



Selected Activities of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5)



50th session of the Working Party on
Intermodal Transport and Logistics,
Item 3b, 6 October 2008

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Recent meetings

- 1st session of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports, Geneva, 18 April 2008
- 1st session of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links, Geneva, 7 September 2008
- 21st session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics, Geneva, 8-9 September 2008
- UNECE Conference on Hinterland Connections of Seaports, Piraeus, 17-18 September 2008

Selected highlights of the 21st session

- Methodological approach to bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service in infrastructure networks
- Draft report approved by WP.5 for publication
<http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/ECE-TRANS-WP5-2008-21-inf05e.pdf>
- Comprehensive report on transport issues in Belgium
<http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/ECE-TRANS-WP5-2008-21-inf07e.pdf>
- New UNECE project on supply chain challenges
<http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/ECE-TRANS-WP5-2008-21-inf11e.pdf>

UNECE Conference in Piraeus

- Focus on hinterland connections of ports
- Hosted by the Greek government
- Over 100 participants, incl. senior government officials
- Leading researchers, representatives of the business sector and international organizations
- Over 40 presentations and 3 background papers available to the public
- http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_SPC.html

Some issues and questions

- Sustainability and intermodality
- Infrastructure planning and coordination
- Integration vs. competition
- Bottlenecks – what, where and how important?
- New institutions or better use of existing structures?

Post-conference activities

- Questionnaire on hinterland connections of ports
http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_Questionnaire.html
- Prepared by Expert Group with assistance of WP.6 and WP.24
- Distributed to 70 ports, transport firms and organizations, and governments
- Consultant to analyze answers
- Policy recommendations to be prepared under auspices of Expert Group

Forthcoming

- 2nd session of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports (Geneva, 28 October 2008)
- Workshop on Euro-Asian transport links (Shanghai, Spring 2009)
- Report of the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports
- To be submitted to the 22nd WP.5 session (Geneva, 8-9 September 2009)