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**Economic Commission for Europe**

Inland Transport Committee

**Eighty-seventh session**

Geneva, 11–14 February 2025

Item 7(d)(i) of the provisional agenda

**Strategic Transport Policy and Regulatory Issues
of horizontal and cross-sectoral nature:
Environment, climate change and transport:
Inland Transport Committee Decarbonization Strategy**

 Draft Decision: Strengthening the Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport

 Submitted by the Bureau

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| *Summary* |
| 1. This document, containing a draft decision with programme budget implications (PBI) to support the implementation of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport (ITC Decarbonization Strategy), is submitted by the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee to the Committee for its consideration and possible adoption. |
| 2. The Annex to this document contains the draft decision related to Strengthening the Implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport that the Executive Committee is invited to transmit to the seventy-first Commission for its consideration. |
| 3. This document should be considered in conjunction with Informal Document No. 4 that contains the draft oral statement by the Secretariat in connection with the draft decision on Strengthening the Implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport, in accordance with rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly. |
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*The Inland Transport Committee,*

*Recognizing* that inland transport contributes 72 per cent of global transport-related greenhouse gas emissions, and that effective decarbonization of this sector is essential to meeting global climate targets;

*Also recalling* the central role of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the commitments made by Parties under this framework;

*Expressing concern* that the contributions of the inland transport sector to the Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement remain insufficient to meet the goals of limiting global temperature rise, and emphasizing the urgent need to accelerate progress in this area;

*Noting* the call of the outcomes of the twenty-eighth United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties for countries to contribute, in a nationally determined manner, to accelerating the reduction of emissions from road transport and to transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science, taking into account the Paris Agreement and their different national circumstances, pathways and approaches;

*Recalling* its decision at the eighty-fifth session to develop the Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport, adopted at its eighty-sixth session, and its responsibility to facilitate the achievement of the goals set forth under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement;

*Reaffirming* the commitments outlined in the Ministerial Declaration Harnessing the full potential of inland transport solutions in the global fight against climate change at its eighty-fifth session, and subsequent high-level statements of support from Member States for the urgent decarbonization of the inland transport sector;

*Noting*, therefore, the need for the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) members and contracting parties to develop ambitious and well-founded national inland transport decarbonization action plans for inland transport, and the important role of the ITC and its subsidiary bodies in supporting the realization of these goals through coordinated actions, policy dialogues, new policy tools and regulatory support;

*Recognizing* that the challenges and risks associated with the decarbonization of inland transport are multifaceted and dynamic, and that they will be persistent features of the global landscape, thus requiring systematic and sustained attention, as well as robust international cooperation, through the United Nations and the Inland Transport Committee, to support national and global mitigation efforts;

*Recognizing* the increased workload for the secretariat stemming from the adoption of this Strategy and the endorsement in 2022 by ECOSOC of the revised ITC Terms of Reference;

1. *Welcomes* the launch of the implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport and acknowledges the valuable contributions of ITC subsidiary bodies and Member States in advancing decarbonization efforts;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat’s capacity to service the Inland Transport Committee in supporting Member States and Contracting Parties with the implementation of the ITC Strategy, including through ensuring effective coordination of the implementation of the initial action plan by ITC subsidiary bodies, strengthening partnerships with key stakeholders and supporting Member States in the development and reporting of national decarbonization action plans for inland transport, through coordinated actions, enhanced policy dialogues, new policy tools and regulatory support;

3. *Encourages* ITC members and contracting parties to integrate the ITC Strategy into their national policies, aligning with their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement, and to communicate their progress regularly to the Committee;

4. *Calls upon* ITC members and contracting parties to actively engage with the ITC and its subsidiary bodies in the development of national inland transport decarbonization action plans, including adopting best practices in their approach to emissions reduction, to achieve the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions from inland transport by 2050;

5. *Invites* the secretariat to continue monitoring the implementation of the ITC Strategy, providing regular reports at the annual ITC sessions on progress, challenges, and opportunities, with an emphasis on supporting ITC members and contracting parties in meeting their climate-related commitments and goals in the inland transport sector;

6. *Encourages* enhanced collaboration with relevant United Nations organizations and agencies, international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to support the implementation of the Strategy and to facilitate the mobilization of necessary resources for the decarbonization of inland transport;

7. *Encourages* Member States to continue engaging in policy dialogues through the ITC platform aimed at identifying innovative solutions and scaling up action in the coming decade to foster international cooperation on inland transport decarbonization.

Annex

 Strengthening the Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Acknowledging* the critical importance of decarbonizing the inland transport sector in line with the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, particularly in light of the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions globally in order to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C;

*Recognizing* that the inland transport sector contributes approximately 72 per cent of global transport-related greenhouse gas emissions, and that effective decarbonization of this sector is indispensable for achieving the global climate targets outlined in the Paris Agreement;

*Recalling* the decision of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) at its eighty-fifth session to develop a Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport, and the subsequent adoption of the Strategy at its eighty-sixth session, which outlines concrete steps and recommendations for Member States to reduce emissions from this sector;

*Noting with appreciation* the adoption of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport at its eighty-sixth session (2024) as a comprehensive and forward-looking framework that aligns with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, and that supports Member States in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions through coordinated, international action in the inland transport sector;

*Recognizing* the unique role of the Inland Transport Committee in advancing sustainable transport policies, providing technical and regulatory expertise, and facilitating multilateral cooperation to address the challenges of decarbonizing inland transport systems, including through policy dialogues, knowledge sharing, and the promotion of innovative solutions;

*Expressing concern* that current efforts in the inland transport sector remain insufficient to meet the Paris Agreement targets, and emphasizing the need for enhanced international cooperation and support to accelerate progress in this area;

*Welcoming* the growing commitment by Member States and Contracting Parties to integrate the ITC Strategy into their national policies and action plans, thereby contributing to global efforts to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050;

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase the support by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), in order to strengthen the secretariat’s capacity to facilitate the implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport, and to support Member States in aligning their national inland transport policies with the global decarbonization goals set by the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement;

2. *Decides* to transmit to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its next session a draft resolution on this issue for consideration and possible adoption.

Appendix

 Draft resolution of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on strengthening the Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the adoption by the seventy-first session of the Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, 9–10 April 2025) of decision [xx] (71) on strengthening the Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport;

*Endorses* decision [xx] (71) of the Economic Commission for Europe and requests the Secretary-General to increase the support by ECE, in order to strengthen the secretariat’s capacity to facilitate the implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport.