



# Hinterland Connections of Seaports



**Seventy-second session  
Inland Transport Committee  
Geneva, 23 February 2010**

**Presentation by the secretariat  
Transport Division, UNECE**

# Terms of reference

- Describe and analyse the available information on container and ferry freight transport trends and projections in UNECE region
- Describe and analyse the policy response to traffic congestion and other problems in hinterland connections of seaports

# The UNECE Piraeus Conference

- UNECE Conference on Hinterland Connections of Seaports
- Piraeus, 17-18 September 2008
- Kindly hosted by the Greek Government
- Provided valuable inputs to the work of the UNECE Expert Group

# Questionnaire survey

- Prepared by the UNECE Expert Group
- Sent to some 70 port authorities
- 33 responses from 15 UNECE countries, including
  - 9 of the top 20 EU container ports
  - 2 of the top 10 EU ferry ports

# Good practice

- Initiatives to satisfy trade requirements while minimising transport distance
- Hinterland transport infrastructure provision and use initiatives
- Initiatives to make efficient and sustainable use of transport modes
- Cross-border transport initiatives and the development of partnerships
- Initiatives to reduce border crossing delays
- Systematic data collection

# Recommendations

- Ensure that hinterland connections are well integrated into strategic transport development plans
- UNECE to continue its participation in Eurostat's task forces to develop intermodal statistical measures for the EU and non-EU countries
- Based on the UNECE questionnaire, WP.6 to collect and process harmonized statistics on port-hinterland container and ro-ro ferry traffic flows in ECE countries to inform policy making for hinterland transport

# Recommendations, cont'd

- UNECE to develop an evaluation tool for identifying key pinch points and benchmarking performance of transport and logistics systems
- Continue to encourage good practice adoption for border crossings to improve hinterland efficiency, particularly in landlocked non-EU countries
- TEM, TER and EATL projects should be supported and strengthened by UNECE countries concerned



# Issues for further consideration

- Explore frameworks within which ports could be encouraged to minimise the negative impacts of port-hinterland flows
- Assess the relative merits of the continued development of hub ports or an alternative regional approach with shorter hinterland routes
- Identify areas in which amendments to international transport conventions and agreements administered by UNECE may be necessary and make relevant proposals



# Issues for further consideration

- Possible areas for amendments:
  - Harmonization Convention (a new annex)
  - AGTC Agreement (update list of seaports and specify minimum infrastructure and operational standards)
  - AGR and AGC Agreements (specify minimum infrastructure and operational standards for efficient connections of seaports with AGR and AGC networks)

# THANK YOU

- UNECE Report on Hinterland Connections of Seaports

<http://unece.org/trans/doc/2010/itc/ECE-TRANS-210.pdf>

- UNECE Piraeus Conference

[http://unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5\\_ge1\\_SPC.html](http://unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_SPC.html)

- UNECE Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports

[http://unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5\\_ge1\\_04.html](http://unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_04.html)