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**Economic Commission for Europe**
**Inland Transport Committee**
**Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics**
**Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs**
**Fourteenth session**

Geneva, 23 and 24 May 2022

**Report of the Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport  
Infrastructure Construction Costs on its fourteenth session**
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## **I. Attendance**

1. The Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs (hereafter called the Group) held its fourteenth session on 23 and 24 February 2022. The session was Chaired by Mr. A. Maciejewski (Poland/ Trans-European Motorway (TEM) Project).
2. Representatives of the following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States participated: Albania, Armenia, Poland/ Polish National Rail Infrastructure Manager (PKP PLK S.A.) and Türkiye.
3. Representatives of the following organizations also joined the session: Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), International Road Federation (IRF), Confederation of the European Bicycle Industry (CONEBI), Federal Autonomous Institution Russian Road Research Institute (ROSDORNII) and the Trans-European Railway (TER) Project.

## **II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/28

4. The Group adopted the agenda.

## **III. Transport Infrastructure Construction costs: Presentations of good practices at national levels for evaluating and calculating construction costs (agenda item 2)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/1

5. The Group, at its thirteenth session in February 2022, considered and endorsed for inclusion in its final report ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/1. No further discussions took place under this agenda item.

## **IV. Transport Infrastructure Construction costs: Presentations of terminologies used (agenda item 3)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2019/1/Rev.3

6. The Group, at its thirteenth session in February 2022, considered and endorsed for inclusion in its final report ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2019/1/Rev.3. No further discussions took place under this agenda item.

## **V. Collection and analysis of benchmarking data (agenda item 4)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/4; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/5

7. The Group, at its thirteenth session in February 2022, reviewed document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2020/8 “Benchmarking analysis of transport infrastructure construction costs” and decided that lead countries Croatia (on inland waterways), Poland (on rail) and Türkiye (on road) should: (a) Shorten, finetune, and, wherever possible, improve the existing text and analysis, inter alia based on additional national data received; and (b) Split the text into two separate documents, focusing on road analysis and on rail and inland waterway analysis respectively.

8. Under this agenda item, the Group reviewed the newly developed documents ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/4 and ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/5 prepared by the lead countries and adopted them for inclusion in its final report.

## **VI. Discussion on the structure of the final report of the Group of Experts (agenda item 5)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/6; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/7

9. Under this agenda item, the Group considered the remaining documents that would constitute separate chapters of its final report. It reviewed and adopted the document titled "A Benchmarking literature review – definitions concepts and methodologies – revised" (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/3/Rev.1) which in follow-up to its last session had been enriched by the lead countries with additional definitions and concepts relating to the management of road and rail infrastructure maintenance and operation costs.

10. Furthermore, the Group also reviewed and adopted the document titled "Rationale for the establishment of the Group of Experts on Benchmarking of Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs, its added value, current achievements and way ahead" (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/6), which had been prepared to serve as the introduction to its final report.

11. Finally, the Group reviewed and adopted the document titled "Findings, conclusions and recommendations" as prepared by the lead countries in follow-up to its thirteenth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.4/2022/7).

12. The Group requested the secretariat to prepare an executive summary of the final report and to create a consolidated version with all agreed documents merged into one file, for submission to the thirty-fifth annual session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) for its consideration and approval. The Group requested the secretariat to publish the report, upon its adoption, as an official United Nations publication in the three ECE official languages. The Group finally requested the secretariat to explore whether the various mode specific questionnaires that it had prepared for data collection purposes could be included as a final annex of the report.

13. In terms of sustainability of its work, the Group repeated its earlier decision that benchmarking of transport infrastructure construction, maintenance and operation costs in the road and rail sectors could be continued in the framework of the Trans-European Motorways (TEM) and Trans-European Railway projects` programmes of work. The TEM and TER Project Coordinators participating in the session confirmed that they would bring this matter for consideration to the upcoming Steering Committee sessions. The Group also requested the secretariat to explore possibilities for uploading benchmarking data as an additional Geographic Information System (GIS) layer onto the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO).

14. The secretariat informed that the documentation deadline for submission to WP.5 of the final report was end of June 2022 and that it would share the requested executive summary and consolidated version of the report with the Group for its final approval well in advance.

## **VII. Other business (agenda item 6)**

15. No other business was raised.

## **VIII. Date and place of next meeting (agenda item 7)**

16. The Group noted that with the conclusion of its fourteenth session it had fulfilled its current mandate and that no further meetings were scheduled.

## **IX. Adoption of main decisions (agenda item 8)**

17. The Group adopted the list of main decisions of its fourteenth session and requested the secretariat and the Chair to prepare the report for circulation.