



**Economic and Social  
Council**

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census 2005  
(2-3 October 2003)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING<sup>1/2/</sup>**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 10.30h on 2 October 2003

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Mandate
4. E-Rail Census: Country Experiences

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<sup>1/</sup> By decision of the UNOG Conference Services and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly asked to take copies of the documents referred to in this provisional agenda with them to this Ad hoc meeting. 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).

<sup>2/</sup> New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Therefore, delegates are requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Internet Web site of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome/html>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the meeting, either by fax (+41 22 917 0039) or by e-mail [gina.faure@unece.org](mailto:gina.faure@unece.org) or [stat.trans@unece.org](mailto:stat.trans@unece.org). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves in person at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section (from 08:00h to 17:00h), located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. There are no possibilities to send these badges in advance by post or any other means. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (internal extension 72152 or 72493).

5. Draft Recommendations to Governments on the E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2005 (“2005 E-Rail Census”) TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1
6. Draft Resolution on 2005 E-Rail Census to be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee
7. Other business
8. 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 to be considered is the **adoption** of the agenda.

### 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

### 3. MANDATE

The UNECE Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2), at its fifty-third session, and the UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6), at its fiftieth session, convened the meeting of the Informal Working Group on Rail Census Methodologies in Geneva (13 and 14 June 2000) (TRANS/SC.2, paras. 49-50; TRANS/WP.6/137, paras. 34-36). This Informal Working Group considered the feasibility of an E-Rail Census along the lines of the AGC network. Subsequently, the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) endorsed, during its sixty-third session, the report of the Informal Working Group on Rail Census Methodologies (TRANS/WP.6/2000/7-TRANS/SC.2/2000/10) and approved the proposal to convene an Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census in 2003 (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 106).

At its fifty-third session, the Working Party on Transport Statistics noted that the coming EU Council Regulation on rail statistics would request similar traffic data for the Trans-European Network and welcomed the offer by Eurostat to be closely involved in this project. The Working Party also approved 2-3 October 2003 as dates for holding the Ad hoc meeting on the Rail Traffic Census in 2003 (TRANS/WP.6/143, paras. 48 and 49).

The Ad hoc meeting may note that member States of the European Union (EU) are obliged to undertake a rail census which is based on Regulation No. 91/2003 of 16 December 2002 on rail transport statistics adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. In this Regulation, reference is also made to the Decision by the European Parliament and the Council no. 1692/96/CE on Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network. In view of the above-mentioned EU Regulation, and in order to avoid duplication of work, the Working Party, at its fifty-fourth session, recommended to the UNECE secretariat and Eurostat to carry out jointly the E-Rail Census 2005.

In order to be in line with the Working Party's recommendation, the E-Rail Census 2005 will be **jointly** undertaken by the UNECE and Eurostat.

#### 4. E-RAIL CENSUS: COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

Under this agenda item, the representatives of countries are invited to briefly **inform** the Ad hoc Meeting on their national experiences regarding Censuses of Rail Traffic in their respective countries. Particular national problems encountered in the preparation of the national censuses will be discussed on the basis of informal documentation available at the session.

In addition, the representative of the Eurostat will **inform** the delegates both about the EU legislation concerning the rail censuses and about the actions undertaken by Eurostat in this connection.

#### 5. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS ON THE E-RAIL TRAFFIC CENSUS IN EUROPE IN 2005 (“2005 E-RAIL CENSUS”)

In accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee taken at its sixty-third session (ECE/TRANS/136, para.106), Governments and interested international organizations are invited to prepare the recommendations for the 2005 E-Rail Census. As a basis for discussion, the Ad hoc Meeting may wish to **consider** the draft recommendation for the 2005 E-Rail Census prepared jointly by the secretariat and Eurostat (TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1) and **propose** any modification considered necessary.

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to consider, in particular, the following issues:

(a) Coverage of the Census.

For purposes of the 2005 E-Rail Census network referred to, is that described in Annex I of the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) of 1985 and in Amendments (1-6) to the Agreement (ECE/TRANS/63 and Amendments 1-6) and in any other amendment which comes into force before 2005.

(b) Purpose of the Census.

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.

Every effort should be made within the framework of the 2005 E-Rail 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.

(c) Scope of the Census.

As E-rail 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.

(d) Categories of trains to be counted.

Counting may need to include passenger and goods trains.

(e) Values to be calculated.

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 should be provided for the year of the census and the different train categories distinguished.

(f) Characteristics of rail lines.

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.

(g) Compilation and publication of the 2005 E-Rail Census.

It is recommended that Governments supply to the UNECE secretariat a report on the 2005 E-Rail 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 the map, if necessary), before 30 June 2007.

## **6. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON 2005 E-RAIL CENSUS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to **consider and approve** the draft Resolution on the 2005 E-Rail 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 sixty-sixth session (17-19 February 2004).

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Ad hoc Meeting may wish to **discuss** the possibilities of producing the 2005 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.

Furthermore, the Ad hoc Meeting may wish to **consider and set** timetables and deadlines for the various phases of the project.

## **8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

In accordance with established practice, the Ad hoc Meeting will **adopt** the report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. Due to the length of the Ad hoc Meeting, the Report will be adopted in English only and will subsequently be translated into French and Russian. The Report will be sent to the participants of the meeting and submitted to the Working Party on Transport Statistics. It will also be available on the web page of the UNECE Transport Division. The Recommendations to Governments for the 2005 E-Rail Census will be prepared by the secretariat as an addendum to the final Report.

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**Annex**

**E-Rail Traffic Census in Europe in 2005  
("2005 E-Rail Census")**

**Draft Resolution No. ...**

to be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee  
at its sixty-sixth meeting (17-19 February 2004)

Recalling its decision to convene the holding of an Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census in 2003 (ECE/TRANS/136, para. 106),

the Inland Transport Committee,

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 Traffic Arteries in Europe (AGR), and in line with the Recommendations to Governments for the 2005 E-Rail Census as set forth in UNECE document TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1.

(b) To supply the results of the combined E-Rail Census 2005 to the UNECE secretariat, if possible, before **30 June 2007**, in conformity with the Recommendations set forth in UNECE document TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/2003/1.

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 2004** whether they agree to implement the provisions of this resolution.

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# UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

## Conference Registration Form

Title of the Conference

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Ad hoc Meeting on the E-Rail Traffic Census 2005, 2-3 October 2003**

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organization or Agency

Participant

Mr.  Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs.  \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms.

Participation Category

<b>Head of Delegation</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Do you have a badge issued as a Mission diplomat or employee, NGO card issued in Geneva or a long Duration conference badge issued at Geneva?</b> <b>YES NO</b>	<b>Observer Organization</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>Observer Country</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Other (Please Specify Below)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>On Issue of ID Card</b> <b>Participant Signature</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Date</b> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<p>Participant photograph if form is sent in advance of the conference date.</p> <p>Please PRINT your name on the reverse side of the photograph.</p>	<p>Please note that only certain Conferences require a photo.</p> <p>Please DO NOT provide one unless asked by the Conference Staff.</p>	<b>Security Use Only</b> <b>Card N°.</b> Issued <input type="text"/> <b>Initials, UN Official</b> <input type="text"/>
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