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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Joint ECMT/UNECE Working Party/Group on Intermodal Transport and Logistics
Paris, 3 and 4 October 2006

Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics
Forty-sixth session
Paris, 4 October 2006
Item 9 of the provisional agenda

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006 TO 2010

At its forty-fourth session in October 2005 the Working Party adopted its programme of work for the period 2006 to 2010. This programme, approved by the Committee on Inland Transport in February 2006 ([ECE/TRANS/166](#), paragraph 125), is contained in the annex to the report of the Working Party ([TRANS/WP.24/109](#)).

In view of the recent decisions to transform the ECMT into an International Transport Forum and to streamline its supporting structure, the Working Party may wish to review its current programme of work and propose modifications to it, if needed.

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PROGRAMME OF WORK 2006-2010
(Annex 3 to the Report of the Inland Transport Committee)

Summary of programme activities

GENERAL OBJECTIVES PURSUED BY THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

02.1 TRANSPORT TRENDS AND ECONOMICS

Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy and analysis of specific transport economic issues

02.2 ROAD TRANSPORT

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure

02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations

02.3 ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY

02.4 DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS

02.4.1 Regulations for the construction of vehicles

02.4.2 Rules on periodical technical inspections of vehicles

02.5 RAIL TRANSPORT

02.5.1 Rail transport infrastructure

02.5.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport including rail safety and facilitation of its operations

02.6 INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

02.6.1 Inland waterway infrastructure

02.6.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport including inland water transport safety and facilitation of its operations

02.7 TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterway and combined transport

02.8 TRANSPORT, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (THE PEP)

Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)

02.9 INTERMODAL TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Promotion of combined and intermodal transport

02.10 CUSTOMS QUESTIONS AFFECTING TRANSPORT

Harmonization and simplification of requirements for border crossing procedures concerning modes of inland transport

02.11 TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS

Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operations

02.12 TRANSPORT STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

02.12.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents

02.12.2 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport

GENERAL OBJECTIVES PURSUED BY THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

In order to allow a better understanding of the scope of work of the Inland Transport Committee, the general objectives pursued in carrying out the programme of work are outlined below.

Through the pursuance of these objectives, the Committee intends

(i) to promote the harmonization and improvement of technical and operational regulations, standards and recommendations in the various fields of inland transport in the UNECE region;

(ii) to further the facilitation of international road, rail and inland waterway transport, particularly through the simplification and harmonization of administrative border crossing procedures and documentation;

(iii) to promote the coordinated development of infrastructures for road, rail and inland waterway transport as well as for combined transport;

(iv) to support the development of sustainable transport by means of promoting both the reduction of the negative impact of transport on the environment and the utilization of environmentally sound modes of transport;

(v) to develop appropriate methodologies and definitions for the collection, compilation and harmonization of transport statistics for the purposes of comparability and consistency;

(vi) to contribute to the elaboration, administration and revision of Agreements, Conventions and other international legally binding instruments in the various fields of inland transport;

(vii) to monitor progressively the implementation of these international legal instruments in the various countries;

(viii) to promote subregional cooperation with a view to such implementation and

(ix) to advise and assist UNECE member countries, particularly those facing major economic changes, through workshops, training and other appropriate means on transport matters of specific interest, in particular in developing transport systems and infrastructures.

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2006-2010

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.9: INTERMODAL TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Promotion of combined and intermodal transport

Priority: 1

Description: Consideration of legal, administrative, documentary, technical, economic and environmental aspects of combined and intermodal transport with a view to the development of measures to promote combined and intermodal transport as well as the maximum utilization of equipment, infrastructure and terminals used for such transport.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

- (a) Consideration of measures to promote efficiency of intermodal transport as part of a sustainable transport system whereby goods are moved in one and the same loading unit or road vehicle using successively two or more modes of transport without handling the goods themselves in changing modes. Analysis of ways to implement a harmonized set of best practices and partnership models for intermodal transport operations (road, rail, inland water transport and short-sea shipping). Priority: 1

Output expected in 2006: Monitoring the use of and, if necessary, preparation of implementation procedures for the “model” action plans and partnership agreements for the development of intermodal transport prepared by the Working Party and adopted by the ECMT Council of Ministers (Moscow, 24-25 May 2005) and the Inland Transport Committee in 2006.

- (b) Review and updating of the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) with a view to:
- Extending the AGTC network to all UNECE member countries concerned taking account of the work already undertaken by UNESCAP and OSZhD;
 - Taking into account new developments in transport markets (demands and requirements) also as a result of globalization of the world economy, including new East-West traffic flows;
 - Implementing and, whenever feasible, improving existing standards and operational parameters;
 - Raising environmental, energy as well as safety and security standards. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2006: Adoption of an extended AGTC network covering all UNECE member countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus. Inclusion into the AGTC Agreement of new East-West combined transport lines.

