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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Seventy-first session
Geneva, 24-26 February 2009

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTY-FIRST SESSION

Addendum

Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

Tuesday, 24 February 2009 - Morning

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/204, /Corr.1 and /Add.1

I. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN GENERAL

Item 2 Results of the Committee's Bureau Meetings

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/2009/1

1. The Committee will **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2009/1 containing the results of the Bureau meetings held in 2008. The Committee may wish to refer to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.
2. The Committee may wish to **note** that, at its seventieth session, the Committee decided that: (a) its annual sessions would be divided in three parts: policy-oriented, technical and reporting; (b) discussions would focus on issues that need consideration and require decisions by the Committee; (c) a list of main decisions would be adopted; (d) all items of informative character and formal approval by the Committee would be considered as a whole and on the basis of the annotated agenda circulated by the secretariat.

3. The Committee may further wish to **note** that the adoption of the report of its seventy-first session would be limited to the adoption of a list of main decisions, while the report of the policy-oriented segment (half-day conference), in the form of Chairman's conclusions, would be circulated at a later stage, together with the full complete report of the session.

Item 3 The Sixty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Geneva, April 2009

4. The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about the preparation and main issues to be considered at the sixty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva, from 30 March to 1 April 2009.

Item 4 Matters arising from the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies and Conferences

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/2009/2; Informal Document No. 1

5. The Committee will **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2009/2 providing an overview of the resolutions of the sixty-second General Assembly session on improving road safety, the cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation as well as on the Almaty programme of Action and its mid-term review. An outline of the UNECE contribution to the Almaty programme of Action contained in Informal Document No. 1.

Item 5 Report to the UNECE Executive Committee on the implementation of the priorities of the UNECE Reform for strengthening some activities of the Committee

Documentation: Informal Document No. 2, ECE/TRANS/2009/6, ECE/TRANS/2009/7 and ECE/TRANS/2009/8

6. The Committee will **consider** Informal Document No. 2 presenting an outline of the progress on the implementation of the UNECE reform in the field of transport and on specific requests to the Committee, contained in the Workplan of the UNECE Reform.

7. The Committee will also **examine** documents ECE/TRANS/2009/6, ECE/TRANS/2009/7 and ECE/TRANS/2009/8 providing a review of the gender issues in transport. The Committee may wish to **note** that at its June 2008 meeting, the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee, noting that the Executive Committee had asked all Sectoral Committee to set up a mechanism to ensure that gender is effectively mainstreamed into relevant areas of the programme of Work and that the above-mentioned documents contained valuable information for its future work, recommended that the Committee should **endorse** them and **request** the secretariat to circulate them to all Committee's subsidiary bodies for consideration.

8. The Committee will be **informed** orally by its Chairman on the results of his meeting with the Executive Committee on 22 February 2008 on the implementation of the UNECE reform in the field of transport. The Committee may wish to **note** that at its meeting on 20 March 2008, the Executive Committee had approved the creation of the two new Groups of Experts, on hinterland connections of seaports and on Euro-Asian transport links.

9. The Committee may wish to **consider** Informal Document No. 2 in conjunction with the outcome of the discussions under agenda item 12 and **request** its Chairman and Vice-Chairpersons to report on the progress of the implementation of the UNECE reform in the field of transport to the Executive Committee at its meeting scheduled on 27 February 2009.

Item 6 Reorganization of the Transport Division and its strategy

Documentation: Informal Document No. 3

10. The Committee will be **informed** by the Director of the Transport Division about the new structure of the division and its strategy, circulated as Informal Document No. 3. The Committee may wish to **consider** the matter and **provide** further guidance to the secretariat.

Item 7 Assistance to countries with economies in transition

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2008/5, Informal Document No. 7

(a) Activities of the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects, including the Revision of their Master Plan

11. The Committee will be **informed** orally on the recent developments of the TEM and TER projects, including the progress on the implementation of their Master Plan and its Revision.

12. The Committee may wish to **reiterate** its support to this activity and **invite** the Steering Committees of the TEM and TER Projects, to continue pursuing these activities. The Committee may also wish to **invite** the Governments of Eastern and South-Eastern European countries that are not yet members to the TEM and TER Projects to consider full participation in the projects and signing the respective Cooperation Agreements.

