



**Economic and Social  
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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Joint ECMT/UNECE Working Party/Group on Intermodal Transport and Logistics <sup>\*/</sup>  
(24 and 25 March 2004)

UNECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics <sup>\*\*/</sup>  
(25 March 2004)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION**

**to be held at OECD Headquarters, 2 rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris,  
starting at 09.30 hours on Thursday, 25 March 2004** <sup>\*\*\*/</sup>

1. Adoption of the agenda TRANS/WP.24/102
2. Election of officers

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<sup>\*/</sup> As of 2004, the ECMT and the UNECE have adopted cooperative arrangements in establishing the "Joint ECMT/UNECE Working Party/Group on Intermodal Transport and Logistics" consisting of separate ECMT and UNECE segments, the UNECE segment consisting of its Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics.

<sup>\*\*/</sup> At its 40<sup>th</sup> session, the Working Party reviewed its future activities and programme of work and decided to modify its name from "Working Party on Combined Transport (WP.24)" to "Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)".

<sup>\*\*\*/</sup> For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents may be obtained directly from the UNECE Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; e-mail: WP.24@unece.org). Documents may also be downloaded from the following Internet web site: (www.unece.org/trans/wp24/welcome.html).

Delegations are requested to complete the attached registration form, also available from the Internet Web site of the UNECE Transport Division (www.unece.org/trans), and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the session, either by fax (+41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (wp.24@unece.org).

3. European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC)
  - (a) Status of the AGTC Agreement ECE/TRANS/88/Rev. 1
  - (b) Status of amendment proposals adopted by the Working Party TRANS/WP.24/97
  - (c) New amendment proposals TRANS/WP.24/2004/1  
TRANS/WP.24/2004/2  
TRANS/WP.24/2003/9 and Add.1  
TRANS/WP.24/2003/1  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/10
  - (d) Inventory of existing AGTC standards and parameters UNECE Publication (“Yellow Book”)
4. Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) ECE/TRANS/122 and Corr. 1 and 2
5. Development of combined and intermodal Transport at the pan-European level TRANS/WP.24/2004/3  
TRANS/WP.24/2003/6  
TRANS/SC.2/2002/9  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/9  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/4  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/3  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/2  
TRANS/WP.24/2002/1  
Informal document No. 5 (2003)  
Informal document No. 3 (2003)  
Informal document No. 10 (2002)
6. Monitoring of weights and dimensions of loading units in intermodal transport TRANS/WP.24/2004/4  
ECE/TRANS/97  
TRANS/SEM.10/3
7. Date of next session
8. Summary of decisions taken

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda (TRANS/WP.24/102).

### 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Working Party may wish to elect a Chairperson and possibly a Vice-chairperson for its sessions to be held in 2004.

### 3. EUROPEAN AGREEMENT ON IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL COMBINED TRANSPORT LINES AND RELATED INSTALLATIONS (AGTC)

#### (a) Status of the AGTC Agreement

As of 1 January 2004, the AGTC Agreement had 26 Contracting Parties<sup>\*/</sup>. The Working Party will be informed of progress made in the extension of the geographical scope of the Agreement.

The updated text of the AGTC Agreement is contained in document ECE/TRANS/88/Rev.1. Information on the status of the AGTC Agreement as well as of other United Nations treaties developed and/or administered by the UNECE may be obtained from the following Internet web site: [www.unece.org/trans-Legal instruments](http://www.unece.org/trans-Legal%20instruments) or from the UNECE secretariat (E-mail: [WP.24@unece.org](mailto:WP.24@unece.org)).

#### (b) Status of amendment proposals adopted by the Working Party

The Working Party may wish to note that the amendments to the AGTC Agreement proposed by Norway and Slovenia, adopted by the Working Party at its thirty-eighth session (TRANS/WP.24/97, annexes 1 and 2) have been circulated by the Depositary on 16 July 2003 to all Contracting Parties directly concerned (Croatia; Hungary; Norway; Slovenia; Sweden) (Depositary Notification C.N.749.2003.TREATIES-1). These amendments will come into force in early 2004 if no objections are registered by 16 January 2004.

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<sup>\*/</sup> Austria; Belarus; Belgium; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Italy; Luxembourg; Kazakhstan; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Slovenia, Switzerland and Turkey.

(c) **New amendment proposals**

The Working Party may wish to consider and approve amendment proposals made by the Russian Federation to Annexes I and II of the AGTC Agreement with a view to including into the Agreement important Euro-Asian transport links (TRANS/WP.24/2004/1). These proposals had already been considered and approved in principle by the Working Party at its fortieth session (TRANS/WP.24/2003/9 and Add.1; TRANS/WP.24/2003/1; TRANS/WP.24/2002/10).

The Working Party may wish to formally adopt these proposals for transmission to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs for necessary depositary action.

In accordance with the decisions of the Working Party at its fortieth session, the secretariat has prepared amendment proposals on further Euro-Asian transport links aligning the AGTC network with that of the AGC Agreement on railway transport (TRANS/WP.24/2004/2). Before finalizing these amendment proposals, the Working Party may wish to consider the views of the countries directly concerned that had been solicited by the secretariat.

