



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
17 December 2019

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Eighty-second session

Geneva, 25–28 February 2020

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Results of the meetings of the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee

Results of the meetings of the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee in 2019

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document contains the results of the meetings held by the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee in 2019.

The Committee is invited to **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2020/20 and refer to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.



Introduction

1. In accordance with the decisions of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC or the Committee) (ECE/TRANS/125, paras. 14 and 15 and ECE/TRANS/274, para. 130), the Bureau of ITC met on 22 February, 4 June, and 28 and 29 November 2019.
2. In accordance with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) plan of action, the Bureau fulfils the following functions related to the organization of the annual sessions of the Committee:
 - (a) the preparation of a well-focused agenda with defined objectives and allocated times for the items;
 - (b) the indication of main topics where decisions are needed;
 - (c) the selection of themes of discussion for the session;
 - (d) the monitoring and evaluation of the work since the previous session;
 - (e) the monitoring and coordination of activities in order to avoid duplication with the work of other relevant organizations;
 - (f) and the proposal of priorities in the programme of work, listing, where possible, various options (E/ECE/1347, chapter III, A, 2 (b)).
3. The annexes present the results of the meetings of the Bureau for consideration by the Committee, in line with the mandate of its Bureau.

Annex I

Results of the sixth meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (22 February 2019)

I. Attendance

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Philipp Freiherr Von Carnap-Bornheim (Germany), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Elena Dumitru (Romania),¹ Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), Mr. Matthias Rinderknecht (Switzerland),² Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine) and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus) and Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan) were unable to attend.

II. Matters arising from the eighty-first session of the Inland Transport Committee

2. The Bureau expressed its satisfaction for the excellent organization of the eighty-first plenary session of the Committee, in particular the high-level policy segment on “Automation in Transport” that attracted Ministers and Vice-Ministers from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East, alongside heads of key transport stakeholders. In total, some 20 Ministers and Vice-Ministers/State Secretaries, alongside 375 participants from 75 countries and numerous major transport stakeholders attended the meeting.

3. The high-level of attendance and the senior level of representatives led to the adoption by the Committee of several important decisions on 22 February 2019. The Bureau welcomed the timely preparation and dissemination before the annual session of the official documents and their translation, as well as of a streamlined draft list of main decisions in all three ECE official languages and thanked the secretariat for having delivered such a successful event.

4. The Bureau concluded that the eighty-first annual session greatly contributed to raise the visibility of the Committee, link it to the top levels of transport decisions makers and strengthen its position.

5. The Bureau welcomed the results of the ninth meeting of Government Delegates with the participation of the Chairs of the Committee’s subsidiary bodies that was held as a restricted meeting. In total 254 government representatives from 75 countries, including 34 non-ECE member States and 23 chairs and vice-chairs of Working Parties and Administrative Committees participated at the session.

III. Date of next meeting

6. The Bureau agreed to hold its next meeting on Tuesday, 4 June 2019 starting at 10 a.m.³

¹ On behalf of Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore who was unable to attend.

² On behalf of Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly who was unable to attend.

³ Ex-post note by the secretariat.

Annex II

Results of the seventh meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (4 June 2019)

I. Attendance and adoption of the agenda

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Philipp Freiherr Von Carnap-Bornheim (Germany), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Piet de Wildt (the Netherlands),¹ Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore (Romania), Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland), Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan) and Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine) were unable to attend.

2. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2019/3.

Documentation

TRANS/BUR.2019/3

II. Adoption of the report of the previous Bureau meeting

3. The Bureau adopted the report of its meeting held on 22 February 2019, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2019/2.

Documentation

TRANS/BUR.2019/2

III. Meeting of the ITC Chair with the Executive Committee

4. The ITC Chair gave detailed information about his participation at the 105th meeting of EXCOM on 27 May 2019. The Bureau welcomed the from its Chair on his presentation at EXCOM and the outcome and decisions of that meeting, that approved the extension of the extension of the mandates of three of its Groups of Experts.

