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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

Note by the secretariat

1. The Programme of Work for 2006-2010 of the Inland Transport Committee adopted at its 68th session in 2006 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, Item 2.3 (a)) requires the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) to consider the implementation of the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals and the European Agreements supplementing them and elaborate proposals for updating these legal instruments as well as the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.1 and R.E.2).
2. The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2008-2012 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 2008/2009. Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.
3. In this programme of work, new elements have been added to take into account the request made by the Economic Commission for Europe that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes. The background and the objectives of these biennial evaluations are developed below and the expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat have also been introduced into the programme of work .

Biennial evaluations

A. Background

4. At its 69th session (6-8 February 2007), the Inland Transport Committee was informed of the request made by the Economic Commission for Europe that Sectoral Committees conduct biennial evaluations of their respective subprogrammes and take into account the results of these evaluations in determining their work programmes (ECE/TRANS/192, paragraph 110).

5. These biennial evaluations would be carried out for the first time in the 2008-2009 biennium. In 2008, the Committee on Inland Transport will have to agree on an expected accomplishment per cluster of activity together with related indicators of achievement and measurement methodologies.

6 To this end, in 2007, the Committee's Working Parties, in cooperation with the secretariat, will each have to draw up a draft expected accomplishment related to their work areas as well as indicators and appropriate methodologies and submit them to the Bureau.

7. The Bureau will review them and make a recommendation to the 2008 session of the Committee. In 2010, the Committee will be invited to review the draft accomplishment accounts prepared for each expected accomplishment by the secretariat. It will be expected to discuss the lessons learned and take programmatic measures, if appropriate. The Committee's Chair will be invited to report on the evaluations' key findings to the Executive Committee.

B. Objectives

8. The biennial evaluations will give the opportunity for countries to join forces with the secretariat in reviewing and reaffirming, on a continuous basis, the relevance of their activities. The results of these evaluations should contribute to effective programme management at all levels by: showing evidence of achieving expected accomplishments, defining future priority areas for action, and providing opportunities for making incremental and timely adjustments.

9. They are also intended to assist in measuring more precisely the impact of activities, which in itself is a challenge. Furthermore, the evaluations will bring more information on the effectiveness of different activities in obtaining results contributing to the objectives and expected accomplishments of a given subprogramme.

10. It is expected that these evaluations may also lead to conclusions concerning the efficiency of outputs and activities and subsequently to recommendations for maximizing benefits by improving the use of existing resources.

11. Finally, the results of evaluations are expected to constitute in the future the necessary arguments in the subsequent phases of programme management, such as defining priorities and the related redistribution of resources.

C. Planning

12. Firstly, Working Parties should define an expected accomplishment to be achieved within a two-year period as a result of implementing different outputs and activities.

13. Secondly, in order to be able to measure the extent to which expected accomplishments have been achieved, indicators of achievement should be defined. These indicators should allow for an unambiguous statement of achievement or deviation from it.

14. Thirdly, in order to facilitate the measurement, a methodology should be determined early in the process, including baseline and target values, sources of data and information as well as ways and means of their collection. External factors, which may influence the achievement of an expected accomplishment, should also be identified.

D. Evaluation and reporting

15. Working Parties are requested to evaluate, every second year, the performance of their activities in view of the expected accomplishments and related indicators drawn up at the beginning of the two-year cycle. For this purpose, they should review the accomplishment accounts, drawn up by the secretariat and consisting of an evaluation, both quantitative and qualitative, of the results achieved.

E. Proposal for WP.1

16. The expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement proposed by the secretariat for the Working Group on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) appear below:

(a) Expected Accomplishment

Enhanced implementation of the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals and European Agreements supplementing them

(b) Indicators of achievement 1: Number of countries responding to the survey.

(c) Indicators of achievement 2: Number of areas identified for evaluation.

(d) Indicators of achievement 3: Number of new Contracting Parties to the Conventions and European Agreements.

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2008-2012

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.3: ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

Priority: 1

Description: Mindful of the world-wide scope of its work, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) will examine matters and adopt measures aimed at improving road traffic safety. To this end, it will consider, inter alia, the implementation of the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals and the European Agreements supplementing them and elaborate proposals for updating these legal instruments as well as the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.1 and R.E.2). It will also seek to promote the global application of this work.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Road Traffic Safety will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

- (a) Monitoring and encouraging the implementation of the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals and the European Agreements supplementing them and the Protocol on Road Markings, and elaboration of amendment proposals to these legal instruments with a view to strengthening and harmonizing road safety standards.

Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009:

- Consideration and/or adoption where appropriate of new amendment proposals to the above instruments concerning, ~~inter alia, road signing; overtaking;~~ definitions of mopeds, motorcycles, **motorized tricycles and quadricycles**, ~~driving permits, use of telematics and vehicle safety systems,~~ **the relationship between Annex 5 of the Convention on Road Traffic and UNECE vehicle regulations, and possibly security measures concerning road traffic recommended by the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security.**
 - ~~Publication of the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements supplementing them (incorporating the latest amendments).~~
 - **Publication of consolidated versions of the Vienna Conventions in the three other UN languages (Arabic, Chinese and Spanish)**
- (b) Revision and updating of the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.1 and R.E.2).

Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009:

- Complete revision of R.E.1 **and R.E.2** on the basis of a new structure and a new presentation – more attractive and modern – with a view to **their** publication and dissemination in particular to the other Regional Economic Commissions;
 - Publication of **the revised R.E.1 and R.E.2 including all recommendations already adopted, in particular those on periodic technical inspections, assistance to victims of road accidents, pedestrians, road works signing, speed control humps, contraflow cyclists since the revision work was launched;**
 - ~~Consideration, development and incorporation into R.E.1 and R.E.2 of new recommendations concerning, in particular: seatbelts and child restraint devices, first aid to victims of road accidents, the safety of the most vulnerable road users, use of mobile phones while driving, safety in tunnels, skateboarders, roller skaters, etc., roadside checks, driving permits, driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, road signing, motorcycle and moped safety, communication and road safety campaigns, daytime running lamps, driving at night, speed, aggressive driving, signs for fuelling stations selling compressed natural gas, etc~~
 - **Consideration, development and incorporation into R.E.2 of new recommendations concerning, in particular, variable message signs and signing for cycle routes.**
- (c) Exchange of information on national road safety programmes, in particular taking into account means of financing of road safety activities, and on road safety regulations and requirements in force in member States and circulation of such information in order to avail Governments of the practice and experience gained on these matters. Priority: 3
- Output expected by the end of 2008/2009: Updating the set of tables reflecting current national road traffic safety requirements, national legal instruments and national methods of training and follow-up for categories A and B driving licences. **Possible** addition of new tables dealing, **for example**, with complementary safety equipment required on board vehicles. Issuance of ~~annual~~ information regarding road safety campaigns conducted by member countries.
- (d) Assisting countries in transition and developing countries in the establishment of sound and up-to-date traffic safety practices and procedures. Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009: Respond to requests for technical assistance from other regional commissions or their member countries.

- (e) Consideration of selected timely topics related to road safety in the form of an in-depth discussion based on papers prepared by experts and undertaking appropriate follow-up action with a view to finding concerted solutions to the most urgent problems in the field of traffic safety. Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009: Identification of at least one timely topic for in-depth discussion.

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

- (f) Contribution to activities envisaged in the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) and follow-up to these activities from the more specific angle of road safety. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009: Consideration of **possible** proposals to amend the Vienna Conventions and European Agreements emanating from **THE PEP** ~~the Vienna and/or London follow-up processes.~~

- (g) ~~Organization of the Fifth Road Safety Week at the global level~~ **Evaluation and follow-up, in cooperation with the World Health Organization and the other regional commissions, of the first United Nations Global Road Safety Week held in April 2007.** ~~Fourth Road Safety Week (5-11 April 2004) with a view to active participation of countries and organizations aimed at combating aggressive driving behaviour.~~ Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009: ~~Holding of the first Global UN Road Safety Week in 2007 on the theme of young road users including young drivers and organization of activities for this event.~~ **Analysis of the impact of the First United Nations Global Road Safety Week in the UNECE region and consideration of the possibility of holding a Second Global Road Safety Week and organization of a seminar in the UNECE region.**

- (h) In close cooperation with WHO and the other regional commissions, work towards the implementation of General Assembly Resolution ~~58/289~~ **A/RES/60/5** on improving global road safety. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2008/2009:

- Encourage Contracting Parties to the Vienna Conventions from outside the UNECE region to attend WP.1 and participate actively in the activities of the UN Road Safety Collaboration.

- **Inform low and middle income countries about road safety practices that have been shown to bring significant reductions in road traffic injuries and fatalities in the framework of the project “*Improving Global Road Safety: setting regional and national road traffic casualty reduction targets*”.**

- **Encourage additional countries from outside the UNECE region to adhere to the Vienna Conventions.**
