



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links

Thirteenth session

Dushanbe, 9–10 June 2015

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirteenth session¹

to be held in Dushanbe starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 9 June 2015

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Identification of cargo flows on the Euro-Asian transport links.
3. Facilitating the coordination of integrated time schedules and tariffs on the Euro-Asian transport links.
4. Identification of needs and requirements by producers, shippers, traders and freight forwarders in transport and trade on EATL routes.
5. Information from participants on recent developments in transport infrastructure priority projects along EATL routes.
6. Geographical Information Systems.
7. Other business.
8. Date of next meeting.
9. Summary of decisions.

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html. On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (maria.mostovets@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039).

II. Annotations

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.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/25

2. Identification of cargo flows on the Euro-Asian transport links

The Group of Experts may wish to consider an updated and revised version of the document sponsored by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe illustrating recent developments and trends in Euro-Asian transport and trade.

The Group of Experts may wish to recall that it kindly requested at its eleventh session Professor John Liu of the City University of Hong Kong to prepare a technical document with analysis and recommendations on Euro-Asian trade (Informal document No. 1).

The Group of Experts may also welcome presentations from representatives of main European and Asian ports as well as from producers, traders and freight forwarders.

The Group of Experts may also wish to consider the above and other similar inputs as parts of the final Phase III report.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

3. Facilitating of the coordination of integrated time schedules and tariffs on the Euro-Asian transport links

The Group of Experts may wish to consider new information on time schedules and tariffs on EATL routes. The Trans-European Railway (TER) project will brief the Group about relevant EATL TER-related developments (Informal document No. 2).

As agreed at the twelfth EATL session, the Organization for Cooperation between Railways shall submit a document on trains operating with regular itineraries between Europe and Asia (Informal document No. 3).

The International Union of Railways shall inform the Group about new relevant EATL-related developments. Other stakeholders are also welcome to present their contribution to this agenda item.

Documentation

Informal document No. 2; Informal document No. 3

4. Identification of needs and requirements by producers, shippers, traders and freight forwarders in transport and trade on EATL routes

The Group of Experts may wish to recall that based on an adopted work plan (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/2013/1) it shall identify transportation needs and requirements (including obstacles) which face producers, shippers, traders and freight forwarders along nine rail and road EATL corridors.

The Group of Experts may wish to recall that it invited at its twelfth session company Plaske and the Moscow State Institute for Engineers of Transport to update the document drafted by Plaske for the twelfth session and present it to the Group at its thirteenth session. The document contains a comparative analysis of time and cost between rail and maritime transport between Europe and Asia (Informal document No. 4).

The Group of Experts will consider the presentations by producers, shippers, traders and freight forwarders who share their experiences, best practices, problems and proposals for solutions.

Documentation

Informal document No. 4

5. Information from participants on recent developments in transport infrastructure priority projects on EATL routes

The Group of Experts may wish to recall that it invited at its twelfth session the Hellenic Institute of Transport (Mrs. Maria Boile) to prepare and present a document on the NEAR² project which concerns Euro-Asian rail links (Informal document No. 5).

The Group of Experts may wish to consider new information by Governments on this topic and provide guidance to the secretariat on possible actions.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

6. Geographical Information Systems

The Group of Experts will continue to receive observations and guidance from the Governments and exchange views on the further development of the Geographical Information Systems (GIS), especially on the financing of this wing of the EATL project. A possible involvement of commercial enterprises in EATL GIS will also be considered.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.2/2014/1

7. Other business

The Government of Latvia will inform the Group of Experts about the results of the Latvian presidency of the European Union, in particular, the transport and EATL dimensions of the High-Level Ministerial Conference scheduled for 29–30 April 2015 in Riga.

The secretariat will inform the Group about the outcome of the Euro-Asian Logistic conference which is scheduled for 25 March 2015 in Moscow.

Given the amount of work in Phase III, relative late start of the work, a lack of resources and the approaching end of the Phase III mandate to finalise its report (end of 2015), the Group of Experts may wish to consider to request from the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (which will have its annual session 7–9 September 2015) the extension of its mandate for an additional period of one year.

The Group of Experts shall discuss other issues about EATL Phase III.

8. Date of next meeting

The Group of Experts will set the date and venue for its fourteenth session. It will consider the invitation by the Turkic Council to host the fourteenth session on 20–21 October 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.

9. Summary of decisions

The Group of Experts will adopt the list of main decisions at the end of the session.
