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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Rail Transport

Sixty-second session

Geneva, 18-20 November 2008 Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda 13 November 2008

ENGLISH ONLY

ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES AND PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

Group of Experts on Hinterland Connections of Seaports (GE.1)

Note by the secretariat



Activities of the UNECE Expert Group

on Hinterland Connections of Seaports



The 62nd session of the Working Party on Rail Transport, 18 November 2008

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A new Expert Group

- Focus on hinterland connections of seaports
- Subsidiary body of Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5)
- Asked to prepare an international conference and elaborate relevant recommendations
- All documents available on the EG website

www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_02.html

UNECE Conference in Piraeus

- Organized by the EG (17-18 Sep. 2008)
- Hosted by the Greek government
- Over 200 participants (hi-level officials, leading researchers, senior representatives of business, labour and international organizations)
- Over 40 presentations and 3 background papers available to the public

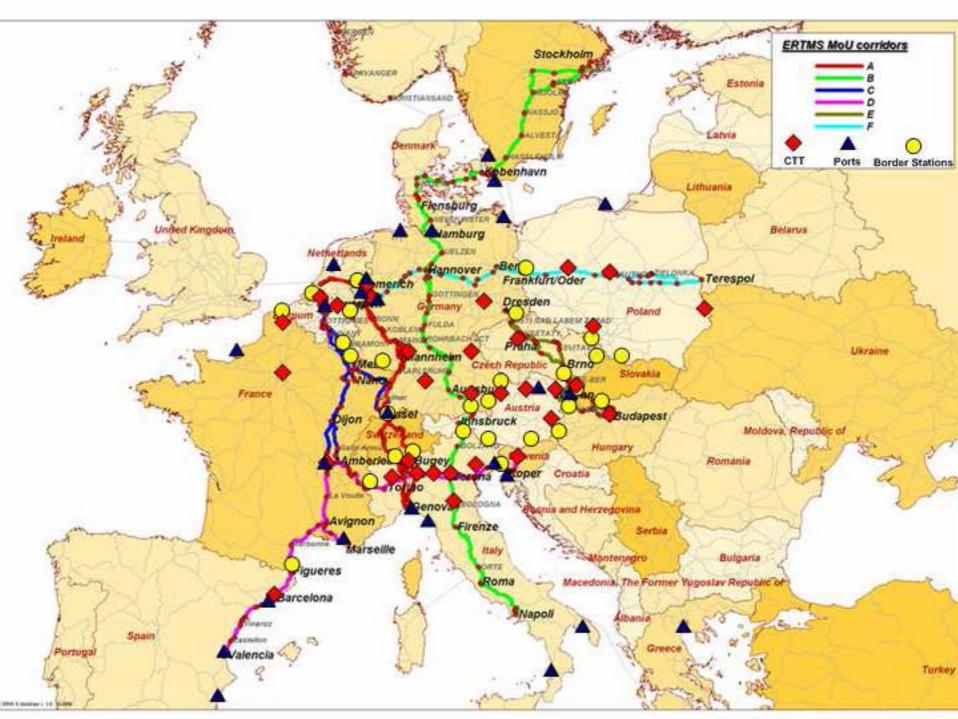
www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5_ge1_SPC.html

The importance of railways

- Background papers focus on rail links to ports
- G. Dalton, UIC <u>http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/GE1_P</u> <u>iraeus_Background_Dalton.pdf</u>
- E. Van de Voorde et al, University of Antwerp <u>http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/GE1_P</u> <u>iraeus_Background_VanDeVoorde.pdf</u>
- A. Woodburn, University of Westminster http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/wp5/GE1_P iraeus_Background_Woodburn.pdf

