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Working Party on Rail Transport

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Item 17 of the provisional agenda

Rail review

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Submitted by the secretariat

I. Background

1. The Working Party may wish to recall that at its sixty-seventh session, it had approved the draft questionnaire for the rail review publication, which would be sent to countries and rail authorities for the collection of the appropriate data. At its seventy-first session, the Working Party noted that the questionnaire covered a number of areas within other agenda items in relation to, for example railway reform, productivity, PPPs and infrastructure. The Working Party also noted that some data had been received already in relation to productivity and a publication is planned with detailed information covering question 2 of the Rail Review questionnaire on reform.

2. The information that has been gathered is available in ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2018/3. The Working Party may wish to be informed about next steps in relation to this agenda item.

II. The questionnaire

3. As a result, the secretariat, in collaboration with UIC, sought to gather information in relation to the question 2 of the questionnaire. The information that was requested in the questionnaire was the following:

- For large railway infrastructure projects (project cost of more than 50 million EUR/60 million USD) and the large rolling stock procurement projects (where a fleet is purchased or renewed, meaning more than 5 train sets, locomotives or carriages), undertaken since 2005 the following information was requested:

- the list of projects with their type (project for a new line, upgrade, signalling, gauge enhancement);
 - their purpose (high-speed, passenger, freight, mixed) a description and their location;
 - the project construction time;
 - the completion date (where applicable); and
 - the project budget covering the total cost, the type of funding (private, public, PPP), the source of funding (supranational, State, regions, local administrations, rail companies, banking financing).
- Regarding the climate change impact:
 - information on specific climate change impacts on railway infrastructure and operations and the specific adaptation measures taken by the Government and railway authorities; and
 - information on mitigation issues and how much railways in each country contribute to the reduction of CO2 emissions.
4. To date, the secretariat has received responses from stakeholders from two countries. The information that has been received will be supplemented by desktop research by the secretariat.

III. Next steps

5. The secretariat encourages stakeholders from other member States to provide project information. Once more information has been received, the secretariat will place the data that has been obtained on an interactive geographical information system (GIS) platform, available on the UNECE website to facilitate the sharing of information on key railway projects and infrastructure.
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