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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Road Transport

##### Special session

Geneva, 27-29 April 2015

### Special session of the Working Party on Road Transport on the AETR Agreement (27 April) and on a proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS) (28-29 April)

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## **I. Attendance**

1. The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) held a special session in Geneva from 27 to 29 April 2015, chaired by Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine). The following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) member States were represented in the meeting: Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.
2. The following non-governmental organization were also represented: International Road Transport Union (IRU) and Continental Automotive GmbH as an observer.

## **II. Adoption of the Agenda (agenda item 1)**

3. The Working Party adopted the session's agenda (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/395) with two additions. It added a presentation by the European Commission about the "Tachograph Forum" (Article 43 of Regulation (EU) No 165/2014) under agenda 2(a) and the "dates of next sessions of the AETR Group of Experts" under agenda item 4.

## **III. AETR Agreement (agenda item 2)**

### **A. Activities of interest to the Working Party**

4. The secretariat provided an update on the key decisions of the seventy-seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC), including the decision that "the mandate of the Group of Experts on AETR should be recommended for extension in order to continue its work" as well as on the seventy-sixth meeting of the Executive Committee which endorsed the decision of the ITC. As a result, the AETR Group of Experts will continue its work until 30 June 2017.

5. The European Commission made a presentation about establishing the "Tachograph Forum" (on the basis of Article 43 of Regulation (EU) No. 165/2014). It invited non-EU AETR Contracting Parties and the UNECE secretariat to host some of the "Tachograph Forum's" sessions in 2016 and beyond. The Working Party unanimously supported the European Commission's proposal to hold some "Tachograph Forum's" sessions at the UNECE secretariat in Geneva and invited both the secretariat and the European Commission to begin discussions about the relevant modalities.

### **B. The Memorandum of Understanding which recognizes the Joint Research Centre as the authority responsible for Root and Interoperability Certification for non-EU AETR Contracting Parties**

6. The Working Party discussed the text of a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) The draft Memorandum extends the current MoU until 30 June 2017. The Working Party adopted the draft MOU and requested the secretariat to finalize it, commence the signature procedure and table the signed MOU (for information only) at the next AETR Group of Experts meeting.

### **C. Proposed amendment to Article 14 of the AETR**

7. The secretariat informed the Working Party about depositary notification (C.N136.2015.TREATIES-XII.B.21) concerning an amendment proposal to Article 14 of the AETR Agreement. The depositary notification was issued by the United Nations Secretary-General on 18 February 2015 and AETR Contracting Parties will have six months (from the date of issuance) to inform the Secretary-General of their decision.

### **D. Digital tachographs: Costs of installation and maintenance**

8. The Working Party thanked Continental Corporation for delivering a presentation about “Efforts of installation and maintenance of digital tachographs”. The SC.1 Chair indicated that the issue of the financial costs of installation maintenance of digital tachographs will be discussed at future sessions of the AETR Group of Experts

## **IV. Proposal for a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBUS) (agenda item 3)**

9. The Working Party continued discussing the text of a draft Omnibus agreement. As a result, only Article 25, Article 30 and parts of Annex VI remain to be agreed upon. The secretariat was requested to edit the text for English, verify cross references and submit the text for translation into French and Russian with the aim of having the formal document (in the three official UNECE languages) tabled at the next SC.1 session.

## **V. Other business**

10. The Working Party was informed that the next SC.1 session is scheduled from the afternoon of 26 October (starting at 2.30pm) to 28 October 2015 in Geneva preceded by an AETR Expert Group meeting on the morning of 26 October 2015 (9.30-12.30) also in Geneva.

11. SC.1 decided to cancel the session of the AETR Group of Experts scheduled for 13 July 2015.

## **VI. Adoption of decisions**

12. The Working Party adopted the report of this special SC.1 session.

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