- (c) Monitoring of weights and dimensions of loading units used in intermodal transport in accordance with resolution No. 241 adopted by the Inland Transport Committee on 5 February 1993. This includes consideration of possibilities for standardization of loading units and the compliance with safety regulations. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2006: Review of the issues based on one annual report to be prepared by the UNECE secretariat on latest developments in this field.

- (d) Analysis of modern transport chains and logistics that allow for an integration of production and distribution systems providing a rational basis for Governmental decisions on efficient intermodal transport regulations and infrastructures and taking into account transport safety and security requirements. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2006: Review of technical and legal issues and development of regional implementation tools and measures based on considerations and analyses made by the ECMT.

- (e) Analysis of technical and organizational measures to optimize terminal and transshipment procedures allowing for more cost-effective handling procedures of loading units. Analysis of possibilities to improve efficiency and quality of terminal operations in intermodal transport. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2006: Report to be prepared on the basis of information provided by UNECE member Governments and international organizations allowing the preparation of benchmarks for the efficient operation of intermodal terminals.

- (f) Monitoring and reports by the secretariat on behalf of the Working Party on the following subjects for consideration by the Working Party upon specific request only:

- Translation and updating of the intermodal transport terminology into Arabic, Chinese and Spanish in order to contribute to the dissemination of the joint ECMT, EC and UNECE glossary of terms used in this field;
- Intermodal transport techniques and operations (including inland waterways and coastal shipping techniques) as a basis for a possible international compendium of measures for the safe handling and temporary storage of dangerous goods;
- National approval procedures for containers and swap-bodies in the framework of relevant conventions, such as the CSC Convention, with a view to better harmonizing such procedures;
- New services and technologies in combined and intermodal transport, including sea/inland waterways and sea/land interfaces, and the use of bimodal road/rail vehicles with a view to be able to analyse the potential of intermodal transport;
- Data requirements for transshipment and handling operations, of marking, coding and identification systems for means of transport and loading units in intermodal transport, including electronic data processing;
- Analysis of economic and environmental aspects of intermodal transport, including administrative measures and activities of the transport industry, with a view to promoting sustainable transport development. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2006: Report(s) to be prepared by the secretariat as a basis for discussion by the Working Party, as appropriate.

ACTIVITIES OF A LIMITED DURATION

- (a) Analysis of possibilities for reconciliation and harmonization of liability regimes governing intermodal transport operations. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2006: Review of relevant activities undertaken by international organizations and, if appropriate, preparation of a draft legal instrument for multimodal overland transport covering the UNECE region.

- (b) Analysis of the consequences on the organization of intermodal transport in Europe resulting from the development of intermodal transport services on interregional rail links between Europe and Asia, including the Trans-Siberian railway, and vice versa, in close cooperation with ECMT, UNESCAP, UNCTAD, EC, OSZhD, etc.). Priority: 2

Output expected in 2006: Based on the recommendations adopted at the ECMT/UNECE Kiev Seminar on Intermodal Transport between Europe and Asia and the corresponding framework action plan adopted by the ECMT Council of Ministers (Moscow, 24-25 May 2005), review of measures to facilitate border crossing procedures and analysis of the coherence between the various rail and intermodal infrastructure parameters and their possible harmonization in the longer term.

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
(ECE/TRANS)**

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
(WP.5)

Working Party on Road Transport
(SC.1)

Working Party on Rail Transport
(SC.2)

Working Party on Inland Water Transport
(SC.3)

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
(WP.1)

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

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical
 and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
(SC.3/WP.3)

World Forum for Harmonization
 of Vehicle Regulations
(WP.29)

Working Party on
 Customs Questions Affecting Transport
(WP.30)

Working Party on the
 Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs
(WP.11)

Working Party on Pollution and Energy
(GRPE)

Working Party on
 the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(WP.15)

Working Party on Transport Statistics
(WP.6)

Working Party on General Safety Provisions
(GRSG)

Joint Meeting of Experts on the
 Regulations annexed to the European Agreement
 Concerning the International Carriage of
 Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways
(WP.15/AC.2)

Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear
(GRRF)

Joint Meeting of the
 RID Safety Committee and the
 Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(WP.15/AC.1)

Working Party on Lighting and Light Signalling
(GRE)

