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Inland Transport Committee

Seventy-eighth session

Geneva, 23–26 February 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-eighth session^{1,2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 23 February 2016

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/253 and Add.1

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no formal documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the ECE Sustainable Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/itc/itc.html) or from the public UN Official Document System (ODS) website (<http://documents.un.org/>). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the ECE Sustainable Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html). It should be transmitted to the ECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (George.Georgiadis@unece.org or Anastasia.Barinova@unece.org) or by fax (41 22-917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 72761). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm.

I. Policy oriented segment

2. Innovations for Sustainable Inland Transport with Special Attention to Information and Communication Technologies

The Committee may wish to **take note** that the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee, at its June 2015 meeting, agreed that the morning and afternoon session of the first day of the seventy-eighth session of the Committee should be devoted to a discussion on innovations for sustainable inland transport with special attention to information and communication technologies. The policy segment will focus on lessons from real-world experiences on the best practices of developing and deploying successful innovations that promote sustainable mobility across modes of transport and can be of benefit to the citizens of developed and developing countries.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/1

II. Sixth Meeting of the Chairs of the Committee's subsidiary bodies

3. Meeting for government delegates only with the participation of the Chairs of the Committee's subsidiary bodies

The Committee may wish to **recall** that the Chairs of the Administrative Committees of United Nations legal instruments on transport and of the Committee's subsidiary bodies, the members of the Bureau and Government delegates participating in the last three sessions of the Committee attended the meetings with the Chairs of the Committee's subsidiary bodies. The meetings – restricted to Government delegates only – allowed a focus on the review of the UNECE reform, the role of non-UNECE Contracting Parties to United Nations transport agreements administered by ECE, as well as on issues related to strengthening cooperation, synergy and interdependence and sharing experiences.

All Government delegates are **invited to participate** in this meeting. The provisional agenda will be circulated as Informal document No. 1, along with any other related documents.

Due to the restricted status, the results of the discussions will be circulated in the form of Chair's conclusions among the participants of the meeting and the Chairs of the Working Parties.

Documentation

Informal document No. 1

III. Transport policy and regulatory issues that require decisions by the Committee

4. Strategic questions of a horizontal policy nature

(a) Status of accession to United Nations transport agreements and conventions under the purview of the Inland Transport Committee

The Committee may wish to take **note** of ECE/TRANS/2016/2 on the status of signatures, ratifications and accessions to United Nations legal instruments on inland transport administered by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as of 31 December 2015. This document also includes the accessions registered since the last session of the Committee. The Committee may wish to **invite** countries, which have not yet done so, to accede to the United Nations conventions and other legal instruments in inland transport administered by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies. The Committee may also wish to **decide on concerted actions** in support of accession to and implementation of the UN Transport Conventions.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/2

(b) UNECE analytical work on Transport

The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about the analytical activities accomplished during 2015 (ECE/TRANS/2016/3). The Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) has the role of a think tank which leads policy discussions on subjects of a horizontal nature and that are relevant for ECE member States, the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, as well as for the legal and regulatory framework of inland transport.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the publication ‘Sustainable Urban Mobility and Public Transport in the UNECE capitals’ (Informal document No. 2) has been issued. Furthermore, the Committee may wish to be **informed** about the work of WP.5 on following up the developments in urban mobility and public transport, and particularly, the interlinkages between urban, regional, national and international transport networks and services.

The 2014–2015 theme was on ‘Financing Transport Infrastructure and Innovative Solutions’ as a follow-up to the Committee’s session in 2013 and to the joint WP.5, EATL, TEM and TER workshops in 2013 and 2014. The Committee may wish to be **informed** about the preparations for this publication.

