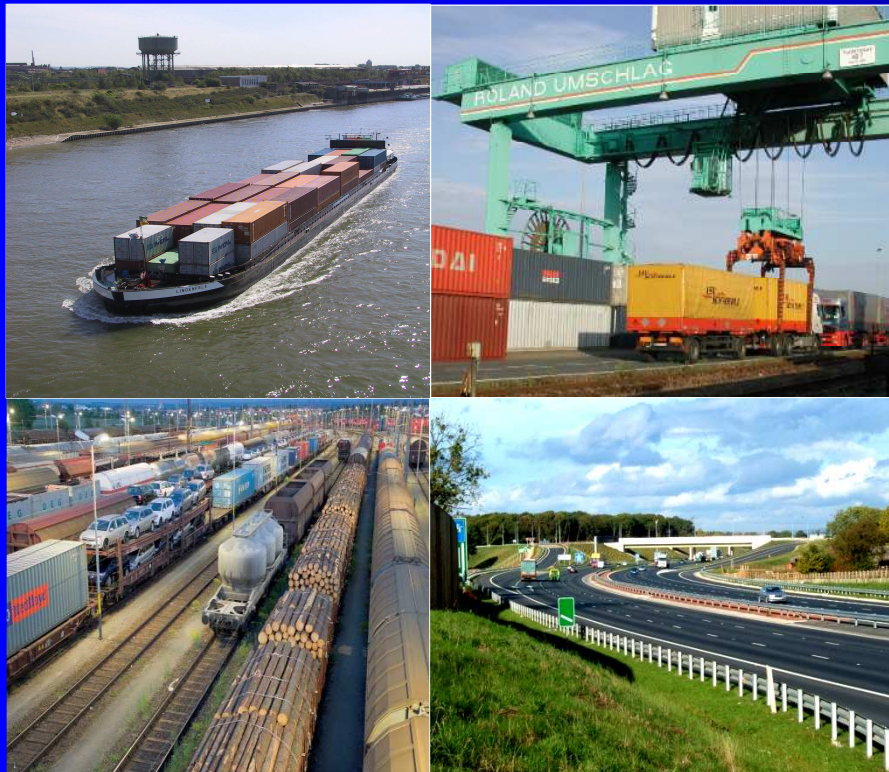




# UNECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)



**Impact of the financial and  
economic crisis on  
intermodal transport**

**UNECE Secretariat**

# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Outline

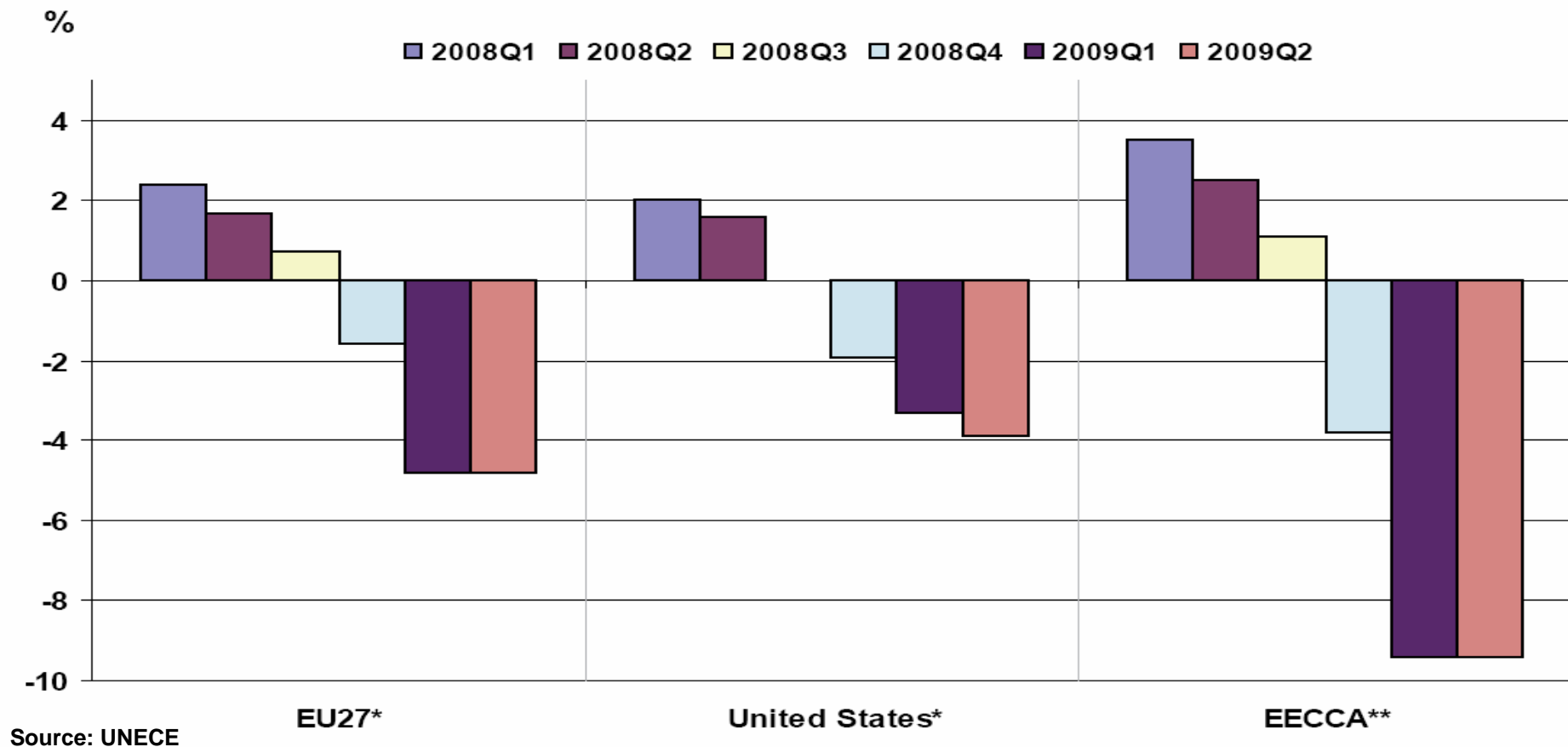
Document: ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2009/6

