



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Transport Statistics****Seventieth session**

Geneva, 12-14 June 2019

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Workshop on Urban Public Transport**Workshop on Data Collection for Urban Public Transport****Note by the secretariat****I. Background**

1. At its sixty-ninth session, the Working Party on Transport Statistics started its meeting with a half-day workshop dedicated to data quality in inland waterway statistics. Four member States and three international organizations presented their work, which provoked discussions on innovative data sources and uses of the data. The secretariat wrote a report of the workshop which is available on the UNECE website.¹ This followed a similar workshop on rail statistics held in 2017.

2. The Working Party welcomed the initiative of the Workshop and decided to continue the practice. Topics for the next session were proposed that included intermodal transport, transport safety, traffic visualization and various topics on road transport. After consultations with the chair and vice-chair of the Working Party, the topic of statistics on urban public transport was decided upon for the seventieth session given its importance to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 11 to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

II. Purpose of workshop

3. The purpose of this workshop is to share information on how data on urban public transport are collected and/or calculated. Participants are invited to present their own experiences in this area and to comment on the methods used in other countries. Best practices and areas for improvement across countries could also be discussed during the workshop.

¹ www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2017/sc2/Workshop_on_Rail_Statistics_article.pdf.

4. One potential focus of the workshop could be on the value and feasibility of compiling data on urban public transport at the national level, specifically on metro systems. Currently data are not collected through the Web Common Questionnaire (WebCoQ) on metro traffic, vehicles or length of lines. These data are often collected at local levels but are not widely available at a national level for comparison.

III. Proposed discussion points

5. The Working Party may recall that UNECE does not currently disseminate data on urban public transport, with the exception of urban bus journeys through the data collection on bus and coach statistics. The workshop could explore data collection in areas such as:

- Length of metro lines
- Passenger kilometres by metro or other urban public transport
- Urban public transport safety
- Urban public transport accessibility.

6. Among other issues raised by participants, the Working Party may wish to consider the following questions regarding data sources for statistics on urban public transport:

- What are the biggest challenges faced by statistics offices when collecting urban public transport statistics at both a local and national level? How can statistics offices address or work around such challenges?
- Are statistical offices receiving requests for these statistics at the national level from policymakers in light of the Sustainable Development Goals related to urban transport and sustainability?
- What are the primary sources for data on urban public transport? Are surveys used in conjunction with administration data?
- What innovative methods could be used to integrate data from local data sources? What level of cooperation is in place between relevant local entities and national statistical offices.

IV. Future Work

7. The Working Party is invited to propose any future work on urban public transport statistics and agree on a topic for a similar workshop as part of its seventieth session. One possibility could be a focus on data sources for another transport mode such as road. Alternatively, the Working Group may wish to focus on specific methodological issues or on broader issues affecting the collection of transport statistics. The secretariat also welcomes any suggestions on improving the structure of future workshops.