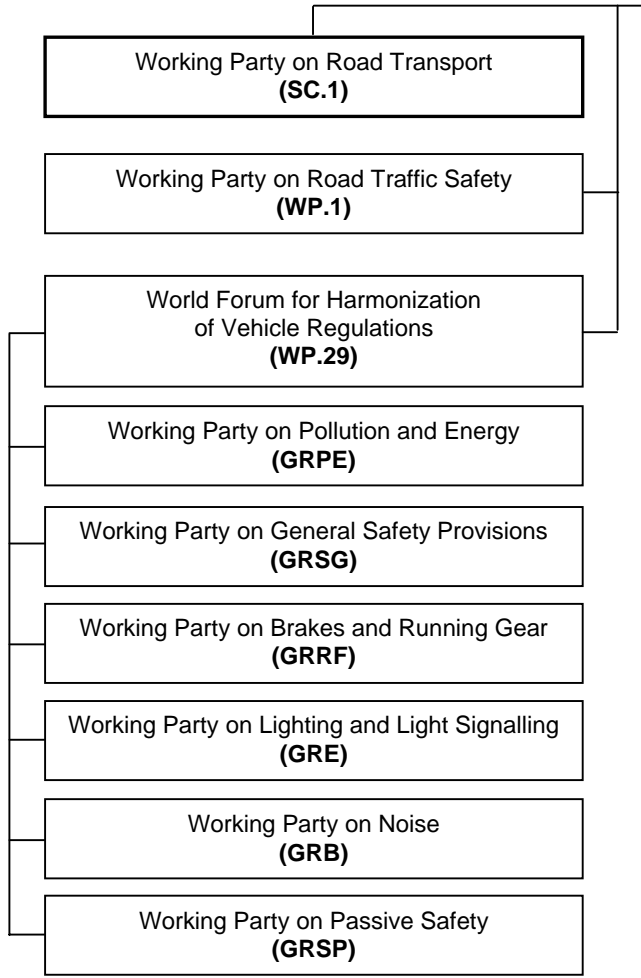
Economic and Social Council:
 Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous
 Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of
 Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
(ST/SG/AC.10)

Working Party on Noise
(GRB)

Sub-Committee of Experts on
 the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(ST/SG/AC.10/C.3)

Working Party on Passive Safety
(GRSP)

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized
 System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
(ST/SG/AC.10/C.4)



APPENDIX II TO THE PROGRAMME OF WORK

MEETING DAYS ALLOTTED TO THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 2006 (January – December ^{1/})

Committee / Working Party, etc.	Symbol	Days/Meeting
1. Inland Transport Committee	(ECE/TRANS)	3
2. Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee		5 or 6 ^{2/}
3. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics	(WP.5)	2
4. Working Party on Road Transport	(SC.1)	3
5. Ad hoc meeting on European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)		1
6. Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, including the First World Road Safety Film Festival	(WP.1)	12
7. Ad hoc meeting on European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)		3
8. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and Administrative Committee	(WP.29) (WP.29/AC.1)	12
9. Working Party on Pollution and Energy	(GRPE)	6
10. Working Party on General Safety Provisions	(GRSG)	7
11. Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear	(GRRF)	7
12. Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling	(GRE)	7
13. Working Party on Noise	(GRB)	5
14. Working Party on Passive Safety	(GRSP)	7
15. Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work of WP.29	(WP.29/AC.2)	3
16. Working Party on Rail Transport	(SC.2)	6
17. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	(WP.24)	5
18. Steering Committee for Transport, Environment and Health Pan-European Programme	(THE PEP)	2
19. Group of Experts on the Development of an International Protocol on Radiation Monitoring of Scrap Metal		3
20. Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport	(WP.30)	14
21. TIR Executive Board		4
22. Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention		1
23. TIR Administrative Committee ^{3/}	(WP.30/AC.2)	4

	Committee / Working Party, etc.	Symbol	Days/Meeting
24.	Administrative Committee for the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods ^{2/}	(WP.30/AC.3)	1
25.	Informal Ad Hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of the TIR Procedure (GE.1)		3.5
26.	Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	(WP.15)	14
27.	Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	(WP.15/AC.1)	9
28.	Joint Meeting - ADN	(WP.15/AC.2)	4
29.	Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the CTRD		
30.	ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods ^{4/}	(ST/SG/AC.10/C.3)	14
31.	ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals [/]	(ST/SG/AC.10/C.4)	5
32.	ECOSOC Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals [/]	(ST/SG/AC.10)	1
33.	Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	(WP.11)	5
34.	Working Party on Transport Statistics	(WP.6)	3
35.	Working Party on Inland Water Transport	(SC.3)	5
36.	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation	(SC.3/WP.3)	3

^{1/} See document ECE/TRANS/157.

^{2/} The number of days of the June meeting is to be confirmed in March.

^{3/} It should be noted that the TIR Administrative Committee (WP.30/AC.2) and the Administrative Committee for the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (WP.30/AC.3) are convened in conjunction with the session of WP.30.

^{4/} ECOSOC subsidiary body serviced by the Transport Division.