Furthermore during the noted workshops, the participants agreed that the benchmarking of transport infrastructure construction costs is significant for having realistic construction costs and a stable investment programme without cost overruns. It also agreed that the use of benchmarking of construction costs could be useful for cost estimates and for the control of project cost developments. At its last session, WP.5 considered and approved for submission to the Committee, the document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2015/2 which had been prepared on the basis of inputs received from the experts, and included in the Terms of Reference (ToR) for a new Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs. The Committee may wish to **consider and approve** the establishment of the Group of Experts according to the ECE Rules and Procedures, subject to EXCOM approval and on the ToR in document ECE/TRANS/2016/4.

The Committee may recall the publication on ‘Transport for Sustainable Development’ that was prepared as a forerunner for awareness-raising for the Rio-20 meeting and presented to the 64th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in 2011. At the request of the Bureau, in cooperation with the other regional commissions, namely ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC, with the International Road Transport Union (IRU) and the International Union of Railways (UIC) the secretariat — being in lead — updated the report, as well as scaled it up to a global review of inland transport issues. The Committee may wish to **note** that ‘Transport for Sustainable Development – the case of Inland Transport’ was issued in November 2015 and **consider** ways and means for its use. Furthermore the Committee may wish to **take note** that the five Regional Commissions consider to continue this cooperation and prepare a follow up edition ‘Transport for Sustainable Development – the case of Maritime Transport’, in which hinterland connections will be also featured. The lead for this publication will be UNECLAC.

The Committee is invited to **provide guidance** on the future direction of analytical work in the field of transport.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/58, ECE/TRANS/2016/3, Informal document No. 2,
ECE/TRANS/2016/4

(c) Policy dialogue and technical assistance to countries with economies in transition

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the activities in the field of technical assistance and policy dialogue, including the Special Programme of Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossings (PWG-TBC) serviced jointly with ESCAP.

The Committee will be **informed** about ongoing UNDA-funded projects (ECE/TRANS/2016/5).

The Committee will be invited to **provide guidance** on the main directions for future technical assistance and policy dialogue by the ECE Sustainable Transport Division, as well as on funding of technical activities (ECE/TRANS/2016/5).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/5

(d) Environment, climate change and transport

(i) ITC follow-up to Rio+20 and the 2030 Development Agenda

The Committee will be **informed** about the follow-up activities to the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“Rio+20”) and, in particular, following the conclusion of global negotiations on the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Committee may wish to **express its satisfaction** for the inclusion of transport priorities in a number of key goals in the SDG framework. Document ECE/TRANS/2016/6 provides detailed information on the relevant references. The Committee is invited to **consider** and **decide on** its possible role and contribution to implementing the SDGs in the period 2015–2030, in light also of the messages and outcome of the policy segment at its seventy-eighth session on innovations for sustainable transport. In this regard, the Committee is also invited to **decide** how to mainstream the use of the global study, ‘Transport for Sustainable Development – the case of Inland Transport’ so that it brings maximum value to Governments in the SDG implementation phase.

The Committee **will also be informed** about the work of United Nations Secretary General's High Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable Transport and its expected accomplishments for 2016 that include a Global Conference on Sustainable Transport. HLAG is supported in its work by the Technical Working Group on Transport (TWG).

The Committee **will be informed** about the renaming of the ECE Transport Division. The new name is Sustainable Transport Division. The Committee may wish to **express its satisfaction** for this significant development.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/6

(ii) Mitigation of environmentally harmful effects of inland transport

The Committee will be **informed** about progress in the application of the For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS) tool³ as part of the activities to support governments in mitigating the negative impacts of transport on the environment. ForFITS is a monitoring and assessment tool for CO₂ emissions in inland transport, including a transport policy converter to facilitate climate change mitigation.

The Committee will also be **informed** about the recent cooperation between the ECE Environment and Sustainable Transport Divisions on Environmental Performance Reviews. As part of the third Environmental Performance Reviews of Georgia, Belarus and Tajikistan, chapters on Transport and Environment have been prepared by Sustainable Transport Division staff (Georgia, Belarus) or are in preparation (Tajikistan). All chapters use ForFITS assessments of national transport-generated emissions and policy choices for the mitigation of these emissions (Informal document No. 3).

