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Inland Transport Committee

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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2016–2017 and Strategic Framework for 2018–2019

Draft Strategic Framework for the period 2018-2019

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The draft Strategic Framework, the expected accomplishments and the strategy have been prepared on the basis of the mandate of the Transport Subprogramme, the accomplishments achieved in the previous biennium and the United Nations guidelines for preparing the strategic biennial plans. The Strategic Framework must be reviewed by the Sectoral Committees, (or their Bureaux – in case the Committees do not meet during the last four months of 2015) before its submission to the Executive Committee in December 2015 and to United Nations Headquarters in early 2016. The Bureau **is invited to consider and adopt** the UNECE Transport Subprogramme draft Strategic Framework (biennial programme plan) for the period 2018–2019.

II. Subprogrammes

Subprogramme 2 Transport

Objective of the Organization: To promote sustainable transport which is safe, clean and competitive, through the development of freight and personal mobility by inland transport modes, by improving traffic safety, environmental performance, energy efficiency, inland transport security and efficient service provision in the transport sector

<i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>		
			<i>2018-2019</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2014-2015</i>
(a) Strengthened legal and regulatory framework for international land (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal transport) transport, transport infrastructure, border-crossing facilitation, transport of dangerous goods, vehicle construction and other transport-related services	(a) (i) Number of United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by ECE that are in force	Target	50	-	-
		Estimate		-	-
		Actual			-
	(ii) Number of new vehicle regulations and amendments adopted	Target	100	100	100
		Estimate		100	100
		Actual			* ¹
	(iii) Number of international legal instruments brought in compliance with the latest revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	Target	6	6	6
		Estimate		6	6
		Actual			* ¹
(b) Greater geographical coverage and more effective monitoring of implementation of United Nations legal instruments and recommendations on transport administered by ECE	(b) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties, including from outside the region, to United Nations legal instruments and recommendations on transport administered by ECE	Target	1720	1,710	1,700
		Estimate		1,710	1,700
		Actual			* ¹
	(ii) Increased number of mechanisms agreed by Contracting Parties for monitoring the implementation of United Nations legal instruments and recommendations administered by ECE	Target	9	8	7
		Estimate		8	7
		Actual			* ¹

¹ The actual value to be available by the end of December 2015.

(c) Enhanced capacity in ECE member States, particularly in landlocked developing countries, for the development of the pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure and transport facilitation measures	(c) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties to four key transport infrastructure agreements	Target	116	116	115
		Estimate		116	115
		Actual			115
	(c) (ii) Number of United Nations Member States using the ECE common framework for subregional transport infrastructure development (EATL, TEM and TER)	Target	55	-	-
		Estimate		-	-
		Actual			-
(d) Strengthened capacity to implement relevant United Nations legal instruments, norms and regulations on transport, in particular in the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	(d) (i) Number of countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia that report adopting measures to apply UN legal instruments, norms and regulations on transport administered by ECE	Target	10	-	-
		Estimate		-	-
		Actual			-
	(d) (ii) Number of ECE member States having established road safety improvement targets	Target	42	40	37
		Estimate		40	37
		Actual			* ¹

III. Strategy

2. The Sustainable Transport Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achievement of the transport-related SDGs, especially Goals 3, 9 and 11. This objective will be achieved through:

(a) Normative work on further development of legal and regulatory framework for inland transport at international, national and local levels through new instruments and the updating of 58 legal instruments that cover all modes of inland transport, vehicle regulations and the transport of dangerous goods. The Division will implement the subprogramme by actively collaborating with member Governments and other stakeholders, building consensus at relevant administrative committee meetings of conventions and agreements and other intergovernmental meetings on transport, in particular the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, the ECE Inland Transport Committee, 17 Working Parties and other subsidiary bodies. The incorporation of certain United Nations legal instruments in the European Union Community acquis will continue to play an important role;

(b) International policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments and other stakeholders. It will focus on: fostering sustainable development in member States in line with transport-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); promoting new accessions to the United Nations legal instruments administered by ECE and strengthening implementation of monitoring mechanisms; and sharing of best practices and lessons learned in the use and implementation of the existing legal and regulatory framework. Through policy dialogue and regulatory responses, the subprogramme will address rapid technological changes, particularly the impact of the increased use of Information and Communication Technologies in transport. In line with the United

Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety, special focus will be on United Nations Road Safety Legal Instruments;