Documentation

ITC chair report to EXCOM and power-point presentation

IV. Transport at the sixty-eighth session of the Commission

5. The Bureau took note of information about the strong presence of the work of the Committee at the sixty-eighth session of the Commission (9–10 April 2019, Geneva) and welcomed the endorsement by the Commission of the revised Terms of Reference of ITC, as adopted by the Committee at its eighty-second plenary session.

V. Implementation of ITC decisions: draft ITC Rules of Procedure and changes to the ITC session

6. The Bureau considered the draft ITC Rules of Procedure as contained in Informal document No. 1 that was prepared by the secretariat in implementation of [decision 10](#) of the

¹ Replacing Mr. Hans G. Scholten who was unable to attend.

eighty-first ITC session. The Bureau discussed the content of the Rules of Procedure and requested the secretariat to circulate the revised version to Bureau members in track changes. Bureau members agreed to submit to the secretariat their comments by August 30. The version consolidating all comments will then be circulated to ECE member States, through their permanent missions, for further comments that will be presented to the Bureau at its November session, in order to finalize the document for submission to the Committee for its consideration and decision at the February 2020 session.

7. Furthermore, the Bureau requested the secretariat to circulate in June a compilation of Rules of Procedure of the Commission and other ECE sectoral committees, for the reference of the Bureau members.

8. The Bureau requested the secretariat to look into the possibility to develop draft Bureau Rules of Procedure and revise its ToRs, for consideration at the November 2019 meeting of the Bureau.

9. The Bureau also reflected on Informal document No. 2, which contained options for adjustments to the organization of the ITC session, in order to better align the session with the newly adopted ITC strategy and Terms of Reference. The Bureau reached consensus on the basis of the Options paper (Informal document No. 2) on adjustments to the organization of the Committee's annual session, with some amendments.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1, Informal document No. 2

VI. Preparing for the eighty-second session of the Inland Transport Committee

10. The Bureau discussed the preparation of the eighty-second session of the Committee, on the basis of the draft provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (Informal document No. 3), and the secretariat's proposals on the possible themes for the high-level policy segment (Informal document No. 4).

11. The Bureau approved the provisional agenda with some modifications. The revised version will be circulated together with the draft report of the meeting.

12. The Bureau selected option No. C as the topic of the policy segment but with modifications. The General theme of the policy segment is on "Environmental challenges for sustainable inland transport". The policy segment should be organized around three thematic clusters:

- (a) Climate change, covering emission reduction and ITC role in adapting to Climate Change;
- (b) Innovations to respond to environmental-climate change challenges;
- (c) Promotion of solutions to these challenges, with particular focus on the assets of the Committee.

13. The duration of the policy segment should be 4.5 hours and 1.5 hours on the first day should be dedicated to the restricted session.

Documentation

Informal document No. 3, Informal document No. 4

VII. Topics of strategic nature

A. Progress towards the implementation of the ITC strategy

14. The Bureau was informed about ongoing efforts and plans to promote the implementation of the ITC strategy (Informal document No. 5).

15. Bureau members noted the development of ITC Recommendations for Enhancing National Road Safety Systems, for consideration in the framework of the ITC Working Parties/Administrative Committees and possible adoption at the eighty-second plenary session of ITC.

16. The Bureau invited its Chair to communicate with the Chairs of ITC subsidiary bodies to come up with a concrete plan by mid-2020 or, if possible, by the eighty-second session of the ITC, to align their work with the ITC Strategy.

17. The Bureau requested the secretariat to keep the Bureau and the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) informed on progress with the ongoing work on indicators (SITCIN). When ready, indicators are to be shared with all relevant Working Parties for further technical consideration.