The Committee requested, at its previous session, the preparation of a publication on the development and application of ForFITS, reflecting progress of use at the national, regional, subregional and city levels, and highlighting its main findings and achievements (ECE/TRANS/2016/7). The Committee is invited to **decide** how to best use the ForFITS tool in the post-COP 21 period in order to assist member States to reach their set goals and obligations.

The Committee may wish to **recall** the information from its last session that the discussion paper/publication "Diesel engine exhausts: Myths and realities" was published in May 2014 and that the Committee had requested the respective subsidiary bodies to indicate the measures taken and under investigation in combating emissions. The Committee may wish to be **informed** on new developments.

Documentation

Informal document No. 3, ECE/TRANS/2016/7

(iii) Impacts of climate change on international transport networks and adaptation requirements

The Committee will be **informed** about the twenty-first United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) that was held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015 with the objective to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate and its potential importance for the work of the Committee (ECE/TRANS/2016/8). The Committee will also be informed about the activities involving ECE and ITC.

³ Originally developed by UNECE with United Nations Development Account funding.

The Committee may wish to **recall** that it had decided at its previous session in support of the continuation for two more years of the Group of Experts dealing with climate change under WP.5 and its renaming to the “Group of Experts on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Transport Networks and Nodes”. The secretariat will **inform** the Committee about the results of the two meetings of the Group of Experts, held in Geneva, on 3–5 June 2015 and 14–15 January 2016 and its future plans.

The next phase of the Group would analyse: (i) the need for establishing inventories of transport networks in the ECE region that are vulnerable to climate change impacts and (ii) the usage or development of models, methodologies, tools and good practices to address potential and/or extreme hazards (e.g. high temperatures, floods) in selected inland transport infrastructure in the region.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/8

(e) Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme

The Committee may wish to **take note** of the report of THE PEP Steering Committee on its thirteenth session (17–18 November 2015) (ECE/AC.21/SC/2015/6).

The Committee may also wish to **take note** that, as part of its initiative to engage the three sectors and, that following the fourth High-level Meeting and the adoption of the Paris Declaration, the Steering Committee organized a symposium on “Reducing transport-related emissions for a better environment and human health” (Geneva, 17 November 2015) in line with the Paris Declaration Goal 3 (“To reduce emissions of transport-related greenhouse gases, air pollutants and noise”). The proceedings of the Symposium will be used as inputs for the eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference that will be convened by the ECE Environment Division in Batumi, Georgia, in 2016.

The Committee is invited to **consider** taking actions towards strengthening the presence of the transport sector in this multisectoral cooperation. The Committee may also **assess** its interest in contributing to the fifth High-level meeting that will take place in Vienna in 2019.

Documentation

ECE/AC.21/SC/2015/6

(f) Intelligent transport systems

The Committee will be **informed** about the status of implementation of the ITS Road Map that was launched at its seventy-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/2016/9).

The Committee will also be **informed** about the outcome of the Joint France-ECE Workshop on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) “ITS for Sustainable Mobility and the Mitigation of Climate Change” (7 October 2015, Bordeaux).

The Committee may wish to take **note** of the “Bordeaux Manifesto – ITS addressing Climate Change” resulting from the Ministerial round table at the 2015 ITS World Congress in Bordeaux (Informal document No. 4).

The Committee is invited to **consider** the status of ITS in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, to **encourage** ITS activities linked to infrastructure and all transport modes and to **consider** ways to address ITS issues in an integrated approach. The Committee is also invited to **encourage** actions for regulating automated vehicles, as fostering regulatory actions would ensure the benefits that ITS could provide in terms of road safety, environmental protection, energy efficiency and traffic management.

In this context, the Committee is invited to **consider** the ‘strategic note on ITS’ and to **decide on** how to best ensure a holistic approach in its activities at a policy level which would create the framework for harmonizing the ITS related work in ITC and its subsidiary bodies (ECE/TRANS/2016/10).

