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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Ad Hoc Informal Meeting

7 December 2004

**FORMAL SEGMENT
RECORD OF DECISIONS**

1. The formal segment of the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting dealt with Agenda Item 2: Programme Budget Narratives 2006-2007 – recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW).
2. The Plan of Action provides that the “Group of Experts will meet every two years in the Autumn, prior to the preparation of the programme budget submission by the Executive Secretary. On the basis of the priorities identified by the PSBs, [...] the Group of Experts will formulate recommendations on adjustments and shifts in the ECE programme of work. These recommendations will be forwarded as a draft decision to an Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission which, for this specific purpose, will be converted into a formal session”.
3. As per the Plan of Action, the Group of Experts had submitted their recommendations to the Commission and the Commission was asked to take a decision on these recommendations.
4. The representative of Turkey suggested that the changing composition of UNECE membership, especially in regard to the Transport sector, is an issue that should be reflected in the recommendations, and proposed that the following sentence be inserted: “The UNECE will continue to provide assistance to UNECE countries in transition, focusing increasingly on the implementation of transport-related legal instruments and recommendations in the Caucasus and Central Asian countries.”
5. The proposal was not supported because it was felt that highlighting specific priorities would create an imbalance in the recommendations, and that rather it would be appropriate to highlight this priority at the PSB level. Furthermore, the issue had already been identified as a priority by the Inland Transport Committee.

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6. The Commission subsequently adopted the Recommendations of the Group of Experts as proposed and requested the Executive Secretary to take them into account while finalizing her budget submission to New York.

7. The Chair converted the meeting into an informal meeting.