18. The Bureau was informed about ongoing efforts to prepare an e-learning platform, in line with the ITC strategy, to promote accession to and the implementation of the conventions under the purview of the Committee and more efficiently use the resources for capacity building.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

B. Update on United Nations Management reform

19. In light of recent management reforms proposed by the Secretary-General and adopted by the General Assembly, the Bureau was informed about forthcoming changes to the programmatic and budget framework. The Bureau was also informed about the liquidity shortfall in the United Nations and ECE Regular Budget. Lastly the Bureau was informed about the aggregate picture and comparative donor profile of Extra-budgetary (XB) contributions to the transport subprogramme.

20. On the basis of the above information and the implementation of the Strategic Heritage Plan (SHP) of the Palais des Nations, the Bureau was informed about the anticipated impacts on the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and anticipated discontinuation of interpretation services to its Bureau. Specific impacts presented, included the immediate freeze of one P4 post and the possible freeze of one Professional P2 and one General Service (GS) post in the near future in the Vehicle Regulations & Transport Innovation Section. They also included the freeze of Regular Budget (RB) travel funds and other budget lines until the resolution of the liquidity problem.

21. The Bureau stressed the importance of the work of the secretariat and its concern for the emerging risks for the servicing of legal instruments under the purview of the Committee through increasingly likely disruptions or limitations in the servicing of meetings by the secretariat. On the basis of these reflections, the Bureau expressed its concern for the so-far known impacts of the ongoing reforms and budgetary situation on the programmatic work on Transport Sub-programme and Division, as well as the strategic implications of these impacts, especially the recent budget freeze of both RB post and non-post resources and implications for ITC and the transport subprogramme.

22. As a potential way of addressing the resource crisis in the medium- and long-run, the Bureau requested the secretariat to develop an options paper in order to enhance the ability of the transport subprogramme to attract post and non-post RB/XB resources, as part of the implementation of the ITC strategy and present it to the Bureau for its consideration at its November session.

23. The Bureau requested its members to report the financial situation to their governments and stress the importance of the work of the ITC and its subsidiary bodies, and that sufficient funding support to the secretariat should be ensured to avoid disruptions in service and strengthen the implementation of the ITC strategy.

24. The Bureau expressed its strong desire to ensure continued servicing, without interruptions/limited service of the work of all Working Parties, in particular the World

Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), caused by the immediate freeze of one P4 post and the possible freeze of one P2 and one GS post in the near future.

25. The Bureau regrets to be informed of the interruption of interpretation services to Bureau meetings and insists on continued interpretation support in the future.

C. Interregional transport connectivity between Europe and Asia

26. The secretariat summarized in an informal presentation various aspects on the interpretation of ITC 2018 decision and 2019 decisions 112, 113 and 114, that impeded the preparation of a document by the secretariat because the Bureau's clarification was needed. Some Bureau members pointed out that circulating a document before the meeting would have facilitated the discussion.

27. The Bureau requested the secretariat to liaise with other Regional Commissions, to inform them about the adopted ITC strategy and to seek their cooperation for developing partnerships in the implementation of the ITC strategy.

28. The Bureau also:

(a) Requested the secretariat to liaise with the ESCAP secretariat to organize a joint event on sustainable transport connectivity in accordance with para 114 of the ITC report, open to all member States of ECE and ESCAP in close cooperation with the Bureau on proposals for discussion on Euro-Asian sustainable transport connectivity;

(b) In light of budgetary constraints and in order to organize this event in Geneva in the most cost-effective way, requested the secretariat to organize this event in Geneva, in the framework of the meeting of WP.24.

VIII. Other business

A. Restructuring of Sustainable Transport Division and senior management appointments

29. The Director of the Sustainable Transport Division informed the Bureau about the latest restructuring, effective 1 June 2019, of the Division with the aim to streamline the work of the Division's staff in order to better support the implementation of the ITC strategy. Furthermore, the Director informed the Bureau about the promotion of Mr Romain Hubert as Chief of the newly formed Road Safety Management and Dangerous Goods Section.

30. Bureau members congratulated Mr Hubert for his promotion and requested to receive a copy of the new structure of the Division for their complete reference.