At its last session, the Committee invited WP.1 and WP.29 to seek novel institutional approaches on the issue of more advanced vehicle automation vis-à-vis the driver’s role (para. 42 (d), ECE/TRANS/248). In response to that invitation, WP.1 and WP.29 designated two Informal Working Groups, the WP.29 Informal Working Group on ITS/AD and the newly established WP.1 Informal Group of Experts on Automated Driving in order to work closer on these issues.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/9, Informal document No. 4, ECE/TRANS/2016/10

(g) Continued support to land-locked countries: the Vienna Programme of Action

The Committee will be **informed** about future United Nations actions in landlocked developing countries and the expected role of regional commissions, following the adoption of the new Vienna Programme of Action for 2014–2024.

The Committee is invited to **express its support** for the new Vienna Programme of Action and consider how to **contribute** to its implementation. The Committee may wish to **invite** landlocked developing countries in the ECE region which have not yet acceded to the relevant United Nations transport legal instruments to consider becoming Contracting Parties.

(h) Inland transport security

The Committee will be **informed** about the results of the workshop on “Vulnerability and Security of Critical Transport Infrastructure” which took place during the twenty-eighth session of WP.5. The secretariat will also **inform the Committee** about results of the workshop on inland water transport security held in conjunction with the forty-eighth session of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation.

The Committee will also be **informed** about the next session of the Inland Transport Security Forum which will be held in 2016.

5. Strategic questions of a modal and thematic nature

(a) Project related activities

(i) *Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects*

The Committee will be **informed** about the recent developments in the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects, including the current state of affairs vis-à-vis the management of the TEM and the TER Projects. The Committee will be informed about the TER Project Host Country Agreement, status of TER Project Manager and Deputy Manager, as well as the TEM Project Manager.

The Committee may wish to **support** the activities carried out in the two projects and **express its opinion** on the future directions as considered in Informal document No. 5.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

(ii) *Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) Project*

The Committee will be **informed** about recent activities in the Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) Project as well as the ongoing discussions on funding the project activities. Based on the WP.5 decision to extend the mandate of the EATL Group of Experts for one more year (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/58 para 34), based on the same Terms of Reference as approved by the Executive Committee at its sixty-second meeting, the Committee may wish to **approve** this decision and request the Executive Committee to give its approval, after which the EATL Group of Experts may continue work for one more year on the finalisation of the EATL Phase III report. The Committee may wish to **encourage** Governments to participate more actively in the activities of the EATL Group of Experts, and **invite** Governments and other donors to contribute to the EATL budget preferably on a project basis.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/11

(b) **Harmonization of vehicle regulations**

The Committee will be **informed** about the most recent developments in the work carried out by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and its six subsidiary Working Parties (GRB, GRE, GRPE, GRRF, GRSG and GRSP), the Administrative Committee of the 1958 Agreement, the Administrative Committee of the 1997 Agreement and the Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreement.

The Committee will also be **informed** about the activities of the World Forum and its Working Parties as reflected in its programme of work (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/1/Rev.2).

The Committee may wish to **note** that over 40 informal groups worked during 2014 in parallel to the World Forum and to its subsidiary bodies to assist them in developing new vehicle regulations and updating the 136 existing United Nations Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement, 16 UN Global Technical Regulations associated to the 1998 Agreement and 2 UN Rules annexed to the 1997 Agreement.

The Committee may wish to **note** the number of Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement (52), to the 1998 Agreement (35), and to the 1997 Agreement (12).

The Committee may wish to be **informed**, that the new Regulations on the safety –related performance of Hydrogen-Fuelled vehicles (HFCV) on pole side impacts (PSI) entered into force on 15 June 2015. It may also wish to note that, in June 2015, a new Regulation on electric powered two wheelers, electric vehicles of category L (EV-L), and in November 2015 a new Regulation on Frontal Impact with focus on Restraint Systems (FIRS), were adopted. The new United Nations Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement are expected to enter into force by mid-2015.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreement established amendments to Global Technical Regulations No. 3 (motorcycle braking) and No. 4 (World Heavy Duty test Cycle) as well as a new Mutual Resolution No. 2 containing Vehicle System Definitions.

