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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics****Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change
Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport****Nineteenth session**

Geneva, 1 and 2 October 2020

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda**Annotated provisional agenda for the nineteenth session***to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday,
1 October 2020, Room XXVII, Palais des Nations**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Introduction and election of officers.
 - (a) Introduction.
 - (b) Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport.
4. Climate change and transport assets data.
5. National and sub-national projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs.
6. Database on adaptation measures.

* 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 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (maria.mostovets@un.org).

Delegates are requested to register online at: uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=k4hwva or to complete the registration form available for download at the ECE Sustainable Transport Division's website: www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat two weeks prior to the session by e-mail (maria.mostovets@un.org). Delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on our website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm).



7. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes.
8. Other business.
9. Date and place of next meeting.
10. Summary of main decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Introduction and election of officers

(a) Introduction

The Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-second session (Geneva, 25–28 February 2020) welcomed the report of the Group of Experts on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Transport Networks and Nodes. The Committee also welcomed the recommendation to continue and further expand the analytical work on climate change impacts and adaptation for inland transport. To this end, the Committee approved the establishment of the Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport (GE.3) and endorsed its Terms of Reference as contained in ECE/TRANS/2020/6, while noting that the working languages of the Group of Experts shall be English, French and Russian. The GE.3 establishment was further approved by the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe on 20 May 2020.

The GE.3 is tasked to continue to raise awareness, build capacity and integrate knowledge from countries and the scientific community on climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport. The GE.3 is also tasked to further advance the state of knowledge on, and the analysis of climate change impacts on inland transport, and the identification of suitable and cost-effective adaptation measures.

The GE.3 work is to be guided by its Terms of Reference as contained in ECE/TRANS/2020/6. The items of the agenda are formulated based on the tasks from the Terms of Reference.

(b) Election of officers

The GE.3 is expected to appoint its officers: a Chair, and if deemed necessary, Vice-Chair(s).

2. Adoption of the agenda

The GE.3 is invited to adopt its agenda as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/37.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/37

3. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport

The GE.3 may wish to discuss initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport with a view to understand if any new approaches, tools and/or methodologies exists or are being developed that could be integrated by the GE.3 in its work. ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/1 refers initiatives which the Group of Experts may consider and integrate in its work.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/1

4. Climate change and transport assets data

The GE.3 is expected to discuss about availability of a consistent climate projections data set for the entire ECE region at the necessary spatial resolution, which it could use for its analytical work. Cordex-Core project and establishment of a partnership with the project may be considered in this regard as referred in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/2.

The GE.3 is then invited to consider indices, in addition to those analysed by its preceding Group of Experts, to expand the assessment on impacts of changing climate and extreme events on transport assets. Proxy indices related to temperature, precipitation, wind or other causes of extreme events can be considered as referred in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/3.

The GE.3 is also expected to discuss on sources for collection of transport assets and their usage (transport flows) data. Establishment of partnerships for collection of this type of data may be considered.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/2, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/2020/3

5. National and sub-national projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs

Experts will be invited – informal documents WP.5/GE.3 (2020) Nos. 1–3 – to inform about their national or sub-national concluded, ongoing or planned projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs. In particular, regarding the concluded and ongoing projects, experts will be invited to inform about (a) features and conditions identified for a specific transport asset which make it vulnerable to projected impacts of climate change or extreme weather events, and (b) measures designed to adapt the transport asset to the future projected conditions.

Experts from countries with little experience in climate change adaptation work will be invited to inform about opportunities and demands for climate change impact analysis for specific transport assets on a national or sub-national basis. The GE.3 will be invited to consider establishment of internationally supported projects in response to such demands, subject to availability of funding.

Documentation

Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 1, Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 2, Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 3

6. Database on adaptation measures

GE.3 will be invited to consider and develop a design for a database on adaptation measures for transport assets. Such databases should contain information for example on (a) features and conditions that could make a specific transport asset a “hotspot” due to assessed risks of climate change/extreme events, (b) adaptation measures proposed to minimize the risks, and (c) indicators to measure the usefulness and cost effectiveness of measures. The elements of the database design are included in Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 4.

Documentation

Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 4

7. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes

The GE.3 will be invited to discuss on the guidelines and offer ideas and hints for an elaboration of their initial outline for consideration at the next session.

8. Other business

The GE.3 may wish to discuss other issues of interest. Among them, GE.3 may consider establishment of a funding project (GE.3 fund) in support of its activities. Such GE.3 fund, established for the duration of the work of the GE.3 (2020–2025), would be managed by the secretariat with funding to be used for (a) facilitation of expert participation in the work of the GE.3, (b) promotion of the GE.3 work at international conferences and events, (c) organization of awareness-raising events, (d) support of national or sub-national projects in countries with little experience in climate change adaptation work, and (e) consultant support in developing knowledge tools such as the database on adaptation measures or the guidelines. More information is provided in Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 5.

Experts may wish to inform of financial pledges from their countries to the GE.3 fund.

Documentation

Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2020) No. 5

9. Date and place of next meeting

The GE.3 may wish to note that its twentieth session will be held in Geneva on 22 and 23 April 2021.

10. Summary of main decisions

In accordance with established practice, the Chair will briefly summarize the decisions taken. Following the session, the Secretary, in cooperation with the Chair and Vice-Chair(s), will prepare the final report.
