



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Rail Transport****Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs****Fourth session**

Geneva, 5–7 September 2022

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Identification of the legal instrument or tool to be used for international railway passenger hub and draft the necessary legal provisions**Defining a legal instrument: Proposed amendments to the AGC****Submitted by the secretariat****I. Introduction**

This document has been prepared in accordance with the decision at the third meeting of the Group of Experts on International Railway Passenger Hubs (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/HUBS/2022/2, paragraph 22). It provides an initial list of amendments that the Group may wish to consider to the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) (ECE/TRANS/63/Rev.4). This document is provided as further background to facilitate discussions amongst experts. It remains subject to further legal analysis and review by the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations.

II. Possible amendments**1. Page vii, after Article 3, insert****Article 3bis**

1. The Contracting Parties adopt the proposed International Railway Passenger Hubs Network as described in annex III to this Agreement, as a co-ordinated plan for the harmonized provision of passenger services in key stations of major international importance.
2. The International Railway Passenger Hubs Network consists of a system of railway passenger stations of international importance. An International Railway Passenger Hub is a rail station that provides passengers connections to multiple international and national rail services, to other International Railway Passenger Hubs and to the services delivered by other modes.
3. [International Railway Passenger Hubs can be “Primary” or “Secondary” as defined by member States and depending on the level of service offered.]”

Article 3ter

International Rail Passenger Hubs as referred to in Article 3bis conform to the characteristics set out in annex IV to this Agreement or will be brought into conformity with the provisions of this annex in future improvement work to be carried out in conformity with national programmes.”

2. Page x, after Article 12, insert

Article 12bis

1. Annex III to this agreement may be amended by the procedure specified in this article.
2. At the request of a Contracting Party, any amendment proposed by it to annex III to this Agreement shall be considered by the Working Party on Rail Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe.
3. If it is adopted by the majority of the members present and voting, and if this majority includes the majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting, the amendment shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the competent administrations of all the Contracting Parties for acceptance.
4. The amendment shall be accepted if, within a period of six months following the date of notification, less than one third of the competent administrations of the Contracting Parties notify the Secretary-General of their objection to the amendment.
5. Any amendment accepted shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to all the Contracting Parties and shall come into force three months after the date of its notification.

Article 12ter

1. Annex IV to this agreement may be amended by the procedure specified in this article.
2. At the request of a Contracting Party, any amendment proposed by it to annex IV to this Agreement shall be considered by the Working Party on Rail Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe.
3. If it is adopted by the majority of the members present and voting, and if this majority includes the majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting, the amendment shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the competent administrations of all the Contracting Parties for acceptance.
4. The amendment shall be accepted if, within a period of six months following the date of notification, less than one third of the competent administrations of the Contracting Parties notify the Secretary-General of their objection to the amendment.
5. Any amendment accepted shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to all the Contracting Parties and shall come into force three months after the date of its notification.

3. Page 20, after Annex II, insert

Annex III – International Railway Passenger Hubs Network

[Text to be provided separately]

Annex IV – Technical parameters for International Railway Passenger Hubs of international importance

[Text to be provided separately]”.
