



# Economic and Social Council

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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

###### Twenty first session

Geneva, 2 and 3 September 2021

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

###### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty first session\*

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday,  
2 September 2021, Room TPS 1, Palais des Nations

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport.
3. Climate change and transport assets data.
4. National and sub-national projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs.
5. Database on adaptation measures.
6. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes.
7. Other business.
8. Date and place of next meeting.

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\* 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](http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html)). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail ([maria.mostovets@un.org](mailto:maria.mostovets@un.org)).

Delegates are requested to register online at: [uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=k4hwva](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm)).



9. Summary of main decisions.

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport (GE.3) is invited to adopt its agenda as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/41.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/41

### **2. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport**

GE.3 is invited to continue its discussion on 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 GE.3 in its work. In particular GE.3 may wish to consider (i) adaptation guidelines for inland waterways of the World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure (PIANC), (ii) information on risk assessment and adaptation planning for aviation organisations and a good insight into Eurocontrol's report on climate change risk for European aviation with focus on aviation installations on the ground, and (iii) FORESEE Project aiming at the improvement of transport infrastructure resilience systems to reduce the magnitude and/or duration of disruptive events.

University of Aegean is invited to inform of any updates to the state of knowledge on the evolution of the potential hazards for inland transportation under Climate Variability and Change.

At its previous session, GE.3 agreed to explore whether and how available transport planning systems could be recommended to national transport professionals for use to perform stress tests at selected section of networks to extreme weather events. To this end, experts may wish to inform GE.3 about their reflections.

At its previous session, GE.3 also requested the secretariat to form a small group of volunteers to work towards collection of information on economic losses due to damages and disruptions caused by extreme weather events. The small group would update GE.3 about its intersessional work.

GE.3 should then agree on how the developed and presented material should be integrated and consolidated in the future outputs, including potential case studies for its final report.

### **3. Climate change and transport assets data**

GE.3 considered at its previous session responses to the survey on interests in climate change impact analysis. This survey was constructed, disseminated and its responses were analysed by a small group consisting of experts from Canada, Germany and Climate Service Germany. GE.3 requested the small group to prepare for and carry out interviews with some of the respondents who indicated interest in an interview, to further clarify and elaborate on the information received concerning thresholds. GE.3 also invited the small group to make suggestions on which of the climate change impacts analysis should be performed at the ECE regional scale.

Experts from Canada, Germany, Climate Service Germany and the University of Birmingham supported by the secretariat will update GE.3 on the outcomes of the interviews performed prior to the meeting. They will also make proposals for GE.3 consideration for climate change impact analysis to be done at the ECE regional scale.

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

Experts will be invited to inform about their national or sub-national concluded, ongoing or planned projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs.

Experts from Poland and University of Birmingham volunteered to present at the current session the work done on assessing climate change impact and adaptation needs in urban areas (Poland) and about projects which studied economic losses and management of weather disruption to transport systems, among other from wind storms (University of Birmingham).

Experts from Ireland may wish to update GE.3 about the projects focused on developing a methodology for the assessment of critical transport infrastructure and on conducting the assessments. Experts from Germany will be also invited to share their experience on criticality analysis performed for the German trunk road network. GE.3 would be then invited to consider whether and how a guiding material at international level for assessing asset criticality could be developed under its lead.

GE.3 may also wish to continue its discussion started at the previous session on the various methods and methodologies used across countries to assess future impacts on transport systems from climate change to understand what role GE.3 could play in systematizing the information on these various methods so that transport community could use them more efficiently.

#### **5. Database on adaptation measures**

At its previous session, GE.3 acknowledged the fact that profiles/fact sheets of transport assets and assessed adaptation needs for the assets to retain their initial functions may present an input required to create databases on asset specific adaptation measures. GE.3 agreed to explore demand for such asset profiles as well as assess the value of availability of such profiles. To this end, experts may wish to inform GE.3 about their findings.

GE.3 requested interested experts and the secretariat to develop, if possible for the current session, a concept note with considerations on what type of adaptation measures database would still bring added value, to whom such a database should be targeted, how it should be structured and which would be the requirements for its development and maintenance so that it could stay up-to-date over the long-term. Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2021) No. 5 which contains such a concept note will be presented.

GE.3 may also wish to consider a possible role and benefits from linking various climate data portals relevant to the work on adaptation on transport to climate change. In this regard, experts from Canada will present Canadian experience in facilitating access to information on adaptation through various portals and in exploring approaches to integrating user needs into portals offerings.

##### **Documentation**

Informal document WP.5/GE.3 (2021) No. 5

#### **6. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes**

At its previous session, GE.3 appreciated the work of a small group of experts and congratulated the group on the organisation of a successful workshop on consideration of physical climate change risks in transport planning and operational processes. It further requested this group to prepare and hold further workshops with the aim to raise awareness on the importance of adaptation of transport systems to climate change and collect more information on the needs for the guidelines, before any work on the elaboration of the guidelines is started.

The small group and the secretariat will be invited to update GE.3 on workshops in preparations.

**7. Other business**

GE.3 may explore funding possibilities in support of its work. To this end, experts will be invited to inform if their governments/organizations are in position to support the GE.3 work with financial or in-kind contributions.

**8. Date and place of next meeting**

The secretariat will inform GE.3 about the date and place of its twenty second session.

**9. 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.

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