

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General 10 December 2020

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

Group of Experts on European Agreement Concerning Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)

Twenty-fifth session Geneva, 22 February 2021

Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session*,**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9:30 am on Monday, 22 February 2021, Salle Tempus 2.

The twenty-fifth session of the Group of Experts on European Agreement Concerning Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport will be held in a dual format due to the COVID-19 situation. Participants can attend in-person or can connect via an Internet platform with simultaneous interpretation in three official languages. In addition, due to United Nations resource challenges and the reduction in duration of regular, interpreted sessions from three to two hours, each session will last only two hours (9.30-11.30 and 16.00-18.00). Every effort will be made to compensate this shortage with an English only session on the same day (from 13.45 to 15.45).

I. Provisional Agenda

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda.
- 2. Programme of Work:
- (a) Development of proposals for amending the AETR Agreement, including Article 22bis;

^{*} For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the ECE Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/sc1/sc1.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (roadtransport@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

^{**} Delegates are requested to register online at: https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=uyVG_t at the latest one week prior to the session. Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext.75716 or 75964). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm.

- (b) Appendix 1C;
- (c) Application of Regulation (European Commission) No. 561/2006 in the "AETR area".
- 3. Amendment of Article 14.
- TACHOnet.
- Other Business.
- 6. Date and Place of Next Meeting.
- 7. Adoption of the Report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt the session's agenda (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/56).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/56

2. Programme of Work

(a) Development of proposals for amending the AETR Agreement, including Article 22bis

At the last session, the Russian Federation indicated that it intended to submit a document which proposes to revise Article 10 in ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2017/2/Rev.5. The Group of Experts thus deferred a detailed discussion of ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2017/2/Rev.5 until the current session. At this session, the Group will be invited to discuss this document and revisions proposed by the Russian Federation.

At the last session, the Group of Experts took note of ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2020/1 (submitted by the Russian Federation) which contains amendments to Article 13 on transitional provisions and it deferred any further discussions until the current session. At this session, the Group will be invited to continue discussing this topic, in particular ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2020/1 submitted by the Russian Federation.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2017/2/Rev.5, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2020/1

(b) Appendix 1C

At the last session, the European Commission gave a presentation about a new version ("Version 2") of smart tachograph to be implemented in the EU area by August 2023 for newly registered vehicles and by end of 2025 for all vehicles engaged in international road transport (i.e. by retrofitting). After discussion, the Group invited the European Commission to make a formal proposal related to amending the AETR Agreement to include "Version 2" of smart tachograph. At this session, the European Commission will be invited to provide an update.

(c) Application of Regulation (European Commission) No. 561/2006 in the AETR area

The Group will be invited to continue its discussions on this subject.

3. Amendment of Article 14

The secretariat will remind the Group of Experts that in order to accommodate the request of the Government of Egypt to amend Article 14 (to make the country eligible to accede), an AETR contracting party is required to formally submit an amendment proposal. The secretariat will invite the Group to consider amending Article 14 to make – for example - all United Nations member States eligible to accede (as per the ITC Strategy in ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2).

4. TACHOnet

At the 23rd session, the European Commission made a presentation and the Russian Federation proposed a number of changes to ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2019/1/Rev.2 and also suggested that the document as well as TACHOnet in general be a subject of bilateral discussions with the European Commission prior to this session. The European Commission and the Russian Federation will be invited provide an update.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.2/2019/1/Rev.2

5. Other Business

The Group of Experts may wish to discuss other business.

6. Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 14 June 2021 at Palais des Nations in Geneva. The deadline for the submission of formal documents is 2 April 2021.

7. Adoption of the Report

The Group of Experts will adopt the report of this session.

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