(b) Other activities, projects and fund-raising issues

13. The Committee may wish to **note** the activities aimed at assisting countries with economies in transition, undertaken in 2008, as reflected in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2008/5 and Informal Document No. 7, particularly related to the Special Programme of Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Transport Corridor Europe - Caucasus - Asia (TRACECA), advisory workshops and missions.

14. The Committee may also wish to **note** that a number of capacity building projects proposals have been elaborated by the secretariat, for the implementation of which extra budgetary funding is needed. The Committee may wish to **reiterate** its request that adequate resources be made available in the secretariat for the substantive backstopping and further development of these activities and **encourage** member countries to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT).

Item 8 Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) and environmental aspects of transport

Documentation: ECE/AC.21/SC/2008/9

15. Recalling the discussions at its last session on strengthening environmental and health

aspects of transport (ECE/TRANS/2008/4) and the decision to strengthen cooperation with and contributing to THE PEP (ECE/TRANS/200, para. 24), the Committee may wish **to take note** of the report of THE PEP Steering Committee on its sixth session (28-29 April 2008) that provides an overview of the main activities undertaken within THE PEP (ECE/AC.21/SC/2008/9). The report also provides information on the preparations for the third High-Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment that will be hosted by the Government of Netherlands, in Amsterdam, 22-23 January 2009, under the theme: "Making THE Link: Transport Choices for our Health, Environment and Prosperity". The Committee will be **informed** about the outcome document adopted by the High-Level Meeting and of any mandated follow-up activities in the framework of THE PEP.

Item 9 Review of the transport situation in UNECE member countries and of emerging development trends

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/2009/3, ECE/TRANS/2009/5 and Adds.1-3

(a) Transport developments in the European Union

16. The Committee will be **informed** orally by a representative of the European Commission, Directorate of Transport and Energy, on the most important legislative and policy initiatives in the field of transport undertaken by the European Union in 2008.

(b) Developments related to the work of the International Transport Forum

17. The Committee will be **informed** orally by a representative of the International Transport Forum (ITF) on the major activities undertaken by ITF in 2008 and its future plans.

(c) Review of the transport situation and emerging trends in the UNECE region

18. The Committee may wish to **note** that the secretariat will present documents (ECE/TRANS/2009/3, ECE/TRANS/2009/5 and Adds.1-3) containing information on the transport situation in 2008 and emerging trends in member countries prepared by the secretariat on the basis of contributions by member governments, international organizations and other sources, following the decision taken by the Committee at its seventieth session (ECE/TRANS/200, para.114). The members of the Committee are expected to **exchange views** on the main topics addressed.

Item 10 Global warming and transport

Documentation: Informal Document No. 9

19. The Committee may wish to **note** that the secretariat will circulate a document on global warming and transport (Informal Document No. 9), prepared by the secretariat, containing the latest information on the subject. This paper intends to facilitate the contribution by ITC to the Commission session to be held at the end of March - early April. The members of the Committee are expected to **exchange views** on the subject matter.

Tuesday, 24 February 2009 - Afternoon

II. POLICY-ORIENTED SEGMENT

Item 11 Discussion on the impact of globalization on transport, logistics and trade in the framework of a half-day conference jointly organized by the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Trade

Documentation: Informal Document No. 8

20. The Committee may wish to **note** that at its June 2008 meeting, the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee agreed that the seventy-first ITC session should include a half-day policy segment, in the form of a round table or a conference, on the impact of globalization on transport, logistics and trade, to be held preferably in the afternoon of the first day, jointly organized with the Committee on Trade. Conference conclusions may serve as the UNECE contribution to the 2009 event of the ITF, to be held in Leipzig, 27-29 May 2009, under the theme "Transport and Globalization".

21. Following the above, high-level officials from UNECE countries together with the members of the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Trade, representatives from European, Asian and international organizations and IFIs concerned are **invited to participate** in a policy debate on the impact of globalization on transport, logistics and trade. The Provisional Agenda of the Conference will be circulated as Informal Document No. 8.