The Committee may wish to be **informed** about the progress made by the World Forum on draft Revision 3 to the 1958 Agreement which incorporates the concept of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval system and on increasing the attractiveness of the Agreement for further accessions of emerging economies by allowing the application of previous versions of United Nations Regulations.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/1/Rev.2, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/40, ECE/TRANS/2016/12, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/105

(c) Road safety

The Committee may **recall** that at its last session, it had welcomed progress in the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Road Safety in the ECE region and it had requested the preparation of a publication highlighting road safety activities implemented in the ECE region as its contribution to the mid-term review of the Decade during the Global High-Level Conference on Road Safety (Brasilia, 18–19 November 2015). The secretariat will **inform** the Committee about the outcome of the High-level Conference in Brasilia as well as about UNECE secretariat's contributions, including the road safety publication prepared on the basis of ECE/TRANS/2015/13 (Informal document No. 6). The Committee may wish to **exchange views** on the expected General Assembly Resolution on road safety.

The Committee will be **informed** about the appointment and activities of Mr. Jean Todt as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety (Informal document No. 7). Mr. Todt has been: helping to mobilize sustained political commitment towards making road safety a priority; advocating and raising awareness about the United Nations road safety legal instruments; sharing established road safety good practices; and trying to generate adequate funding for advocacy efforts through strategic partnerships between the public, private and non-governmental sectors. The Committee may wish to **note** that UNECE will provide secretariat support to the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety.

The secretariat will **brief** the Committee about the work and achievements of two Groups of Experts: on Road Signs and Signals, and on Improving Safety at Level Crossings. Given the considerable workload faced by these two Groups, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) agreed to extend their mandate until the end of 2016. The Committee will be invited to **endorse** this decision.

The Committee will be **informed** that WP.1 requested the secretariat to convey to ITC its decision to hold two, four-day, regular sessions every year and to seek concurrence from ITC to organize an additional session outside of Geneva in 2016 or 2017. The Committee will be invited to **concur** to this request.

The Government of Japan will **present** ECE/TRANS/2016/13 to express its interest in becoming a full WP.1 participant (as defined by Rule 1 (a) in TRANS/WP.1/100/Add.1) on the basis of the "Guidelines for the Establishment and Functioning of the Working Parties within UNECE" (ECE/EX/1, paragraph 2). In its considerations, the Committee may **note** that WP.1 unanimously endorsed Japan's request to become a full WP.1 participant with voting rights and agreed to support Japan's request at the ITC. ITC will be invited to **agree** to the request of the Government of Japan.

The secretariat will **inform** the Committee about the SafeFITS project.

Documentation

Informal document No. 6, Informal document No. 7, ECE/TRANS/2016/13

(d) Road transport

The Committee will be **informed** about the latest developments in the work carried out by the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1). The Committee will also be **informed** about the latest developments related to the work of the Group of Expert on the European

Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). In particular, the Committee will be informed about the signing of extension of the Memorandum of Understanding which recognizes the Joint Research Centre as the authority responsible for Root and Interoperability Certification for non-EU AETR Contracting Parties.

The Committee will be further **informed** about the secretariat's joint work with the Euromed Transport Project that resulted in the "AETR Road Map" report (ECE/TRANS/2016/14) and about SC.1 requesting the Committee to **endorse** its publication (and printing) in English, French and Russian.

The Committee will be **updated** and may wish to **express its view** on the status of an amendment proposal which, if accepted, would allow four non-UNECE member States (Algeria, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) to accede to the AETR Agreement, as well as acceptance and entry into force of an amendment proposal on "e-mobility" issues into the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries.

