, II and III of the Agreement.~~

~~Output expected by 2001: Consideration, and adoption as appropriate, of amendments to Annexes I, II and III of AGR.~~ Priority: 1

- ~~(a)(b)~~ Consideration of the AGR Agreement in the light of new east-west traffic flows with a view to introducing main international road links in eastern European, Central Asian and Caucasus ECE member States in the E-road network.

Output expected by 2001 2002-2003: Adoption of amendments to Annex I and II to the AGR including new E-roads in Central Asia and Caucasus. Priority: 1

- ~~(b) (e)~~ Consideration of the AGR Agreement ~~in the light of other related UNECE bodies and other organizations~~ with a view to enhancing AGR provisions and standards which have an impact on road safety, environmental protection and energy saving.

Output expected by 2001 2002-2003: Adoption of amendments to Review of the provisions of Annex II of the AGR which relate to safety, including safety in tunnels and ; development of environmental criteria strategies for follow up to the RCTE as far as the AGR is concerned. Priority: 1

- ~~(d) — Taking an inventory of the existing infrastructure parameters of the E road network in order to enable a comparison with the relevant requirements and recommendations laid down in the AGR and analysis of this inventory in conjunction with the Census of Motor Traffic on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe in order to rationalize the collection of data (E-Road Census). (Every five years; next in 2000);~~

~~Output expected by 2001: Complete geographic application of 1994 Inventory and integrate with E-Road Census to be published every five years as: "The Combined Census of Road Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe (E road Census and Inventory)" (2000-2002).~~ Priority: 2

II. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project

Description: In order to assist in the construction of the TEM network as part of an integrated international road infrastructure, the Working Party on Road Transport will continue its close cooperation with TEM.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Review of ongoing and expected future progress in the TEM network and consideration of possibilities to contribute to its further development (e.g., combined transport, financing).

Output expected by 2001 2002-2003: Guidance on the development of the TEM Project. Priority: 2

- ~~(b) Consideration of the possible application of results achieved by the TEM Project to the implementation of the AGR taking into consideration the results of the Helsinki Conference.~~

~~Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Information on the status of the TEM network standards, allowing for effective implementation of the AGR.~~ Priority: 2

02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations

Description: In order to simplify and harmonize requirements concerning international road transport and the facilitation of its operation, the Working Party on Road Transport will elaborate and update, as necessary, appropriate international instruments and study selected aspects of international transport of passengers and goods by road, particularly those related to the facilitation of road transport between eastern and western Europe and the simplification and harmonization of administrative procedures and documentation.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Implementation of ~~and amendments to~~ the AETR Agreement.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Adoption of a set of amendments to the AETR to provide for introduction into the AETR of the new digital tachograph.

Priority: 1

- ~~(b)~~ (g) Consideration of questions concerning the Green Card International Motor Insurance System.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Encourage and facilitate membership of the Green Card System.

Priority: 2

- ~~(c)~~ (h) Promote the harmonization of fiscal ~~measures and other measures~~ in order to ~~encourage a rational tax structure and to avoid any~~ discriminatory **practices regarding taxation on** international road transport.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Development of proposals regarding the harmonization of fiscal **and other** measures in international road transport. ~~Consideration of the Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles for Private Use in International Traffic (1956); the Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles engaged in International Goods Transport (1956); and the Convention on the Taxation of Road Vehicles engaged in International Passenger Transport (1956), and a decision as to their updating.~~

Priority: 2

- (i) ~~Promote the harmonization of road traffic restrictions (e.g., starting time of weekend traffic bans, types of vehicles, etc.) through the consideration of national measures and practices.~~

~~Output expected by 2001: Identification of national measures and practices and consideration of follow-up based on that identification.~~ Priority: 2

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

- (d) ~~(b)~~ Development of a new revised version of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4).

Output expected by 2001-2002: Consensus achieved on new version of R.E.4 (2000-2001). Priority: 1

- (e) ~~(c)~~ Consideration of new challenges, opportunities and developments in the facilitation of border crossings and consideration of possibilities for effective measures other than legal measures on border crossing and border facilities for road transport between eastern and western Europe.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: ~~Development in~~ Cooperation with the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) **on aspects of the new proposed annex 8 to the Harmonization Convention on the facilitation of border crossing such as an international vehicle weight certificate and road worthiness certificate.** Priority: 1

- (d) Revision of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Road (CVR) in order to foster wider acceptance by Governments.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Decision on approach to revision of CVR or identification of obstacles to reform. Priority: 2

- (e) Consideration of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) with a view to the introduction of electronic data interchange (EDI) into its procedures.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Decision on the adoption of a ~~development in coordination with Unidroit~~ of a protocol to the CMR introducing EDI. Priority: 1

- (f) Consideration of other existing legal instruments related to road transport (e.g. Conventions on the Taxation of Road Vehicles in International Transport) with a view to checking their continued applicability.

Output expected by 2001-2002-2003: Assessment of dormant ~~taxation~~ conventions and strategies to re-stimulate interest and accession to them. Priority: 3