Wednesday, 25 February 2009 - Morning

III. QUESTIONS DEALT WITH BY THE COMMITTEE'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Item 12 Issues that need consideration and require decisions by the Committee

(a) Activities related to Euro-Asian transport links

Documentation: Informal Document No. 5

22. The secretariat will **inform** the Committee about the activities of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL). The Committee may wish to **note** that at its first meeting in Geneva on 8 September 2008, the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links discussed its draft programme of work, objectives, tasks and deliverables. The Expert Group is planning to meet again in Shanghai, in the first half of 2009, upon the invitation of the government of China. The draft workplan of the Group will be circulated as Informal Document No. 5.

23. The Committee will also be **informed** about the three-year extra-budgetary contribution by the government of Russia to support the partial implementation of the EATL - Phase II elaborated on the basis of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the UNECE-UNESCAP Joint Study on Developing Euro-Asian Transport Links. The ITC participants will be provided copies of the recently published Russian translation of the study.

(b) Activities related to seaports' connections to the hinterland

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.1/5, Informal Document No. 6

24. The Committee may wish to **note** that the Expert Group on Hinterland Connections of Seaports organized in September 2008 a successful UNECE conference in Piraeus that was kindly hosted and sponsored by the Government of Greece. The conclusions of the Piraeus conference will feed into recommendations of the Expert Group in its final report. The UNECE Press release and News letters that have been published on the occasion of the Piraeus conference will be circulated to the Committee as Informal Document No. 6.

25. The Committee is invited to **consider** and **approve** the decision taken by the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics at its twenty-first session (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44) to extend the mandate of the Group of Experts on Hinterland Connections of Seaports by one year in order to enable it to develop its final report that is to be presented for the consideration of the Working Party at its twenty-second session in 2009. Current and planned activities of the Expert Group are described in the report on its second session (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.1/5).

(c) Endorsement of the revised methodological basis for the definition of common criteria regarding bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44; ECE/TRANS/205

26. The Committee is invited to **consider** and **approve** the decision taken by the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics at its twenty-first session (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44) to endorse the report on bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks (ECE/TRANS/205) as a successful update and review of document TRANS/WP.5/R.60 and **request** the secretariat to ensure its publication.

(d) European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.1/383, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/386

27. The secretariat will **inform** the Committee on the main AETR-related developments that took place since the last session. The Committee might wish to **urge** member governments to actively participate in the activities related to the implementation of the digital tachograph within the deadline, in the non-EU Contracting Parties to the AETR.

(e) Restrictions imposed on the transit quota of road transport permits

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2008/8, ECE/TRANS/2009/10

28. The Committee will **consider** document ECE/TRANS/SC.1/2008/8, containing information on existing United Nations Conventions on the facilitation of transit and document ECE/TRANS/2009/10 submitted by the Government of Turkey concerning quantitative restrictions on the international road transport of goods. The Committee may wish to **consider** the matter and **provide** guidance.

(f) Strengthening WP.1 contribution to the global road safety

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.1/115, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/117, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/120

29. The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat on the progress of discussions on the future role and the reshaping of WP.1's scope and activities aimed to adapt to the fast changing situation in road safety and better contribute to finding solutions to the Global Road Safety Crisis.

(g) Transport and security

Documentation: Informal Document No. 4

30. At its seventieth session, the Committee approved the report presented by the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security and requested all ITC subsidiary bodies to act expeditiously upon the recommendations contained in it. The Committee will be **informed** about the status of implementation of the report's recommendations by ITC subsidiary bodies. The Committee will also be **informed** on the results of the most recent and final session of the Expert Group, tentatively scheduled to take place on 15-16 January 2009. An outline of the status will be circulated to the Committee as Informal Document No. 4.

(h) Preparation of a new Annex 9 (rail crossing) to the Harmonization Convention

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/11/Rev.1

31. The Committee may wish to **note** that OSJD, OTIF and EC have finalized consensus proposals for the introduction of a new Annex 9 to the Harmonization Convention. These proposals are to be considered at the February 2009 session of WP.30 and, if approved, will be submitted to the Administrative Committee to the Harmonization Convention (AC.3) for possible adoption. The Committee may wish to **welcome** the concerted efforts by OSJD, OTIF and EC and, at the same time, to highlight the importance of further extensive coordination at the national level among all governmental authorities concerned.

