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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
(2 - 4 September 2002)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTEENTH SESSION*

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday 2 September 2002

1. Adoption of the agenda TRANS/WP.5/31
2. Activities of ECE bodies of interest to the Working Party
 - (a) Economic Commission for Europe E/2002/37-E/ECE/1395
 - (b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies ECE/TRANS/139
3. Follow-up to the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment

* By decision of the UNOG Conference Services and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly asked to bring copies of the documents referred to in this provisional agenda with them to the fourteenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room. Any missing documents may be obtained from the Documents Distribution Section of the United Nations at Geneva (room C.111, 1st Floor, Palais des Nations).

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are, therefore, requested to fill in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the UNECE Transport Division: <http://www.unece.org/trans/Welcome.html>) and send it at the latest two weeks before the session to the UNECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by e-mail (bernadette.healy@unece.org). Prior to the session delegates should get their identification badges at the Security and Safety Section's Pass and Identification Unit, at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page). In case of difficulties, telephone the UNECE secretariat (Int. 72413).

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| 4. | Discussion on future activities of the Working Party | TRANS/WP.5/2002/6
and Add.1 |
| 5. | Replies to the questionnaire on transport developments | TRANS/WP.5/2002/1
and Adds.1-10 |
| 6. | Implementation of Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas | TRANS/WP.5/2002/4 |
| 7. | Evaluation of inland transport infrastructure projects | |
| | (a) Development of a European-wide methodology
for project appraisal | TRANS/WP.5/2002/7 |
| | (b) Phased approach to transport infrastructure
developments | |
| 8. | Euro-Asian transport links | |
| | (a) Informal Ad hoc meeting on Euro-Asian transport links | |
| | (b) Organization of demonstration trains | TRANS/WP.5/2002/12 |
| 9. | Relationship between transport and economic development | TRANS/WP.5/2002/3
and Adds.1-6 |
| 10. | Transport in the Mediterranean region | |
| | (a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and
Transport Training Centre | TRANS/WP.5/2002/9
TRANS/WP.5/2002/10 |
| | (b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region | |
| 11. | Assistance to countries with economies in transition | TRANS/WP.5/2002/11 |
| 12. | Coherent European System of International Transport
Infrastructures | |
| | (a) Development of international transport infrastructures | TRANS/WP.5/2002/8 |
| | (b) Quality-of-service concept | TRANS/WP.5/2002/5
and Add.1 |
| 13. | Draft Programme of Work for 2003-2007 | TRANS/WP.5/2002/2 |
| 14. | Other Business | |
| 15. | Adoption of the report | |
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EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is its adoption.

2. ACTIVITIES OF ECE BODIES OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

(a) Economic Commission for Europe

The fifty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 8 to 11 May 2002.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, concerning such questions as the functioning of the principal subsidiary bodies, strengthening of the Organization, and UNECE technical assistance. (E/2002/37-E/ECE/1395).

(b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Committee held its sixty-fourth session in Geneva from 18 to 21 February 2002.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the Committee's discussion on questions related, in particular, to the work areas as contained in paras. 16 and 27-41 of the Committee's report (ECE/TRANS/139).

3. FOLLOW-UP TO THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Working Party will be informed about the progress made in the implementation of the Vienna Declaration (ECE/RCTE/CONF./2/FINAL) and the Programme of Joint Action (ECE/RCTE/CONF./3/FINAL), and the decisions taken at the High-Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health (5 July 2002).

4. DISCUSSION ON FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING PARTY

Following the initiative of the Chairman and the Vice-chairman of the Working Party at its fourteenth session, the secretariat asked the member Governments to indicate areas of particular interest as well as specific topics that should be dealt with in future by the Working Party.

Replies from member Governments are circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2002/6 for consideration by the Working Party.

The Working Party may wish to discuss and decide on priority issues to be considered at its future sessions.

5. REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENTS

In accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee at its fifty-ninth session and the request of the Working Party at its tenth session, replies from member countries on the new and important developments with regard to inland transport are circulated in documents TRANS/WP.5/20002/1 and Add.1-10, for consideration by the Working Party.

The Working Party, when considering the replies from member countries, may wish to have an exchange of views on different ways of dealing with common issues (e.g. ways of financing infrastructure developments, modalities for dealing with environmental impact of transport, safety, etc.) and other important developments in inland transport in their respective countries.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF PAN-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS AND AREAS

In accordance with the request of the Working Party at its thirteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/28, paras. 12-14 and 18-20), a Status Report of the Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas has been prepared by the European Commission (EC), and is circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2002/4. A representative of the European Commission will also report on new developments in respect of Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas.

Representatives of countries concerned may inform the Working Party on recent developments in Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas and discuss the different possibilities as to how improvements in the corridors and areas could be monitored in future. In this context, the secretariat will inform the Working Party about the outcome of a recent meeting between the EC and UNECE concerning the possible future role of the UNECE secretariat in monitoring developments in Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas.

7. EVALUATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

(a) Development of a European-wide methodology for project appraisal

At the request of the Working Party, an Informal Meeting involving representatives from Germany, Russian Federation, the European Communities (EC) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) was held on 4 June 2002 in order to review the first draft of the "UNECE Socio-Economic Cost benefit Analysis for Transport Infrastructure Project Appraisal" and examine transport project appraisal methods used by various international organizations.

The revised draft of the document, including comments by the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and participants of the Informal Meeting is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2002/7.

The Working Party may wish to comment on the report and consider possible steps regarding its application in member countries.

(b) Phased approach to transport infrastructure developments

At its fourteenth session, the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/30, paras.27-28), asked the TEM and TER Project Central Offices to extend their analysis presented to the Working Party and examine the economic aspects of the phased approach and application of intermediate standards.

