

Decision by ITC



19. Furthermore, the Committee welcomed ongoing alignment activities by its Working Parties, in response to its invitation to its subsidiary bodies to take follow-up actions to align their work with the ITC strategy (ECE/TRANS/288, paras. 15 (a) and (c)) and decided to request the secretariat, in close cooperation with the Working Parties and in consultation with the Bureau **to prepare a report on alignment activities of WPs and possible future activity** for the consideration of the Committee at its eighty-third session.

Implementation of the ITC decision



Informal document No. 4

Distr.: Restricted
11 June 2020

English only

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee

Second meeting of the 2020–2021
Geneva, 14 July 2020

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Implementation of ITC Strategy until 2030

Implementation of the ITC Strategy until 2030

I. Introduction

1. This document has been prepared by the secretariat to present the status of work in implementing the ITC Strategy until 2030 (Strategy) and to formulate next steps to further advance the implementation. The status and the next steps are detailed as per tasks arising from the Strategy and the ITC decisions related to the adoption of the Strategy. This document also allocates responsibilities for the implementation of the next steps.

2. The Bureau is requested to provide comments on the progress and advice on the next steps for the implementation of the Strategy. This document is to be regularly updated to present progress in the implementation of the Strategy as well as to formulate successive next steps for continuous advancement in the implementation.

II. Status and next steps

<i>Tasks</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Next steps</i>	<i>Responsible in Division</i>
1 Vision: UN platform for inland transport to help efficiently address global and regional needs in inland transport	The recognition of ITC as the UN platform for inland transport was promoted through preparation and dissemination of flyers on the Strategy, role and impact of ITC, dialogue meeting with WMO, learning from and cooperation with ICAO and IMO. ECE, in its role as the platform for inland transport, administers and is	1. Further develop and disseminate information on the Strategy and prepare an internal (inside UN) and external (Contracting Parties) campaign which will include strategic activities that would strengthen ITC profile as the UN inland transport	1-3. ITC secretariat with all WPs secretaries
2 Mission:			

Status and next step

Related to the tasks of the strategy and decisions related to the adoption of the strategy

Decision by the ITC Bureau

The Bureau **requested** the secretariat to forward Informal Document No. 4 to all Working Parties or their Chairs and **invite** them to submit their suggestions or comments to the secretariat by **Friday 16 October** with a view for the Bureau to review the document and the alignment and implementing plans at its November session and consider the next steps towards its submission to the ITC for its consideration.

Follow-up on the ITC Bureau decision



Ref.: UNECE / 2020 / TRANS / 39

30 July 2020

Dear Chairs of the Working Parties and Administrative Committees,

I am writing you with regard to the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) Strategy until 2030, which the Committee adopted at its eighty-first session in 2019 and invited its subsidiary bodies – Working Parties – to take follow-up actions by aligning their work with the Strategy (ECE/TRANS/288, paras. 15 (a) and (c)).

As you may recall, the Committee at its eighty-second session welcomed the ongoing alignment activities by its Working Parties, for which I would like to congratulate you as the Chairs of these bodies.

At that same session, the Committee further requested the secretariat in close cooperation with the Working Parties and in consultation with its Bureau to prepare a report on the Strategy alignment activities and possible future activities for the consideration at the eighty-third session in 2021 (ECE/TRANS/294, para. 19).

Further to this request, I wish to inform you that the secretariat prepared a document on the ongoing implementation of the ITC Strategy. The document presents the status of work in implementing the Strategy. That status is shown for every task arising from the Strategy as well as the decisions of the Committee related to the adoption of the Strategy. In accordance with the decision mentioned above, the document also formulates possible next steps that aim at ensuring further implementation progress and enhanced alignment of the Working Parties activities with the Strategy.

The referred document was discussed by the Committee's Bureau at its meeting on 14 July 2020. The Bureau requested the secretariat to share the document with the Working Parties through you as Chairs and invited you on behalf of the Working Parties to provide suggestions and comments on the next steps as formulated in the document.

To: Chairs of the Working Parties and Administrative Committees

Request – to review the document on next steps and provide comments and suggestions

Implementation of the ITC decision

4 Actions from the Strategy's adoption decision

4.1 Align WPs workplans with the Strategy

The ITC Chair and Transport Director sent a letter of 26 June 2019 to all WPs and ACs Chairs to request alignment of WPs work to the Strategy.

Secretariat made presentations to WPs on the Strategy.

WPs and ACs were to submit their suggestions for work alignment by latest mid-2020.

- SC.1: It aligned its program of work with the Strategy and also restructured its agenda with effect from its next (115th) session to better reflect its alignment with the Strategy (ITC Secretary was informed via email in Nov 2019 and ITC was informed during its 82nd session).

