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Group of Experts on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks

Fourth session

Geneva, 9 October 2012

Report of the Expert Group on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks on its fourth session

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I. Attendance

1. The Expert Group (hereafter called the group) on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks held its fourth session on 9 October 2012. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland). Representatives of the following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) member States participated: France, Germany, Greece, Ireland and Poland.
2. Representatives of the following United Nations organizations and specialized agencies attended the meeting: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
3. The European Union (EU) was present.
4. Representatives of the following bodies attended the meeting at the invitation of the secretariat: Alfen Consult GmbH (Germany), Federal Highway Research Institute (BAST) (Germany), Société Nationale des Chemins de fer français (SNCF) (France), University of the Aegean.

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/7

5. The group adopted the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/7).

III. International conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change” (agenda item 2)

Documentation: Informal document No. 1

6. The group thanked the Hellenic Chambers Transport Association (HCTA) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Evros (Evros CCI) for hosting, supporting and sponsoring the UNECE International Conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change” in Alexandroupolis (25–26 June 2012, Greece). The Hellenic Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks and the Hellenic Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change were also thanked for having the conference under their auspices and their support.
7. The group took note and endorsed the final conclusions and recommendations of the international conference, as amended, and asked the secretariat to incorporate them in the final report/publication of the group.

IV. Partners and expected contributions (agenda item 3)

8. The group appreciated the presentations made by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Union and the Federal Highway Research Institute (BAST). The group considered these initiatives as very useful for its work and requested the secretariat to further cooperate with the above-mentioned organizations towards including the results of their research in the final report of the group under the chapter “International Organizations — Initiatives and Best Practices”.
9. The group appreciated the efforts made by the UNCTAD secretariat, the International Road Federation (IRF) and the Community of European Railways (CER) and

thanked them for the support provided in distributing the questionnaire to their member groups.

V. Report of the Expert Group (agenda item 4)

10. The group took note and appreciated the work done so far by the consultant and the secretariat on the final report/publication.

VI. Replies to the Questionnaire for collecting information on existing and potential climate change impacts on transport, as well as degree of preparedness and relevant policies for adaptation (agenda item 5)

11. The group took note of the replies to the questionnaire received so far and appreciated the efforts made by the secretariat on the timely collection of these replies. The group requested the countries that have not yet sent their replies to do it so. The group requested a more thorough analysis of the questionnaire replies from the secretariat and a presentation at the meeting of the group in December.

VII. Other business (agenda item 6)

12. The group took note of the UNCTAD secretariat's current and future activities.

VIII. Date and place of next meeting (agenda item 7)

13. The sixth session of the group is tentatively scheduled for 7 December 2012.

IX. Adoption of the report

14. The group adopted the list of main decisions of its fourth session and requested the secretariat and the Chair to prepare the full and complete report for circulation to the members of the group for comments on items other than those contained in the list of main decisions.