(i) Progress on the computerization of the TIR procedures-The eTIR project

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2007/14

32. The Committee will be informed of the progress made in the computerization of the TIR procedure (eTIR). In particular, the Committee may wish to **note** the adoption by WP.30 and the endorsement by the TIR Administrative Committee of Chapter 2 of the eTIR Reference Model, containing the high level requirements of the future TIR system. The latest update of the eTIR Reference Model is contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2007/14. Current work is focused on the analysis of the e-business requirements. The Committee may wish to **decide** to prolong the mandate of the Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical aspects of Computerization of the TIR procedure to the year 2009 in order to continue its work. The Committee may also wish to urge all Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention to actively participate in the activities of the above-mentioned Group.

(j) New Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers in International Railway Passenger Transport

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/12/Rev.1

33. The Committee may wish to **recall** the consolidated proposals by OSJD and OTIF for a new International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers in International Railway Passenger Transport (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/12/Rev.1) as well as the reported difficulties in relation to the amendment to the existing International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage carried by Rail of 1952 (ECE/TRANS/200, para. 65) whose Contracting Parties are Albania, Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland. Due to the absence of specific amendment provisions in the 1952 Convention, the provisions of Article 40 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties could be used, subject to consent of the above countries. WP.30 requested the secretariat, through the Committee, to seek confirmation from the existing Contracting Parties to the 1952 Convention that they would positively consider proposals to provide for an opportunity to amend the existing Convention, once more countries have acceded to it. The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** this request.

(k) Border crossing and transit performance measurement

34. The Secretariat will inform the Committee about its recent work with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in the area of border crossing facilitation. In particular, the Committee will be **informed** about a joint OSCE/UNECE project to develop and publish the “Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings”. The Handbook - entirely financed through the OSCE - is expected to contain a chapter describing different border crossing performance measurement techniques including assessment of their suitability and effectiveness.

(l) Supply chain and logistics implications for transport

(i) Supply chain challenges for national competitiveness through transport

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44, Informal Document No. 10

35. At its twenty-first session held in September 2008, the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics following the secretariat’s presentation on supply chain challenges for transport, noted the increasingly important link between the economic globalization and swift changes and developments in transport logistics and supply chain management. Aware of the fact that this relationship has an increasing impact on and consequences for overall competitiveness of countries and that similar initiatives at both international and national level have important methodological deficiencies, the Working Party, underlined the lack of a commonly accepted methodology and endorsed the proposal to launch an externally financed project aiming to develop such methodology. This would provide an evaluation tool for the assessment of supply chain challenges in transport sector (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/44, para 20). More information on the project will be circulated as Informal Document No. 10. The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** this proposal.

(ii) Logistics challenges and implications for transport, particularly intermodal transport

Documentation: Informal Document No. 11

36. The Committee may wish to **consider and endorse** the approach taken by the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) in dealing with the newly mandated activities in the field of logistics (ECE/TRANS/WP.24/121, paras. 44-50). The objective of this work is to analyse the impact of logistics and global supply chains on land transport and modal choice and to determine the responsibilities and instruments at the disposal of Governments to influence these developments, particularly in the field of intermodal transport. More information on this work will be circulated as Informal Document No. 11.

(iii) Transport and trade facilitation from the perspectives of Global Supply Chains

Documentation: Informal Document No. 12

37. The Committee may wish to **note** that the growth of regional and global supply chains have put a pressure on transport performance both in terms of infrastructure development and logistic service provisions. What are the main changes in demand for transport; what facilitation needs are to be addressed in the forthcoming years; what impacts these changes may have on the traditional work of the UNECE working parties, are among the questions Informal Document No. 12 is dealing with. The Committee may wish to **consider** the elaborated issues at stake and **provide** guidance to the secretariat.