B. Date of next meeting

31. The Bureau agreed that its next meeting would be held on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 November 2019.

Annex III

Results of the eighth meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (28 and 29 November 2019)

I. Attendance and adoption of the agenda

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Philipp Freiherr Von Carnap-Bornheim (Germany), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland), Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), Mr. Ahmetyar Kulov (Turkmenistan),¹ Mr. Andriy Nikitov (Ukraine)² and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), and Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore (Romania) were unable to attend.

2. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2019/5.

Documentation

TRANS/BUR.2019/5

II. Adoption of the report of the previous Bureau meeting

3. The Bureau adopted the report of its meeting held on 4 June 2019, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2019/4.

Documentation

TRANS/BUR.2019/4

III. Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee Strategy 2030

4. In line with the decisions of the meeting of the Bureau held on 4 June 2019, and following consultations with Governments in October 2019, the members of the Bureau had the opportunity to consider the draft ITC RoP (Informal document No. 1) and a background note on ECOSOC deliberations (Informal document No. 2).

5. The Bureau took note of the consultation results with ECE Governments/Permanent missions in October 2019.

6. The Bureau reached consensus, with modifications, among its members on the text of the draft ITC Rules of Procedure and requested the secretariat to submit the document to ITC for its consideration and adoption, subject to positive outcome of ECOSOC consideration.

7. In order to ensure the role and functioning of the Bureau, the secretariat was requested to seek OLA advice on the formulation of Rule 5, in particular to add the wording “and is approved at the meeting of the Bureau” in the existing clause 5. Following consultation with OLA, Rule 5 remained in its original formulation.

8. On the remaining rules the following were decided:

- On Rule 12(a): Add “elect up to four ECE member States as vice-chairs”.

¹ Replacing Mr. Atageldi Haljanov who was unable to attend.

² Replacing Mr. Roman Symonenko who was unable to attend.

- On Rule 12 (b) Replace “up to nine ECE member States” with “a limited number of ECE member States, subject to decision of ITC”.
 - On Rule 12 (c), the Bureau opted for the “if possible” option.
 - On Rule 20, the Bureau agreed to the draft rule, and reviewed and approved the wording of the draft ITC decisions that will complement this rule, namely:
 - The Committee decided that Working Parties, which had adopted their own Rules of Procedure, could continue to apply them;
 - The Committee noted that Working Parties that had not adopted their own RoP were following de facto and mutatis mutandis ECE RoP. These Working Parties were invited to inform ITC at its eighty-third session in February 2021 about their plans to align their Rules of Procedure to those of the Committee or the compelling reasons that might necessitate following ECE RoP or developing their own RoP.
 - Add sentence in Rule 20, after the first sentence [“Subsidiary bodies of the Committee [may/shall] develop and recommend for adoption by the Committee their Rules of Procedure”], subject to confirmation from OLA.³
 - On Rule 25, the Bureau opted for [“one third”][“majority [of ECE member States]”] and decided to delete the words: “including regarding legal instruments in force”.
 - On Rule 39: the Bureau considered favourably replacing, subject to confirmation by OLA, original rule 39 “All elections shall be decided by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Committee decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate” with: Rule 39 (alt) “In the absence of any objection, the Committee shall proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate. Otherwise, elections shall be decided by secret ballot.”⁴
9. Furthermore, the Bureau had the opportunity to consider three additional documents linked to the implementation of the ITC strategy (Informal documents No. 3–5).
10. On the draft ITC Recommendations for Enhancing National Road Safety Systems (Informal document No. 3), the Bureau:
- recognized the particular importance of this timely document for the new decade of action for road safety.
 - took note of secretariat’s extensive presentations to Working Parties (WPs) and Administrative Committees (ACs) on the implementation of the ITC strategy throughout 2019.
 - thanked Chairs and their WPs/ACs for allocating time for discussion of this critical issue during busy WP agendas.
 - noted detailed suggestions from WPs/Chairs and other key stakeholders.
11. The Bureau requested the secretariat to incorporate the comments of the Bureau members in the draft Recommendations.
12. The Bureau requested the secretariat to revise the annotations to this document according to its comments.

