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Working Party on Transport Statistics

Seventy-third session (held in a hybrid format)

Geneva, 15-17 June 2022

Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Summary of decisions

Draft

Summary of Decisions¹

1. The seventy-third session of the Working Party was attended by the following countries and international organizations; Albania; Armenia; Belarus; Belgium; Canada; Croatia; Cyprus; Czechia; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Ireland; Israel; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Latvia; Lithuania; Malta; Netherlands; North Macedonia; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Republic of Moldova; Russian Federation; Slovenia; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkiye; Ukraine; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Uzbekistan; International Telecommunication Union; World Health Organization; European Commission (EC) (DG MOVE, Eurostat and European Union Agency for Railways); International Road Federation; and the International Transport Forum; Tunisia and Iran participated at the invitation of the secretariat. Invenium Data Insights, OEBB railways, Positium, Flowminder Foundation, Wuppertal University and the European Data Journalism network participated from the private sector and/or academia.

Agenda item 1

2. The Working Party adopted its provisional agenda, as amended.

Agenda item 2

Election of officers

3. The Working Party elected Mr John Wilkins of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as Chair for the sessions in 2023 and 2024. Ms Marly Odekerken-Smeets of the Netherlands and Ms Nele Van Der Wielen of Ireland were elected as vice-Chairs for 2023 and 2024.

¹ Following the session, the ECE secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair, will establish the report of the session for formal transmission to the Inland Transport Committee in February 2022.

Agenda item 3

Big Data for transport statistics

4. After presentations from Invenium/OEBB, Wuppertal University, Flowminder Foundation and the ITU, the Working Party encouraged member States to involve themselves in the UN task team on mobile phone data, and in particular to provide any relevant examples of using mobile phone data for transport statistics production.

Agenda item 4

Travel surveys

5. The Working Party welcomed this agenda item decided to continue exploring ways to improve harmonisation and best-practice sharing on travel surveys at the international level.

Agenda item 5

The transport-related Sustainable Development Goals

6. The Working Party took note of activities of different international organisations and the secretariat on the transport-related SDGs. There was agreement with the secretariat's approach to considering UNECE-specific transport SDG indicators. Countries are encouraged to send examples of any SDG-relevant indicators and share any work in using data to monitor electric vehicles. The Working Party took note of the information and recommendations presented in the nexus report on Measuring and Monitoring Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and encouraged its members to review and possibly apply the recommendations of the report nationally.

Agenda item 7

Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics

7. The Working Party took note of technical details and data quality aspects on the common questionnaire. Proposals were given on streamlining of the common questionnaire, and member States were encouraged to provide concrete streamlining proposals by mid-July 2022.

Agenda item 8

Traffic censuses and geospatial statistics

8. The Working Party noted the status of the 2020 E-Road and E-Rail censuses, and countries were encouraged to provide available data, in particular in a geospatial format when possible. The Working Party encouraged members to share their views on updates to the census for the 2025 round, particularly on how to modernise the exercise. The Working Party asked the secretariat to continue work on visualising traffic in a geospatial format.

Agenda item 9

Dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

9. The Working Party welcomed the secretariat's approach to disseminating transport data through the use of data stories.

Agenda Item 10

Programme of Work 2022-2024 and biennial evaluation 2020-2021.

10. The Working Party adopted its proposed Programme of Work for 2022-2024.

Agenda Item 11

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

11. The Working Party noted the summary of proceedings at the 84th session of the Inland Transport Committee. It asked the secretariat to prepare a document on the Working Party's plans to align the Working Party's Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure with those of the Committee.

Agenda item 14

Report and decisions

12. The meeting adopts its main decisions. The report of the session will be prepared by the secretariat in cooperation with the Chair.