Wednesday, 25 February 2009 - Afternoon

(m) Preparation for the 2010 E-Road and 2010 E-Rail Traffic Censuses

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/18, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/4

38. The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** the draft resolution on 2010 E-Road Traffic Census and the recommendations to Governments related to this census (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.2/18) prepared by the WP.6 Ad hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Road Traffic Census.

39. The Committee may also wish to **consider and approve** the draft resolution on 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census and the recommendations to Governments related to this census (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/AC.4/4) prepared by the WP.6 Ad hoc Group of Experts on the 2010 E-Rail Traffic Census.

(n) Review of the most important issues related to the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1066, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1068, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1070, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/690/Amend.1

40. The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat on the most recent developments of the

work carried out by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicles Regulation (WP.29) and its subsidiary Working Parties, Administrative Committees and Informal Groups. The Committee may wish to **note** that thirty informal groups worked during 2008 in parallel to the World Forum and to its subsidiary bodies in order to assist them in the development of new vehicle regulations and in the adaptation to the technical progress of the 135 existing vehicle regulations.

41. The Committee may wish to **endorse** the amendments of the World Forum Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/690/Amend.1) that its 145th session (June 2008) adopted in order to bring them in conformity to those of the UNECE. The Committee may wish to **note** that the reports of the three sessions of the Administrative Committee of the 1958 Agreement, the three sessions of the Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreements and the three sessions of the Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work, held in 2008, are included in the reports of the World Forum.

42. The Committee may wish to **be informed** that the World Forum noted that the provisions of the Vienna Convention were not in line with the more recent and technically updated prescriptions of the vehicle regulations adopted in the framework of the 1958 and 1998 Agreements on the construction of vehicles. Following the consideration of this subject by the Chairmen of WP.29 and WP.1 and the agreement reached, the World Forum asked its Chairman to send a letter to the WP.1 Chairman containing concrete proposals to amend the Vienna Convention. The World Forum expressed the wish that the Vienna Convention should enable the vehicles entering international traffic to meet the regulations developed by WP.29 as an alternative to the provisions in the Convention governing the technical specifications of the vehicles. Thus, WP.29 suggested the following options which might allow this objective to be met: (a) a general clause that would recognize the regulations developed by WP.29 as alternatives to the technical requirements for vehicles in the Convention; (b) a separate Agreement supplementing the Convention that could be signed by those Contracting Parties to the Convention that were willing to adopt these measures.

43. The Committee may wish to **request** WP.1 to deal as a priority with identifying a solution, including the consideration of solutions proposed by WP.29, to ensure a continuous concordance/consistency between the Convention on Road Traffic (1968) and the regulations developed by WP.29.

44. The Committee may wish to **note** a declaration by the representative of the European Union made during WP.29 about the continuation of the replacement of around 50 EU Directives on vehicles by reference to vehicle regulations developed by the World Forum as well as another declaration made during WP.29 sessions by the Russian Federation that the Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement are used in the Russian legislation in the form of straight references on them.

45. The Committee may wish to **note** that the World Forum vice-Chairman represented WP.29 at the International Energy Agency conference on global approach to promote environmentally friendly vehicles, particularly electric and hybrid vehicles, in order to present the work of the World Forum on this matter. The Committee may also wish to **note** that the World Forum nominated its Secretary to represent the World Forum at the Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy, organized by Japan, to be held in Tokyo (14 - 16 January 2009).

46. With regard to the 1958 Agreement and annexed UNECE Regulations, the Committee may wish to **note** that, during 2008, the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement remained the same (48). Ninety-two amendments to 55 existing Regulations were adopted by the Administrative Committee (WP.29/AC.1) of the Agreement.