³ Ex-post note by the secretariat: OLA advised to add the following text at the end of Rule 20: “Subsidiary bodies of the Committee may develop and recommend for adoption by the Committee their Rules of Procedure”.

⁴ Ex-post note by the secretariat: OLA advised that the original text is identical to rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the Economic Commission for Europe and rule 68 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council. In practice, under this rule, ECOSOC has held elections by consensus on a regular basis. ECOSOC holds secret ballot only when the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, or when a member of ECOSOC has asked for a secret ballot. Secret ballot under rule 68 has, therefore, become an exception in practice. Therefore, the current text of draft rule 39 would not prevent ITC from holding elections in the same manner.

13. The Bureau took note a forthcoming publication on the study on the national road safety systems to be published prior to the ITC session in February 2020.

14. The Bureau requested the secretariat to submit it for consideration and, possibly, adoption to ITC, taking into consideration the outcomes of the Stockholm Ministerial Conference, to ensure best use of its momentum.

15. On the draft Capacity Development Plan to support the implementation of the ITC Strategy (Informal document No. 4), the Bureau took note of the timely preparation of the document, in line with the timeline envisaged in the ITC Strategy and requested the secretariat to submit it for consideration and, possibly, adoption to ITC.

16. On the draft ITC Bureau Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure (Informal document No. 5), the Bureau took note of the timely preparation of the document it requested in June 2019 and agreed to use it as the basis for further discussions at its June 2020 meeting. To this effect, it invited Bureau members to send their suggestions to the secretariat in a timely way, ideally by end of March 2020, to ensure timely preparation of the corresponding June 2020 Bureau document.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1, Informal document No. 2, Informal document No. 3, Informal document No. 4, Informal document No. 5

IV. Consideration of the agenda of the eighty-second session of the Inland Transport Committee

17. The Bureau considered and approved the provisional agenda of the eighty-second session of the Committee and reviewed the draft annotated Agenda. The Bureau requested the secretariat to proceed with the organization of the eighty-second session of the Committee and its related events accordingly, with the following comments:

- The annotations to the agenda should be adapted by the secretariat according to discussions during the Bureau meeting and shared with the Bureau by Monday 2 December cob with a three-day deadline for Bureau's feedback for final confirmation before official submission.

A. High-level policy segment

18. The secretariat informed the Bureau about preparations for the High-Level policy segment scheduled for 25 February 2020 and its concept note (Informal document No. 6). The Bureau approved with modifications the concept note and agreed to send to the secretariat any potential suggestions on the document and proposed activities included in it by Thursday, 5 December 2019 cob. The secretariat would circulate the consolidated draft including further revisions by the secretariat to the Bureau by Friday, 6 December, if possible, or otherwise by Monday, 9 December. Final comments by the Bureau would be sent to the secretariat at latest by 11 December. The Bureau noted that the draft that builds on related central themes of the 2017 Ministerial Resolution and offers a timely outcome document that can raise the profile of the policy segment.

19. The Federal Office of Transport of Switzerland confirmed its intention to sponsor the lunch for delegates on 25 February. The Bureau members expressed their appreciation to Switzerland for its continued support and generous financial contribution.

20. The Bureau decided in favour of proceeding with the draft ITC Declaration, noting that it was a good ground for preparation of this document for the ITC session and can also contribute positive reputational dividends given its timing after Stockholm and before the second global conference on sustainable transport. The Bureau provided guidance on content to the secretariat during the Bureau meeting.

21. The Bureau requested the secretariat to circulate in early December the “zero draft” of the ITC Declaration to contracting parties, together with formal invitations to the eighty-second ITC, for their feedback.

22. The Bureau requested the secretariat to circulate the consolidated draft outcome document to the Bureau in early January for its final review, before issuing it as an official ITC document by mid-January.