(d) **Inventory of existing AGTC standards and parameters**

In accordance with the request of the Working Party, the secretariat has transmitted pre-filled questionnaires to all Contracting Parties for the collection of 2002 data relating to the AGTC Agreement and to the relevance of the standards and parameters contained therein (“Yellow Book”).

The Working Party will be informed of the status of replies received.

Copies of the country questionnaires may be obtained from the secretariat.

#### **4. PROTOCOL ON COMBINED TRANSPORT ON INLAND WATERWAYS TO THE EUROPEAN AGREEMENT ON IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL COMBINED TRANSPORT LINES AND RELATED INSTALLATIONS (AGTC)**

As of 1 January 2004 the Protocol has seven Contracting Parties <sup>\*/</sup>. It will come into force following ratification by at least five States, of which three States are linked, in a continuous manner, by the waterways identified in the Protocol. Amendment proposals submitted to the Working Party at its twenty-ninth session by France, Hungary and Romania (Informal document No. 1 (1998); TRANS/WP.24/79, para. 20) as well as amendment proposals transmitted by the Government of Bulgaria to the secretariat may be considered by the Working Party as soon as the Protocol enters into force.

The text of the Protocol to the AGTC Agreement is contained in document ECE/TRANS/122 and Corr.1 (F) and Corr.2 (R). Up-to-date information on the status and the text of the Protocol may be obtained from the following Internet web site: [www.unece.org/trans-Legal instruments](http://www.unece.org/trans-Legal_instruments).

The Working Party may wish to be informed on progress made in the ratification of the Protocol by UNECE member States, Contracting Parties to the AGTC Agreement.

#### **5. DEVELOPMENT OF COMBINED AND INTERMODAL TRANSPORT AT THE PAN-EUROPEAN LEVEL**

At its fortieth session, the Working Party approved document TRANS/WP.24/2003/6 prepared by its ad hoc expert group and decided to transmit it for review to all Contracting Parties to the AGTC Agreement as well as to interested combined transport operators (TRANS/WP.24/101, paras. 16-19). The document contained “model” action plans or framework agreements as well as “model” partnership agreements. The objective of these "models" is to assist Contracting Parties to the AGTC and actors involved in international combined transport services to cooperate with each other at the policy level as well as at technical and commercial levels with a view to promoting international combined and intermodal transport at the pan-European level. Taking account of the comments received from Contracting Parties, the Working Party may wish to review the issues addressed in document TRANS/WP.24/2003/6, in particular (a) the main elements of a “Model” Action Plan or Framework Agreement to be concluded at the inter-governmental level, (b) the main elements of a “Model” Partnership Agreement to be concluded at the industry level and (c) the identified key performance indicators at national and international levels.

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<sup>\*/</sup> Bulgaria; Czech Republic; Denmark; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Romania; Switzerland.

With a view to facilitating these considerations, the Chairman has prepared a document containing examples of the main elements and issues that could be considered for inclusion into the AGTC Agreement (TRANS/WP.24/2004/3).

## **6. MONITORING OF WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS OF LOADING UNITS IN INTERMODAL TRANSPORT**

The Working Party, at its fortieth session, was informed of progress on the draft of a European Directive on Intermodal Loading Units that also proposes the introduction and acceptance, on a voluntary basis, of a European intermodal loading unit (EILU) complying with the essential European intermodal requirements in terms of security, safety, interoperability, handling, securing, strength, coding and identification of units. The Working Party also noted the outcome of the Plenary session of ISO Technical Committee TC 104 that had considered the possible standardization of 45 ft containers and had requested the UNECE to clarify the applicability of Inland Transport Committee (ITC) resolution No. 241 of 5 February 1993 on “Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units in Combined Transport” (TRANS/WP.24/101, paras. 20-23)

In accordance with its programme of work, the Working Party may wish to review resolution No. 241 in light of recent developments. As a basis for its considerations, the secretariat has prepared a document containing the text of the ITC resolution as well as related information on a similar resolution adopted at the second global Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport (Geneva, 1-4 September 1992) (TRANS/WP.24/2004/4).

## **7. DATE OF NEXT SESSION**

In principle, the autumn session of the joint Working Party/Group has already been scheduled to be held from 27 to 29 September 2004 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. It will be hosted by the UNECE. The ECMT segment will be held on 27 September 2004 and the UNECE segment on 28 and 29 September 2004.

## **8. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN**

At the end of the session, a brief summary of the decisions will be made by the Chairperson (TRANS/WP.24/63, para. 54). Following the session, the secretariat, in cooperation with the Chairperson, will establish a short report on the outcome of the session for formal adoption at the autumn session of the Working Party.

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## Conference Registration Form

Please Print

Date

**Please fax or e-mail this completed form to the UNECE secretariat**

**Fax No.: +41 22-917 0039**

**E-mail: wp.24@unece.org**

**Title of the Conference**

**UNECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)**

(OECD Headquarters, 2, rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris (France))

**Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency**

**Participant**

**Family Name**

**First Name**

Mr.

Mrs.

Ms.

**Date of Birth**

**(DD/MM/YYYY)**

**Participation Category**

<b>Head of Delegation Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Observer Organisation</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Participating From / Until</b>
<b>Delegation Member</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NGO (ECOSOC Accred.)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>From</b> <b>25 March 2004</b>
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