47. With regard to the 1998 (global) Agreement and global technical regulations (gtrs), the Committee may wish to **note** that, following the accession of South Africa on 8 April 2008, the number of Contracting Parties to the 1998 Agreement reached 31. The Executive Committee (WP.29/AC.3) of the Agreement adopted for its establishment in the Global Registry of the 1998 Agreement a new global technical regulation (gtrs) on pedestrian safety and one amendment to existing global technical regulations (gtrs). A total of nine global technical regulations are currently established in the Registry of Global Technical Regulations. In addition, a candidate global technical regulation, the Japanese safety standards on hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles, was listed in the Compendium of Candidates Global Technical Regulations. Work continued on nine priorities for establishing new draft global technical regulations and to update the existing ones. The six subsidiary Working Parties of the World Forum continued to work not only on these nine priorities, but also on the seven items that the Executive Committee of the Agreement (WP.29/AC.3) had authorized to pursue or to set as new priorities. The Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreement (AC.3) is now identifying what could be the new priorities for the development of new global technical regulations.

48. With regard to the 1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections, the Committee might wish to **note** that the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement remained the same (9) in 2008. The Committee may wish to **note** that the EC had decided not to accede to the Agreement. In spite of this decision, the World Forum decided to continue the development of the Agreement and to develop a new draft Rule on periodical technical inspections with respect to safety of heavy commercial passenger and goods vehicles used in international transport, as well as the update of current Rule No. 1. The Committee may again **consider** inviting the 18 countries (Austria; Belgium; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Ireland; Italy; Portugal; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; United Kingdom and Slovakia), which signed the Agreement, to speed up their national ratification procedures.

(o) Fuel standards

49. The Committee may wish to **recall** that following a Round Table on Fuel Quality organized by the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) it was clearly shown that there was a close link between the market fuel quality and the emissions of pollutants from motor vehicles, and that there had been general consent to start discussion on the development of specific market fuel quality standards for vehicles. The World Forum agreed to establish a GRPE informal group on Fuel Quality (see WP.29 report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1064, para. 11). That group should start to prepare a roadmap for the development of fuel quality standards.

50. The Committee may wish to **note** that the informal group met twice during 2008 and agreed on the following roadmap: (a) to start, in a first step, with the development of technical specifications for market fuel quality taking into account the emission control technologies; and (b) to investigate on the basis of these specifications, the most appropriate administrative procedure for publishing them (e.g. as a guideline or as an annex to either the UNECE

Regulations concerned or the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3) or the Special Resolution No. 1 (S.R.1) or as a regulation under the 1958 or 1998 Agreement).

51. The Committee may wish to **note** the need that all countries or regions, developed and emerging ones, should be involved in that market fuel standards harmonization. These standards could be based on the World Wide Fuel Charter (WWFC). The informal group agreed to consider, not only conventional fuels, but also biofuels and to focus: (a) in a first step, on the liquid fuels; and (b) in a further step, on gaseous fuels.

52. The Committee may wish to **note** the support of experts from ECE and non-ECE countries as well as from the industry to develop fuel quality standards and that a proposal, to be prepared by the vehicle manufacturers and the fuel industry, will be considered at the January 2009 session of the informal group.

(p) Second edition of the White Paper of Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/18

53. The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about progress in the preparation of the next edition of the White Paper on trends in and development of inland navigation and its infrastructure, which was published in 1996. The goal of the second edition will be to present the evolution of inland water transport in the UNECE region, as well as to identify the major issues in its development, including competitiveness, safety and sustainability. To reflect the change in the content of the paper, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) amended its title to read "White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe". The Committee may wish to **invite** UNECE member States and the non-EU members, in particular, to play an active role in the preparation of the document.

(q) Harmonization of navigation rules for inland water transport in Europe (CEVNI)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3

54. The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat on the ongoing work on further harmonizing navigation rules for inland water transport in the UNECE region. In 2008 a comparison document between the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) of UNECE and the relevant regulations from River Commissions was prepared. Based on this document, an informal expert group elaborated a series of proposals on amendments to CEVNI and to the River Commissions' regulations. These proposals aim to increase the level of harmonization of these international instruments. The Committee may wish to **invite** member States to support this harmonization initiative and to **express** its appreciation for the substantive contribution that the River Commissions are bringing to this work.

