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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Seventieth session

Geneva, 7-10 October 2014

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work

Draft work plan for 2014-2018

Note by the secretariat

At its February 2014 session, the Inland Transport Committee endorsed in principle its draft work plan for the period 2014–2018 as contained in document ECE/TRANS/2014/26, pending adoption of the section dealing with programme activity 02.11 by the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) in October 2014, and decided to establish a two-week period to allow member States to make comments on its substance. During the two weeks allowed for comments the Russian Federation proposed that the priorities assigned for "Activities of a limited duration" (j) and (o) be changed from 2 to 1.

WP.11 is invited to examine and adopt the work plan as presented below.

Programme activity 02.11: TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS

Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operation

Priority: 2

Description: Review of the harmonization and the facilitation of the international transport of perishable foodstuffs under the ATP Agreement and updating of the Agreement in order to keep it in line with technological and ecological developments, taking into account safety and quality standards.

Work to be undertaken:

Continuing activities

- (a) Consideration of amendment proposals to ensure the ATP is updated as necessary. Priority: 1
Output expected by the end of 2016: Entry into force of amendments to the annexes to ATP and issuance of the consolidated text of ATP as a United Nations sales publication.
- (b) Exchange of information on the implementation of ATP in accordance with article 6. Priority: 1
Output expected by the end of 2016: Increased number of replies to the questionnaire on the implementation of ATP.
- (c) Keeping informed of progress made in the development of standards by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) dealing with the same issues covered by ATP. Priority: 2
Output expected by the end of 2016: Understanding of the impact of the new CEN standards on the ATP and how they could benefit the ATP.
- (d) Consideration of developments in new refrigerants and insulating materials used for the carriage of perishable foodstuffs. Priority: 2
Output expected by the end of 2018: Contribution to the exchange of information on ways to reduce the environmental impact of ATP equipment.
- (e) Consideration of the work of the IIR Sub-Commission on refrigerated transport. Priority: 1
Output expected by the end of 2016: Support for the work done by the IIR Sub-Commission and benefitting from its prior consideration of technical proposals transmitted to WP.11.
- (f) Updating of the ATP Handbook Priority: 1
Output expected by the end of 2016: Ensure the regular updating of the Handbook with the aim of aiding interpretation, harmonization and application of the ATP.
- (g) Cooperation with the European Union on issues relating to ATP Priority: 2
Output expected by the end of 2016: To develop contacts with the European Union in areas relating to ATP.
- (h) Review of activities on the transport of perishable foodstuffs Priority: 2
Output expected by the end of 2015: Use of the biennial evaluation to identify areas for improvement in the work of WP.11.
- (i) Promotion of ATP in countries not yet Contracting Parties in and outside the UNECE region with a view to promoting international safe trade in perishable foodstuffs and reducing losses of foodstuffs in developing countries due to inappropriate transport conditions. Priority: 2
Output expected by the end of 2016: Raising awareness of the benefits of ATP and attracting new Contracting Parties.

Activities of a limited duration

(j) Consideration of the possible introduction of a definition of perishable foodstuffs in the ATP Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015: Consensus on whether a definition is necessary.

(k) Consideration of amendment proposals relating to multi-compartment multi temperature equipment. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015: Adoption of a testing procedure and distinguishing marks for in-service multi-compartment multi-temperature equipment.

(l) Revision of annex 1 appendix 1 of the ATP with a view to improving its logic and clarifying its provisions. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015. Agreement on the revision of annex 1 appendix 1.

(m) Exclusion of curtain-sided bodies under the ATP. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2014: Agreement on the need to ban such equipment and adoption of transitional measures to phase them out.

(n) Discussion regarding the K values specified in the ATP for in-service equipment and the influence of ageing on K values. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015: Consensus on whether a compromise is possible between the different positions on this subject.

(o) Consideration of the possibility of combining annexes 2 and 3 of the ATP and extending the monitoring of air temperature to the carriage of chilled foodstuffs. Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015: Possible consensus on the proposal.

(p) Consideration of proposals relating to the testing of equipment and appliances including in-service non autonomous equipment, equipment used for both cooling and heating and thermal appliances working on liquefied gas Priority: 1

Output expected by the end of 2015: Adoption of amendments to the ATP.

(q) Consideration of the revision of the class temperatures of ATP equipment taking into account other standards and regulations on foodstuffs. Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2015: Possible adoption of new temperatures.

(r) Consideration of ways to measure the external surface area of panel vans with the aim of standardizing the testing of their K values. Priority: 2

Output expected by the end of 2014: Adoption of an amendment to the ATP.