(c) Strengthening of national capacity for the development of pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure, including transport and border-crossing facilitation. Emphasis will be placed on regional and subregional cooperation activities. The Trans-European Motorways and the Trans-European Railways projects will build on their master plans and on specific high-value projects. The development of Euro-Asian Transport Links and the unified railway law will be promoted in cooperation with the participating member States, ESCAP, other international organizations and various private sector stakeholders. Strengthening of transport links between Europe and Africa and between Europe and the Middle East, including the Mediterranean region, will be promoted in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders. Transport facilitation will focus on transit and border-crossing facilitation, inter alia through measurement of border-crossing performance and the promotion of electronic communications. The special needs of landlocked transition economies will be addressed through technical assistance and analytical work in compliance with the General Assembly resolutions on the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024;

(d) Capacity-building to further strengthen the national capacity of countries, with a particular focus on promoting sustainable transport. In response to the increased demand for evidence-based decision-making on climate change mitigation and adaptation, on reduction of local pollutants and on making mobility safe at the international, national and local levels, the subprogramme will use the ForFITS (For Future Inland Transport System) tool and its new modules to assess the environmental and safety performance of the transport and logistics sector, and its contribution to national competitiveness and sustainable urban mobility. Particular focus is placed on the development of capacity for high-quality transport statistics.

3. To achieve goals in the above four functional areas, the subprogramme will:

(a) Act as Custodian of legal instruments in transport;

(b) Undertake analytical activities;

(c) Promote the achievement of the transport-related SDGs and targets for road safety, resilient infrastructure, energy efficiency, and sustainable urban mobility in cities and between cities;

(d) Strengthen cooperation and partnerships with regional economic organizations, as well as other international organizations relevant for transport;

(e) Work on multisectoral projects, with particular focus on promoting sustainable development of transport, and specifically on joint servicing of the Pan-European Programme on Transport, Health and Environment;

(f) Establish synergies in the respective areas of work with relevant ECE subprogrammes, such as subprogrammes 1 (Environment) and 3 (Statistics).

4. The Division will continue to service the UNECE Inland Transport Committee and the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals. The Division will also continue supporting the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety.

IV. External factors

5. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) consensus is achieved among the various interested parties on the updating of existing legal instruments and the development of new ones; (b) the environment is conducive to the ratification of or accession to the United Nations legal instruments in the transport sector; (c) Governments and parliaments decide to establish, implement and enforce related international legislation; (d) there is a stable political climate and cooperation among member countries and regional organizations in support of the extension of transport infrastructure and networks, and the facilitation of border crossings; (e) there is political will at the national and subnational levels in the member States to promote sustainable mobility, to set road safety improvement targets, to implement transport policy measures and set relevant targets for sustainable (economic, social and environmental) development; (f) there is adequate national funding to implement the legal instruments, as well as the road safety improvement measures and the projects and programmes for sustainable development of the transport sector; and (g) there is adequate voluntary funding available for enhanced analytical work and capacity-building.

V. Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/215	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
69/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
69/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
69/11	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
69/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
69/83	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe
69/111	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
69/142	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
	towards 2015 and beyond
69/143	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
69/151	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
69/204	Information and communications technologies for development
69/214	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on sustainable Development
69/219	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
69/220²	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
69/238	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
69/239	South-South cooperation
69/272	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2015/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

² A new resolution will be adopted by the General Assembly after COP-21 in Paris (30 November – 11 December 2015).

2015/15	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
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3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

Subprogramme 2: Transport

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
58/9	Global road safety crisis
68/269	Improving global road safety
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development
69/232	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2013/7	Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar
2015/7	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
ECE/AC.21/2014/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its fourth session
ECE/TRANS/236	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-fifth session (Joint Ministerial Declaration on the promotion of Euro-Asian rail transport and activities towards unified railway law; and Joint Ministerial Statement on Future Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links)
ECE/TRANS/248	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-seventh session
B (66)	Endorsement of the Geneva United Nations Charter on Sustainable Housing

4. Decisions of the Treaty Bodies of United Nations Transport Agreements

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
E/ECE/TRANS/505	1958 Agreement on uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles and the condition for reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions
ECE/RCTE/CONF/4	1997 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodic technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections
ECE/TRANS/132	1998 Agreement concerning the establishment of global technical regulations for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles
ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/10/Add.1 and Corr.1	European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)
ECE/TRANS/224	UNECE Road map for promoting ITS - 20 global actions 2012–2020