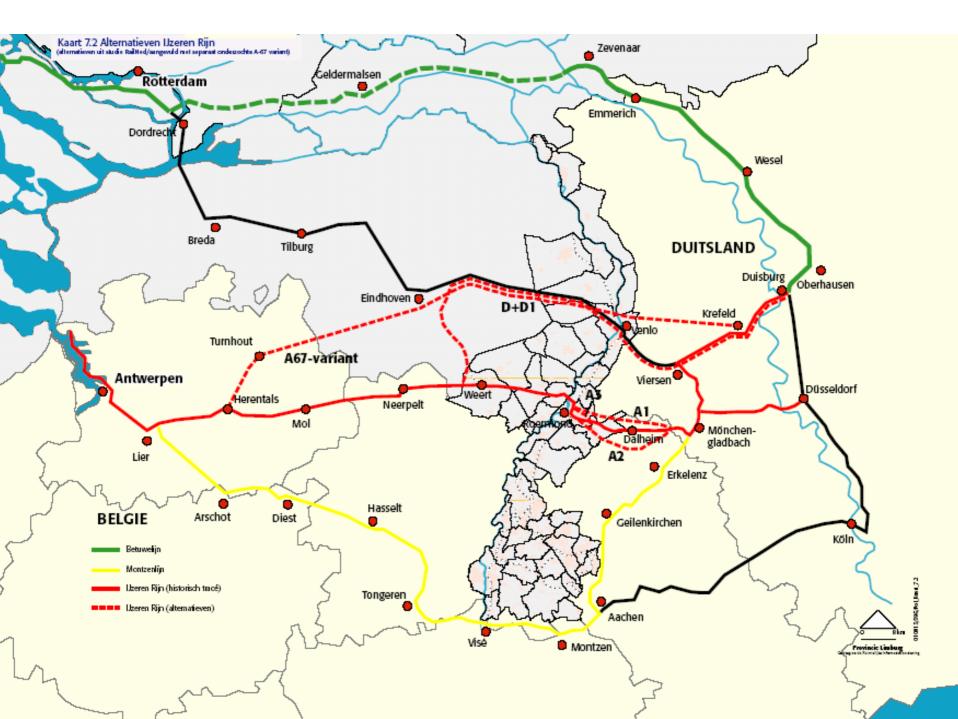
G. Dalton, UIC

- European Rail Infrastructure Masterplan (ERIM)
- Major (AGC) rail corridors in 32 countries
- Over 30% of network (> 16,000 km) constrained by 2020
- Investment needed ≈ €194 billion
- Coordinated strategy for well connected network (incl. ports, economic areas, hubs)
- Terminal management (TEMA) analysis of infrastructure nodes & last mile (CT slots)
- Need for integrated planning of network paths and CT slots
- Estimated investment gap ≈ 10 million LUs by 2020



E. Van de Voorde et al

- Relationship between port competition and hinterland rail links
- Betuwe route connects Rotterdam with German rail network since 2007
- Iron Rhine to connect Antwerp with German rail network (when reactivated)
- Free capacity key to port competition
- Iron Rhine and Betuwe route provide additional rail capacity to/from Germany and NMS in Central Europe



A. Woodburn, University of Westminster

- High dependency on imported goods in UK
- Ports and inland routes already congested
- CT traffic projected to double over next 20 years
- Representative survey of CT rail service to/from 4 major seaports
- Obstacles to higher load factors identified
- On rail' competition seems to work but strategic planning needed too

Mean TEU capacity utilisation per maritime container train, by port and direction of flow

(Source: 2007 survey conducted by University of Westminster)

	Mean capacity utilisation per train (TEU carried as % of capacity)		
Port	Import	Export	Both
Felixstowe	81.82	78.74	80.27
Southampton	74.04	59.35	66.73
Tilbury	50.78	58.55	54.67
Thamesport	68.18	79.38	73.78
Total	75.07	69.32	72.20

Post-conference activities

- Conference results to feed into recommendations of the Expert Group
- Questionnaire on hinterland connections of seaports
 http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5 ge1
 Questionnaire.html
- Distributed to port authorities, transport firms and organizations, and governments
- So far 26 responses from 10 countries (BE, BG, CH, DE, ES, LT, LV, PL, TR, UK)

Forthcoming

- Expert Group meeting (23 Jan. 2009)
- Analysis of available information on port-hinterland linkages in ECE region
- Final report (June 2009)
- To be approved by WP.5 (September 2009) and ITC (February 2010)