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# ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

# INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

### **Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics** (20 - 21 September 2004)

### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION**\*

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Monday 20 September 2004

1.	Adoption of the agenda	TRANS/WP.5/35
2.	Activities of ECE bodies of interest to the Working Party	
	(a) Economic Commission for Europe	E/2004/37-E/ECE/1416
	(b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies	ECE/TRANS/156 TRANS/2004/2, Annex 3

By decision of the UNOG Conference Services and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly asked to bring copies of the documents referred to in this provisional agenda with them to the seventeenth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room. Any missing documents may be obtained from the Documents Distribution Section of the United Nations at Geneva (room C.111, 1st Floor, Palais des Nations).

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are, therefore, requested to fill in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the UNECE Transport Division: http://www.unece.org/trans/Welcome.html) and send it <u>at the latest two weeks before the session</u> to the UNECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by e-mail (bernadette.healy@unece.org). Prior to the session delegates should get their identification badges at the Security and Safety Section's Pass and Identification Unit, at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached). In case of difficulty, please telephone the UNECE secretariat (Int. 72413).

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3.	Implementation of Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas	
	(a) Pan-European transport corridors and areas	COM (2003) 564 final
	(b) Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links	TRANS/WP.5/2004/1
4.	Evaluation of inland transport infrastructure projects	
	Phased approach to transport infrastructure developments	TRANS/WP.5/2004/2
5.	Euro-Asian transport links	
	(a) Activities related to the development of Euro-Asian transpo links	rt TRANS/WP.5/2004/3
	(b) Organization of demonstration trains	TRANS/WP.5/2004/4
6.	Relationship between transport and economic development	TRANS/WP.5/2004/5
7.	Financing schemes of transport infrastructure	TRANS/WP.5/2004/6
8.	Transport in the Mediterranean region	
	<ul> <li>(a) Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre</li> </ul>	TRANS/WP.5/2004/7
	(b) Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region	
9.	Assistance to countries with economies in transition	TRANS/WP.5/2004/8
10.	Coherent European System of International Transport Infrastructures	
	(a) Development of international transport infrastructures	TRANS/WP.5/2004/9
	(b) Quality-of-service concept	TRANS/WP.5/2004/10
11.	Draft Programme of Work for 2005-2009	TRANS/WP.5/2004/11
12.	Election of officers for the sessions of the Working Party in 2005 and 2006	
13.	Other Business	
14.	Adoption of the report	

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

#### 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is its adoption.

#### 2. ACTIVITIES OF ECE BODIES OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

#### (a) <u>Economic Commission for Europe</u>

The fifty-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe was held in Geneva from 24 to 26 February 2004.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session, concerning such questions as the UNECE reform, the follow-up to the global and regional conferences, and the UNECE technical cooperation programmes (E/2004/37-E/ECE/1416).

#### (b) Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Committee held its sixty-sixth session in Geneva from 17 to 19 February 2004.

The Working Party will be informed about the Strategic Objectives (TRANS/2004/2, Appendix 2 to Annex 3) adopted by the Committee and may wish to discuss implications for its programme of work. Furthermore, the Working Party will be informed about the Committee's discussion on questions related, in particular, to the work areas as contained in paras. 34-41 of the Committee's report (ECE/TRANS/156).

# 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF PAN-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS AND AREAS

When discussing during its sixty-sixth session (February 2004) the outcome of the Seminar "Transport infrastructure development for a Wider Europe" jointly organized by the ECMT, EC, UNECE and EIB (Paris, 27-28 November 2003), the ITC asked the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics to consider undertaking the follow-up proposals within its area of competence, as contained in document TRANS/2004/6, in order to contribute actively and effectively to the important infrastructure developments that will take place in the aftermath of the EU enlargement. Bearing in mind its decision on its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 10) referring to agenda item 3 (b) below, the Working Party is invited to discuss the ways in which it could follow up proposals (7) and (8) contained in document TRANS/2004/6, para. 10.

#### (a) <u>Pan-European transport corridors and areas</u>

In accordance with the request of the Working Party at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 9), a representative of the European Commission will report on new developments in respect of Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas.

Representatives of countries concerned may inform the Working Party on recent developments in Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas. In view of the enlargement of the European Union, the Working Party may also wish to discuss how future developments in the corridors and areas could be monitored.

### (b) <u>Infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links</u>

Following the request by the Working Party at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 10), the secretariat has prepared a proposal containing the draft questionnaire to be used in order to update and complete the information on bottlenecks and missing links in the context of Pan-European and Euro-Asian transport infrastructures. This proposal is circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/1.

The Working Party may wish to discuss how the proposed questionnaire could be modified and improved in order to allow member countries to report on infrastructure bottlenecks and missing links on segments of international infrastructures (AGC, AGR, AGN, AGTC) on their respective territories.

# 4. EVALUATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

#### Phased approach to transport infrastructure developments

At its sixteenth session, the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/34, para.17), asked the secretariat to consider possible ways of combining experiences of various member countries and organizations as reported earlier, and propose a draft set of guidelines that could assist member countries when considering to apply the phased approach to their transport infrastructure developments.

The Working Party may wish to discuss the first draft of the Guidelines to the phased approach to transport infrastructure developments based on experiences of member countries and international organizations as reported so far, and provide the further input towards the finalization of the Guidelines. The draft is circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/2.

# 5. EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS

# (a) <u>Activities related to the development of Euro-Asian transport links</u>

Following the request by the Working Party at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 23), the secretariat requested information on ongoing developments along all four Euro-Asian land transport corridors from Governments, international organizations and other relevant authorities. This information is circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/3.

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The Working Party may wish to have an exchange of views on information contained in this document.

Furthermore, during its sixty-sixth session, the Committee requested the secretariat to explore possibilities to establish a framework for the cooperation of Central Asian and Caucasus countries, similar to the TEM and TER projects, for the development of their transport infrastructures and the connections of these infrastructures with those of Western Europe. The Working Party may wish to have a preliminary exchange of views regarding the possible approaches to the establishment of such a framework for cooperation as well as strategic and practical consequences of possible solutions.

#### (b) <u>Organization of demonstration trains</u>

Representatives of Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey will inform the Working Party about new developments concerning demonstration runs of block trains along the Euro-Asian corridors on their respective territories. Relevant information regarding these runs of block trains will be circulated in TRANS/WP.5/2004/4.

#### 6. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In accordance with the Working Party's request at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 26), the secretariat assembled pertinent information containing experiences, and the results of research projects and studies on the evaluation of the changing role of transport at the various stages of economic development. Replies from member Governments are being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/5, for consideration by the Working Party.

The Working Party may wish to comment on the replies received and consider what particular aspects of the relationship between transport and economic development it intends to study in greater detail at its future sessions.

#### 7. FINANCING SCHEMES OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

At its sixteenth session, the Working Party agreed to continue discussing various approaches to the financing of transport infrastructure and experiences gained with applying different financing techniques at its further sessions (TRANS/WP.5/34, paras. 27-29). In this context, the Working Party asked the secretariat to address the member Governments with the request for information on privately-financed and successfully concluded transport infrastructure projects in order to identify best practices for the involvement of the private sector in the financing of transport infrastructure projects.

Replies from member Governments will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/6. The Working Party is invited to discuss various national experiences with privately-financed transport infrastructure projects and highlight those with a successful outcome in order to identify the criteria that may be used for formulating the best practices.

# 8. TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

### (a) <u>Mediterranean Transport Study Centre and Transport Training Centre</u>

The Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean (TRANSCEM), and the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO) have been asked to report on their activities since the sixteenth session of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 30). Relevant information on the recent activities of CETMO and TRANSCEM will be circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/7 for consideration by the Working Party.

### (b) <u>Transport developments in the Mediterranean Region</u>

During its sixteenth session, the Working Party was informed about the CETMO initiative for the organization of a Seminar on freight flows in the Mediterranean region. The Working Party asked the secretariat to explore the possibilities to ensure the necessary financing for the organization of the above-mentioned Seminar, including other United Nations Regional Commissions, and other international organizations as well as the European Commission. The Working Party will be informed about the outcome of this inquiry regarding the CETMO initiative for the organization of a Seminar.

# 9. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

The Working Party will be informed about the activities of the Regional Adviser and the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT). Information on these items is being circulated in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/8.

The Working Party may also invite Governments and relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute to the UNECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and indicate the type of assistance which may be forthcoming (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 36).

# 10. COHERENT EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

# (a) <u>Development of international transport infrastructures</u>

In accordance with the request of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 45) to receive this information on a biennial basis, the secretariat has prepared document TRANS/WP.5/2004/9 showing modifications in the AGC, AGR, AGN and the AGTC transport networks, as well as the developments in the TEM and TER projects that have taken place since the Working Party's fifteenth session. This note is being circulated for consideration by the Working Party.

(b) <u>Quality-of-service concept</u>

In accordance with the request of the Working Party at its sixteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/34, para. 38), the secretariat has collected information on quality-of-service indicators "from Governments' point of view" as indicated under 2.2. in document TRANS/WP.5/2003/10.

The relevant information received on the subject under consideration is reproduced in document TRANS/WP.5/2004/10 for consideration by the Working Party and further elaboration of the indicators of the quality of transport service.

#### 11. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2005-2009

The Working Party may wish to approve its draft programme of work for 2005-2009, on the basis of document TRANS/WP.5/2004/11.

# 12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE SESSIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY IN 2005 AND 2006

The Working Party will have to elect its Chairman and the Vice-Chairman for its sessions in 2005 and 2006.

#### **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Working Party's eighteenth session is tentatively scheduled for 19–20 September 2005.

#### **14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

In accordance with the decision of the Working Party taken at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to the Inland Transport Committee.

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