- **Economic and transport trends**
  - Economic developments
  - Transport sector
  - Intermodal transport
- **Short term reactions**
  - Intermodal transport operators
  - Railway undertakings
  - Governments and rail infrastructure managers
- **Turn challenges into opportunities**
  - Globalization and regionalization
  - Streamlining operations
  - Green logistics
  - Terminal operations
  - New markets for intermodal transport
- **Role of the Working Party**

# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Economic developments

GDP growth in the EU27, United States and EECCA  
(in per cent, same quarter of the previous year)



# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Development in the transport sector

### ● Maritime transport (container)

- Rotterdam - 15% 1Q+2Q
- Antwerp - 19 % 1Q+2Q
- German ports - 26% 1Q + 2Q (-37% with US+Canada)

### ● Rail transport

- Germany - 23% 1Q+2Q (-30% int, -19% in TEU) 2009: -18% est.
- SNCF - 28% 1Q
- Russian Rail - 27% 1 Q (- 20% 2Q)
- TransSib - 54% (7 M) (190.390 TEU int. traffic)
- Total rail - 20% 1Q + 2Q

### ● Road transport

- Germany - 16% Jan-June 2009 Total year: -11% (est.)
- Austria - 17% Jan-June 2009
- Total road - 20-30% 1Q+2Q (-10-20% in national traffic)

### ● Inland Water transport

- German inland ports - 25 % (2009 est.)
- Total IWT - 33% (up to - 50%) 1Q+2Q

### ● Outlook

- Bottom of cycle may now have been reached

# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Trends in intermodal transport

- **Combined road/rail transport**

- Kombiverkehr (Germany) - 18-20% 1Q
- GNTC (France) - 30-50% 1Q
- HUPAC - 22% 1Q+2Q
- Total: - 20-25% 1Q

- **Port hinterland transport**

- Transfracht - 20% 1Q
- HHLA Intermodal - 17% 1Q

- **Rolling Highway (RoLa)**

- Okombi - 10% 1Q+2Q
- Total - 10-12% 1Q

- **Modal shift towards road**

- Switzerland (Alp transit): - 13% Intermodal
- 8% Road

- **Outlook**

- Positive with possibly increasing prices

# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Short-term reactions

- **Intermodal transport operators**
  - Adjustment of transport offers
  - Streamlining of internal procedures
  - Keep strategic investment plans and staff
- **Railway undertakings**
  - Discounts only to large intermodal operators
  - Some increase in prices
- **Governments and rail infrastructure managers**
  - No specific temporary assistance
  - Exceptions: Switzerland
- **Will intermodal transport survive the crisis ?**

# Economic crisis and intermodal transport

## Turn challenges into opportunities

- **Globalization and regionalization**
  - Increase in intra-European transport
  - Increase towards East-West, South-East Europe, Transsib
- **Streamlining operations**
  - Many small private-public companies
  - Denser networks and higher service quality
  - Horizontal integration
  - Vertical integration
  - Increased use of information technology
- **Green logistics and intermodal transport**
  - Improve and sell the good “carbon footprint”
  - Reduce noise and other emissions
- **Terminal operators**
  - Improve efficiency of terminal operations
  - Cooperate with public authorities and trade unions
- **New markets**
  - High-value, but also high-volume goods
  - New technologies and infrastructures
  - Combination of intermodal and conventional cargo trains

# **Economic crisis and intermodal transport**

## **The role of the Working Party (WP.24)**

- **Exchange of policies and best practices**
- **Forum for Governments and private sector**
- **Platform for pan-European contacts**
- **Harmonization of standards and practices**
- **Development of international guidelines**





**Everything you always wanted to know about ...,  
but were afraid to ask**

**[www.unece.org/trans/wp24](http://www.unece.org/trans/wp24)**