The TER PCO will inform the Working Party about conclusions by its member countries at the recent meeting in Brioni that, for the time being, the member countries are not in a position to provide the desired information, but will make an effort to look further into this issue. In the context of the TEM project, the question of a phased approach for transport infrastructure development will be dealt with during the workshop which is scheduled to be convened in the second half of October 2002, after which the Working Party will be informed accordingly.

The Working Party may wish to discuss aspects which may be taken into account in applying a phased strategy to transport infrastructure development.

5. EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS

(a) Informal Ad hoc meeting on Euro-Asian transport links

An Informal Ad hoc meeting of countries involved in demonstration runs of block trains on the route South-eastern Europe -Turkey-Islamic Republic of Iran-South Asia - Southeast Asia/Southern China will be held from 30-31 October 2002 in Turkey in order to discuss replies received to a questionnaire, analyse infrastructure and regulatory shortcomings and determine further organizational and substantive steps regarding activities to be undertaken for the development of Euro-Asian links in this corridor (ECE/TRANS/139, para. 33). The Working Party may wish to take note of this meeting.

The Russian Federation will inform the Working Party about developments concerning its proposal, which was supported by the Inland Transport Committee (TRANS/138, para. 33), to convene an Informal Meeting between UNECE, ESCAP, the EC, and other interested countries to further elaborate elements of the UNECE/ESCAP Strategic Vision document (TRANS/WP.5/2001/4) and the development of Euro-Asian transport links.

The Working Party may wish to have an exchange of views on issues to be considered at this Informal Meeting.

(b) Organization of demonstration trains

In the context of the joint UNECE/ESCAP programme of work, the Working Party will be informed about the first experiences with demonstration runs of block trains along the following two routes in order to demonstrate block trains' ability to compete with sea routes (TRANS/WP.5/28, paras. 31-33):

- (i) Europe (Pan-European transport corridor No.2 (PETrC No.2))-Russian Federation- Korean Peninsula/Japan, with two branches from the Russian Federation to
 - Kazakhstan-China and
 - Mongolia-China.

The Working Party may recall that the Russian Federation is the responsible lead country for the demonstration runs of block trains on this route. The representative of the Russian Federation will inform the Working Party on the progress made in the preparation of this event (ECE/TRANS/139 para.37). Relevant information regarding the test runs of block trains on this route will be circulated in TRANS/WP.5/2002/12.

- (ii) South-eastern Europe (Pan-European transport corridor No.4 (PETrC No.4))- Turkey-Islamic Republic of Iran-South Asia - Southeast Asia / Southern China.

The Working Party may also recall that, for the second route, Turkey is the responsible lead country. The representative of Turkey will report to the Working Party on the work undertaken concerning the demonstration run of trains on this route (ECE/TRANS/139, para. 37).

9. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In accordance with the Working Party's request at its fourteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/30 para.8), the secretariat assembled pertinent information containing experiences, outline of research projects and other relevant information on strategies which focus on the relationship between transport and economic development.

Replies from member Governments are being circulated in documents TRANS/WP.5/2002/3 and Add.1-6, for consideration by the Working Party.

The Working Party may wish to comment on the replies received and consider the possibilities for decoupling transport and economic development with a view to supporting sustainable transport development.

10. TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

- (a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre

The Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean (TRANSCHEM), and the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) have been asked to report on their activities since the thirteenth session of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 43). Relevant information on the recent activities of CETMO and TRANSCHEM will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2002/9 and TRANS/WP.5/2002/10 for consideration by the Working Party.

(b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region

The Working Party will be informed of recent initiatives undertaken in the region by the ECE secretariat, in particular those in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). A member of the EC will report on developments in the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Forum focusing, *inter alia*, on the Mediterranean Pan-European Transport Area.

11. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

The Working Party will be informed about the activities of the Regional Advisers and the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT). Information on these items is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2002/11.

The Working Party may also invite Governments and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) as to the type of assistance which may be forthcoming (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 49).

12. COHERENT EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

(a) Development of international transport infrastructures

In accordance with the request of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 52), the secretariat has prepared document TRANS/WP.5/2002/8 showing modifications in the AGR, AGC, AGN and the AGTC transport networks, as well as the developments in the TEM and TER projects. This note is being circulated for consideration by the Working Party.

The Working Party may wish to discuss the possibility of having this information on a biennial basis, instead of annually.

(b) Quality-of-service concept

In connection with the previous item, the Working Party may wish to continue discussion and consider the possibility of developing an intermodal approach to the concept of the quality of service provided on different modal networks.

In the context of this agenda item, it may also be recalled that the Working Party and the Inland Transport Committee at their sixth and fifty-sixth sessions, respectively, felt that there was a need for more analysis of the methodological basis of terms such as, *inter alia*, bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks (TRANS/WP.5/12, paras. 34-44, and ECE/TRANS/103, paras. 44-46).

In accordance with the request of the Working Party at its fourteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 55), the secretariat has collected information on the application by member Governments of the quality of transport service concept.

The relevant information received on the subject under consideration is reproduced in documents TRANS/WP.5/2002/5 and Add.1 for consideration and comments by the Working Party.

13. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2003-2007

The Working Party may wish to approve its draft programme of work for 2003-2007, on the basis of document TRANS/WP.5/2002/2.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Party's sixteenth session is tentatively scheduled for 24 - 26 September 2003.

15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

In accordance with the decision of the Working Party, the report of its fifteenth session, on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat, will be established by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman with the assistance of the secretariat for submission to the Inland Transport Committee (TRANS/WP.5/30, para. 59)



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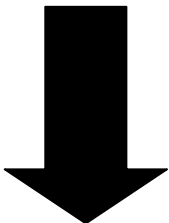
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