(r) Review of the most important issues related to the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Documentation: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/66 and Add.1; ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/30; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/195 and Corr.1 and Add.1; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/197; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/199; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/110 and Add.1;

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/112 and Add.1-2; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/28; ECE/ADN/2; ECE/TRANS/202; ECE/TRANS/203

55. The Committee may wish to **note** that the Economic and Social Council's Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods met from 30 June to 9 July 2008 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/58 and Add.1-2) and will meet again from 1 to 9 December 2008. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals met from 9 -11 July 2008 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/22) and will meet again from 10-12 December 2008. The Committee itself will hold its fourth session on 12 December 2008. It will consider the work of both sub-committees over the 2007-2008 biennium and adopt recommendations that should be published by the secretariat in 2009 as the sixteenth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations; fifth revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria; and the third revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

56. The Committee may wish to **note** that, following the accession by Tunisia, there are 44 Contracting Parties to the ADR. The Protocol amending articles 1 (a), 14 (1) and 14 (3) (b) of the ADR, adopted by the Conference of the Contracting Parties on 28 October 1993, has not yet entered into force as not all Contracting Parties to the ADR have become Parties to it. Thirty-two Contracting Parties have done so to date, and the Committee may wish to **urge** the remaining Contracting Parties (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Ukraine) to take the necessary steps to allow the Protocol to come into force.

57. The Committee may also wish to **note** that the draft amendments to Annexes A and B of the ADR adopted in 2006, 2007 and May 2008, as reproduced in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/195 and Corr.1 and Add.1 have been submitted by the Government of Portugal for acceptance by Contracting Parties and have been deemed accepted on 1 October 2008. They will enter into force on 1 January 2009, and the secretariat has published accordingly a new "2009" consolidated edition of ADR (ECE/TRANS/202/Vols. I-II).

58. The Committee may wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting adopted draft amendments to the common requirements of RID, ADR and ADN which should come into force on 1 January 2011 and **approve** the Rules of procedures developed by the Joint Meeting (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/112/Add.2).

59. The Committee may wish to **note** that since the entry into force of ADN (29 February 2008), this Joint UNECE/CCNR meeting plays the role of the ADN Safety Committee established under article 18 of ADN.

60. The Committee may wish to **note** that the ADN Administrative Committee at its first session (19 June 2008) adopted the amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN prepared by the Joint Meeting (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26 and Add.1-2 and Corr.1). These amendments have been submitted to Contracting Parties for acceptance, and if deemed accepted by 30 November 2008, they will enter into force on 28 February 2009, date on which the Regulations annexed to ADN will become applicable according to article 11(1) of ADN. The secretariat is preparing accordingly a consolidated "2009" version of ADN and its annexed

Regulations that will be published under the symbol ECE/TRANS/203 (Vols. I. and II).

61. The Committee may also wish to **note** that the ADN Administrative Committee has adopted a list of classification societies recommended for recognition by the Contracting Parties (ECE/ADN/2, para. 20) and that ADN counts nine Contracting Parties: Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands and Russian Federation.

62. The Committee may wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting of Experts and the ADN Administrative Committee will hold respectively their fourteenth and second sessions between 26 and 30 January 2009 to consider new proposed amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN (for entry into force on 1 January 2011) and questions related to the effective implementation of ADN.

63. The Committee may wish to **note** that the secretariat, in the context of cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperative in Europe (OSCE), prepared a report on the transport of dangerous goods, issued under the OSCE symbol EEF.IO/11/08, for consideration by the sixteenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum (Prague, 19 - 21 May 2008). The report contained proposals seeking support for projects related to the implementation of ADR, harmonization of national regulations with ADR, and to the accession to ADR. Copies will be made available during the session.

(s) Review of the most important issues related to the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.11/218 and Add.1

64. The Committee may wish to **note** that there are now 45 Contracting Parties to the ATP. Andorra acceded to the Agreement in 2008. Proposed amendments to the ATP adopted at the sixty-third session of WP.11 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/216 and Add.1) were circulated to Contracting Parties in March 2008. In August, Germany made a notification stating that although it intended to accept the proposed amendments, the conditions necessary for such acceptance were not yet fulfilled.

65. The Committee may also wish to **note** that at its sixty-fourth session, the WP.11 adopted a revised text of Annex 1 of the ATP and once again discussed a proposal to increase the number of Contracting Parties required to block an amendment to the technical annexes from one to three. The Working Party formally adopted the text of the ATP Handbook, which is a useful tool for clarifying provisions of the ATP where there may be differences of interpretation or ambiguity. The WP.11 also considered the possible extension of the scope of the ATP to cover transport of fresh fruit and vegetables.

