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Working Party on Road Transport
(Ninety-seventh session, 28-30 October 2003
agenda item 8)

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2004-2008

Note by the secretariat

The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2004-2008 and, in particular, the continued relevance of priorities assigned to individual work elements and the expected outputs identified for the next two-year period, i.e. by 2004/2005.

Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.2: ROAD TRANSPORT

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

I. Implementation and amendment of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)

Description: In order to adapt the European road network to future requirements and to extend it to Central Asian and Caucasus ECE member States, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will take suitable action to implement the Agreement and amend as necessary its provisions with regard, in particular, to the structure and numbering of the network (Annex I), applicable technical standards (Annex II) and user information and safety, taking into account the evolution of traffic flows.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Consideration of the AGR Agreement in the light of new traffic flows ~~with a view to introducing main international road links in eastern European, Central Asian and Caucasus ECE member States in the E road network.~~

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: Adoption of amendments to Annex I to the AGR including new E-roads ~~in Central Asia and Caucasus.~~ **Issuance of a new map of the network** Priority: 1

- (b) Consideration of the AGR Agreement with a view to enhancing AGR provisions and standards which have an impact on road safety, environmental protection and energy saving.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: **Launching the implementation procedure for** ~~Adoption of~~ amendments to Annex II of the AGR which relate to safety, including safety in tunnels and environmental criteria. Priority: 1

II. Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project

Description: In order to assist in the construction of the TEM network as part of an integrated international road infrastructure, the Working Party on Road Transport will continue its close cooperation with TEM.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Review of ongoing and expected future progress in the TEM network and consideration of possibilities to contribute to its further development (e.g., combined transport, financing).

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: **Monitoring** ~~Guidance on~~ the development of the TEM Project. Priority: 2

02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations

Description: In order to simplify and harmonize requirements concerning international road transport and the facilitation of its operation, the Working Party on Road Transport will elaborate and update, as necessary, appropriate international instruments and study selected aspects of international transport of passengers and goods by road, particularly those related to the facilitation of road transport between eastern and western Europe and the simplification and harmonization of administrative procedures and documentation.

Work to be undertaken:

- (a) Implementation of the European Agreement on the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR).

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: **Launching the implementation procedure for the Adoption of a set of amendments to the AETR to provide for introduction into the AETR of the new digital tachograph. Alignment of the AETR with new provisions adopted by the European Union concerning the regulation of driving and rest periods for professional drivers. Possible organization of another Information day on the digital tachograph.**

Priority: 1

- (b) Consideration of questions concerning the Green Card International Motor Insurance System.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: Encourage and facilitate membership of the Green Card System.

Priority: 2

- (c) Promote the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in order to avoid any discriminatory practices in international road transport.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: Development of proposals regarding the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in international road transport.

Priority: 2

ACTIVITIES OF LIMITED DURATION

- (d) ~~Development of a~~ New revised version of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4).

Output expected by ~~2002~~ 2004: ~~Consensus achieved on~~ **Dissemination of the adopted new version of R.E.4 with a modernised presentation.**

Priority: 1

- (e) Consideration of new challenges, opportunities and developments in the facilitation of border crossings and consideration of possibilities for effective measures other than legal measures on border crossing and border facilities for road transport between eastern and western Europe.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: Cooperation with the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) on aspects of the new proposed annex 8 to the Harmonization Convention on the facilitation of border crossing such as an international vehicle weight certificate and road worthiness certificate.

Priority: 1

- (d) Revision of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Road (CVR) in order to foster wider acceptance by Governments.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: ~~Decision on approach to~~ **Possible relaunching of work on the revision of CVR or identification of obstacles to reform.**

Priority: 3

- (e) Consideration of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) with a view to the introduction of electronic data interchange (EDI) into its procedures.

Output expected by ~~2002-2003~~ 2004-2005: ~~Decision on the~~ Adoption of a new protocol to the CMR introducing EDI. Priority: 1

~~(f) Consideration of other existing legal instruments related to road transport (e.g. Conventions on the Taxation of Road Vehicles in International Transport) with a view to checking their continued applicability.~~

~~Output expected by 2002-2003: Assessment of dormant conventions and strategies to re-stimulate interest and accession to them. Priority: 3~~

(f) Analysis of the implementation of transport-related UNECE agreements and conventions.

Output expected by 2004-2005: Launching of a survey to evaluate the implementation of different agreements and conventions concerning road transport by Contracting Parties.
