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Working Party on Rail Transport

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DETERMINATION OF RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY INCLUDING ASPECTS RELATED TO THE FEE FOR THE USE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

Transmitted by the European Commission (EC)

Status of implementation by Member States

Until the beginning of July 2005 only the United Kingdom had not notified the Commission of national legislation transposing 2001/14/EC.

Activities of the Developing European Railways Committee and the Commission services

The regulatory committee set up under directive 2001/14/EC, called 'developing European railways committee' (DERC) met on 6 July 2005. It endorsed the final report of a task force on track access charges it had set up a year ago in order to foster the exchange of best practice.

The task force on track access charges recommended, among other things, that infrastructure managers should negotiate mark-ups on charges on international freight corridors, in order to avoid transport being shifted to competing modes as a result of an overlay of national charging regimes. The task force also advised infrastructure managers to conclude multi-annual maintenance financing contracts with States including a commitment to quality levels of infrastructure. To collect the views of the stakeholders, the Commission services organized a workshop on 8 June 2005, which supported the recommendations of the task force. The

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conclusions of this workshop were posted on the website. One of the follow-ups will be a workshop on maintenance contracts between the State and the rail infrastructure managers to be held later this year.

The report and the conclusions can be downloaded from the Commission website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/transport/rail/rb/rb_intro_en.htm