



Introduction to the Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs

Agenda item 7: Development of a legal
instrument

1st Session

Group of Experts on International
Railway Passenger Hubs



UNECE

Francesco Dionori

Secretary, Group of Experts and the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2)

07-09 | 07 | 2021, Geneva

Requirement from the terms of reference



- A. Identify what legal instrument or tool should be used to define and implement these “International railway passenger hubs” and draft the necessary legal provisions;

Technical and Service parameters

Different options (preliminary analysis)



- Modification to the AGC
- A new Convention (along the lines of the AGTC)
- A protocol to the AGC (along the lines of the protocol to the AGTC)
- A set of recommendations
- Other

Technical and Service parameters

Modification to the AGC



- The AGC can be modified in the following manner:
 - Modification to the main text (e.g. by adding an additional annex) – Article 10
 - Modification to the annexes (adding stations in annex 1 and characteristics in annex 2) – Articles 11 and 12
- Both of these are possible with amendments agreed in SC.2 (also a conference can be called if necessary)

Technical and Service parameters

A new Convention (similar to the AGTC)



UNECE

- The AGTC was agreed in order to provide the details that were needed by member States in relation to combined transport on the AGC network.
- It mirrors many of the provisions in the AGC but with a focus on the combined transport network, terminals and border crossing points.
- Its annexes also mirror the AGC
- A new Convention following a similar approach would provide a common framework for the internationally harmonized development of the Hubs.
- This option may require more time than the amendment proposed in the amendment option.

Technical and Service parameters

A Protocol to the AGC



- The AGTC also has a Protocol that to cover combined transport on inland waterways. A Protocol to the AGC would mirror this as much as possible.
- The aim is to make combined transport on inland waterways more efficient.
- It designates a network and minimum technical requirements as the AGTC.
- The process advantages and disadvantages would be similar to that of a new Convention.
- Much of the text and procedures are already available in the text for the Protocol of the AGTC.

Technical and Service parameters

Preparation of a set of recommendations



- Softer approach.
- Non binding (therefore potentially less effective).
- Would not guarantee the harmonized and coordinated development of the network of Hubs.
- May be established quicker.
- Need to develop a dedicated mechanism for updating and amending the recommendations.



Photo credit: iStock

1st Session

Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs



UNECE

Experts to discuss these and other alternatives

Francesco Dionori

Secretary, Group of Experts and the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2)

07-09 | 07 | 2021, Geneva