B. Programmatic documents for the Inland Transport Committee consideration and/or approval

23. The Bureau reviewed and considered the two programmatic documents (Programme Plan for 2021 and the Programme of Work for 2020) (Informal documents Nos. 7 and 8). The new formats follow administrative guidelines from United Nations Headquarters and implement relevant General Assembly decisions on the United Nations Management Reform.

24. The Bureau took note of the publications programme for 2021 that will be presented to ITC for endorsement (Informal document No. 9). The Bureau agreed to rename one publication in the list from “Green Transport” to “Green Logistics”.

C. Other items of the agenda for the consideration of the Bureau

25. The Bureau considered the remaining items on the draft provisional agenda and annotations of the eighty-second session of the Committee (draft ECE/TRANS/293 and Add.1).

Documentation

Draft ECE/TRANS/293 and Add.1, Informal document No. 6, Informal document No. 7, Informal document No. 8, Informal document No. 9

V. Topics of strategic nature

A. Options paper on enhancing the capabilities to attract staff-related resources

26. In line with the decisions of the Bureau at its June 2019 meeting, the secretariat prepared Informal document No. 10 with options to enhance the capabilities of the transport subprogramme to attract staff-related resources. The Bureau deliberated on the options proposed in the document and requested the secretariat to include the topic in the agenda of the June 2020 Bureau meeting for further consideration, instead of discussing it during the ITC.

B. United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund: latest developments

27. The Bureau was informed about the recent developments in the operationalization of the United Nations Road Safety Fund, including on the continued setting up of its secretariat and the launch of the first formal Call for Projects.

C. United Nations Management Reform

28. The secretariat updated the Bureau on the latest available information concerning the budget liquidity crisis of the United Nations and known impacts on ECE and the transport subprogramme.

D. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe related developments

29. The Bureau was updated on the latest developments linked to potential restrictions to the interpretation services provided in support of meetings of Bureaux of sectoral committees. It reiterated the decision taken at its meeting of June 2019 on this matter, namely that the Bureau regrets to be informed of the interruption of interpretation services to Bureau meetings and insists on continued interpretation support in the future. Furthermore, it requested the secretariat to address the issue of the importance of the availability of interpretation in the three languages, as had been the long-standing practice, under a relevant agenda item during the ITC session, with a view to referring the matter to EXCOM together with the rest of the Chair's report to EXCOM, if necessary and appropriate.

30. The Bureau was also informed about further development of ECE-wide nexus areas, i.e. intersectoral (horizontal) coordination workstreams in ECE, as part of aligning the work of ECE to the Sustainable Development Goals and noted that further information would be provided during the ITC annual session under an appropriate agenda item.

Documentation

Informal document No. 10, Informal document No. 11

VI. Other business

A. Update on the Forum on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between Europe and Asia

31. The Bureau was informed about the organization of the Forum on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between Europe and Asia within the framework of WP.24 and requested the secretariat to inform ITC about it.

B. Division-related matters of interest

32. The Director of the Sustainable Transport Division informed the Bureau members about the forthcoming opening of a vacant P4 position in the Division and requested the Bureau members to help encourage potential eligible female candidates to apply. The Director also informed the Bureau about his request to ESCAP for promotion of the Railway Passenger Convention in Asia and also about his open invitation to ESCAP for their participation in ITC and its subsidiary bodies' sessions to enhance coordination and cooperation. The Bureau suggested that such opportunities should be opened to all other Regional Commissions.

C. Dates of next meetings

33. The Bureau noted that its next meeting would take place on Monday, 24 February 2020, from 3 to 6 p.m. in room IX.⁵ The Bureau also noted that its meeting following the eighty-second session of the Committee will be held on 28 February 2020, from 3 to 6 p.m. in room IV.

⁵ Ex-post note by the secretariat: room changed from original arrangement (room IV) to allow for interpretation services.