(t) Transport of people with reduced mobility

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.2/210

66. The Committee is invited to **consider** and **approve** the decision taken by the Working Party on Rail Transport at its sixty-second session (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/210 para 23) to organize a workshop on passenger accessibility of heavy rail system during its sixty-third session in November 2009.

(u) Informal task force on rail transport security

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.2/210

67. The Committee is invited to **consider** and **approve** the decision taken by the Working Party on Rail Transport at its sixty-second session to establish an informal task force to address security issues in the rail sector. The draft mandate of the task force is annexed to the report on the sixty-second session (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/210, Annex).

Item 13 Issues of informative character and formal approval by the Committee

(a) Approval of reports of the Committee's subsidiary bodies

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/204/Add.1

68. The Committee may wish to **approve** as a whole the reports and related activities of its subsidiary bodies and **request** the secretariat to incorporate related references in the complete ITC report on the basis of the respective annotations contained in document ECE/TRANS/204/Add.1.

(b) Status of accession to international UNECE transport agreements and conventions

Documentation: Informal Document No. 13

69. The Committee will **consider** Informal Document No. 13 prepared by the secretariat containing tables in English, French and Russian on the latest status as at 31 January 2009 of signatures, ratifications and accessions concerning international instruments on inland transport concluded under the auspices of the Committee. Informal Document No. 13 will also contain the accessions registered since the last session of the Committee. The Committee may wish to **take note** of this information and **invite** countries, which have not yet done so to become Contracting Parties to UNECE Agreements and Conventions in the field of transport as soon as possible.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF FUTURE WORK

Item 14 Schedule of meetings in 2009

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/2009/4

70. A preliminary list of meetings is being circulated for **consideration** and **adoption** by the Committee, based on proposals made by the Committee's subsidiary bodies ECE/TRANS/2009/4.

Item 15 Acronyms of the subsidiary bodies of the Inland Transport Committee

Documentation: Informal Document No 14, Informal Document No. 15

71. The Committee may wish to **note** that at its June 2008 meeting, the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee, noting that current acronyms of the Committee's subsidiary bodies were not harmonized and that this might create confusion to country delegates, had asked the secretariat to study the matter and prepare proposals for consideration at its next meeting. At its

November 2008 meeting, the Bureau considered an Informal Document prepared by the secretariat containing the conclusions of the study conducted by the secretariat and noted that, for reasons explained therein, the secretariat was of the opinion that replacing the acronyms and titles of the Committee's subsidiary bodies entailed difficulties and the risk of creating even higher confusion and problems, and thus it might not be to the benefit of the ITC and its subsidiary bodies. This document is circulated as Informal Document No. 14.

72. Moreover, the Committee may wish to **note** that, at its November 2008 meeting, the Bureau also considered the proposal of its member, Mr. José Alberto Franco, on renaming and renumbering the Committee's subsidiary bodies and other bodies subsidiary to them and asked Mr. Franco to present this proposal to the Committee. This proposal is circulated as Informal Document No. 15. The Bureau also asked the secretariat to evaluate possible legal, as well as administrative implications of such a change, taking also into consideration the United Nation's and UNECE Rules/Guidelines, and inform the Committee at its seventy-first session. The Committee may wish to **consider** the matter and **provide guidance** to the secretariat.

Thursday, 26 February 2009 - Morning

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Item 16 Any other business

(a) Presentation by the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division on how to establish Public-Private Partnerships in the road sector

73. The Committee will be **informed** by the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division (ECID) on the potential synergies of the work of the Committee with ECID's programme on promoting Public Private Partnerships, focusing in particular on establishing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the road sector.

(b) Date of next session

74. The Committee may **note** that its seventy-second session is tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva from **23 - 25 February 2010**.

Item 17 Adoption of the list of main decisions of the seventy-first session

75. The Committee will **adopt** the list of main decisions of the seventy-first session.

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