Develop a coherent alignment plan for consideration of ITC (through ITC Bureau) to cover the outstanding elements:

- intermodal passenger transport and mobility to WP.24 (possibly through the creation of a Group of Experts (GoE) on Intermodal Passenger Transport; such GoE could complement not duplicate the work of THE PEP as it would cover all inland modes of transport and cover also intercity intermodality).

- green transport to be led/reviewed by a WP (please see also task 5.23, point 6).

ITC secretariat and all WPs secretaries

Implementation of the ITC decision

5.1 Service and administer legal instruments

Relevant WPs/ACs administer the legal instruments under their purview. As part of this work, WPs assess and/or review legal instruments under its purview, e.g. WP.30 at its 154th session, started an assessment of the 17 legal instruments under its purview, including, but not limited to, the possibility to amend them (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/308, paragraph 6 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2020/1).

As part of the measures to facilitate understanding and implementation of the legal instruments, the WPs/ACs attempt to ensure availability of the global instruments in all six UN official languages.

1. Continue to administer and amend as necessary the legal instruments, this also includes the review, assessment and proposed updates and modernization as well as strategy for new accession and re-implementation.

2. Work towards securing a mandate from the General Assembly or the ECOSOC for translation of documents related to the legal instruments with global scope in all six UN official languages.

1. WPs/ACs secretaries
2. ITC secretariat
- 3-4. Relevant WPs/ACs secretaries

Implementation of the ITC decision

5.1 Service and administer legal instruments

Relevant WPs/ACs work together to ensure necessary consistency between specific legal instruments, e.g. WP.15 and WP.29 on vehicle regulations R105 for dangerous goods vehicles or WP.15 and WP.1 on road signs related to dangerous goods.

Relevant WPs issue recommendations for enhanced alignment of national

3. Continue the collaboration for ensuring consistency between specific legal instruments.

4. Continue issuing recommendations on the implementation of the legal instruments and explore ways for enhanced

3-4. Relevant WPs/ACs secretaries

Implementation of the ITC decision

5.6

Finalize three new legal instruments under development
Explore new legal instruments (from 2020)

The Rail Passenger Convention was adopted by ITC in Feb 2019; The work on URL was extended into 2020 to conclude on the mandate and possibly prepare a draft convention on the contract of international carriage of cargo by rail;
SC.1 resumed its discussions on the draft OmniBus agreement at its 114th session in Oct 2019, and made progress on a number of outstanding issues. The Chair of SC.1 continues to work with the Russian Federation, Switzerland and Turkey to resolve outstanding issues regarding the draft text.

1. Continue the processes to finalise URL and Omnibus

2. Organise brainstorming session on the exploration of new legal instruments in inland transport.

1. SC.1 secretary (accompanying the SC.1 Chair) and SC.2/EGURL secretary

2. Relevant WPs secretaries with involvement of ITC secretariat

Implementation of the ITC decision

5.14 Promote the accession to and operationalization of the e-CMR (from 2019)

SC.1, at its 114th session (Oct 2019), formed an informal group of experts on e-CMR to prepare a paper, with the support of the secretariat, detailing the research and other actions needed and/or recommended for the operationalization of e-CMR to be tabled at a future ITC session. It is expected that this paper will assist in raising awareness of and promote accession to e-CMR.

In March 2020, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) approved financing for a project targeted at Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan in promoting accession to e-CMR. The project will include two capacity building workshops and the hiring of a consultant to develop technical specifications to be used by the countries to introduce a system of electronic consignment notes.

1. Continue the operationalization of eCMR.
2. Implement the eCMR project for selected countries with funding from IsDB and promote these countries accession to eCMR.

1-2. SC.1 secretary

Implementation of the ITC decision

5.16 Identify, foster and facilitate the introduction of new technologies in the rail, road, road-based mobility, inland waterway, logistics, intermodal transport until 2030

Under WP.5 and in the framework of a project funded by ISDB the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory was developed on a Geographical Information System (GIS). The main objectives of the Observatory are:

SC.1 is serving as a platform through its annual sessions for member States to share and present initiatives on the digitalization of road systems or road infrastructure in their countries.

1. Continue the work on making the Observatory the tool that integrates the work of the Division, promotes interregional connectivity and facilitates financing of new transport infrastructure projects.

2. Update of the AGC/AGTC tool on infrastructure parameters

3. Continue considering and supporting technical/technological developments in road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal transport.

1. WP.5 secretary

2. SC.2 and WP.24 secretary

3. SC.1, SC.2, SC3 and WP.24 secretaries

4. WP.24 secretary

5. WP.15/AC.1 secretary

Implementation of the ITC decision



Your comments and views are welcome