The Committee will be **informed** about the progress in finalizing a global multilateral agreement on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus (OmniBus). In light of the considerable resources and time that have been devoted to the consideration of this agreement, the Committee may wish to **encourage** involved parties to reach a final decision.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/14

(e) Rail transport

The Committee will be **informed** about the results of the sixty-ninth session of the Working Party on Rail Transport (SC.2) (ECE/TRANS/SC.2/224). The Committee may wish to note the importance of the master plan on high speed trains and the cooperation with the TER project and the preparation of the Working Party on an Action Plan for monitoring the implementation of Annex 9 of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982). Furthermore, the Committee may wish to be **informed** about important amendment proposals to the AGC agreement prepared in cooperation with the European Railway Agency, the development of a web platform which will operate as an international rail security observatory, and the progress of the informal Group of Experts on the initiative for a new convention on the facilitation of crossing of frontiers for passengers and baggage carried by rail. The Committee is invited to **give guidance** on these activities.

The Committee may wish also to be **informed** about the results of the workshop on 'Rail Safety: trends and challenges' held in cooperation with UIC during the last session of SC.2.

Concerning the development of unified railway law, the Committee will be **informed** about the results of the Group of Experts on preparing a legal framework for rail transport.

The Committee may wish to **recall** that at its last session, it had noted that its Bureau, had on an exceptional basis, approved the extension of the mandate of the Group of Experts for one more year in order to avoid losing the momentum that had been created. The Group of Experts following the approval by EXCOM met three times during 2015 (February, June, and October).

The Group of Experts managed during its mandate to prepare legal provisions in the contract of carriage and, in particular, on rights and obligations of the parties to the contract of carriage, documentation, liability, assertion of claims and relationship among carriers of a Unified Railway Law. It did so by taking into consideration good practices already

implemented by the CIM-COTIF Convention and SMGS Agreement as well as other International Transport Conventions.

The Committee may wish to **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2016/15 prepared by the secretariat that includes the legal provisions of a Unified Railway Law and also document ECE/TRANS/2016/16 which includes main principles of an appropriate management system.

The Committee may wish to **consider** and **adopt** the draft resolution on the Unified Railway Law (ECE/TRANS/2016/17). The Committee is also invited to **consider** and **approve** the new Terms of Reference (ECE/TRANS/2016/18) for the Group of Experts towards Unified Railway Law. The Committee may wish to **discuss and provide guidance** on the next steps regarding the development of Unified Rail Law.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.2/224, ECE/TRANS/2016/15, ECE/TRANS/2016/16,
ECE/TRANS/2016/17, ECE/TRANS/2016/18

(f) Intermodal transport and logistics

The Committee will be **informed** about the results of the fifty-eighth session of the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (ECE/TRANS/WP.24/137). The Committee may wish to **express its views** on the work carried out by the Working Party on (i) Intermodal Transport Terminals; (ii) Preparing National Master Plans on freight transport and logistics; (iii) the freight forwarders market and (iv) climate change and intermodal transport as well as the future work that will result from these activities.

The Committee may wish also to be **informed** about the results of the workshop held on “Intermodality leads to sustainability” held in conjunction with the Working Party’s session. A number of member State experts, other interested stakeholders including non-governmental organisations and industry groups attended. The workshop discussed how intermodal transport and logistics work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Committee will be **informed** that updated information has been provided by member States on national policy measures aimed at incentivising the use of intermodal transport. This information will shortly be uploaded to the online database.

The Committee may wish to be **informed** that, following the endorsement of the CTU Code by the ITC, IMO and ILO in 2014, the text of the CTU Code has been made available in all official United Nations languages. Other national authorities (for example the German Ministry) have translated it into their local languages. The currently available language versions can be found on our website.⁴ The Committee will also be **informed** that the CTU Code has gained global acceptance and has been adopted into South African law from 2016.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/19, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/137

⁴ www.unece.org/trans/wp24/guidelinespackingctus/intro.html

(g) **Inland Water Transport**

The Committee will be **informed** about the latest activities of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/201). In particular, the Committee may wish to consider the report on the status of implementation of the White Paper recommendations at the seventy-eighth session of the Committee since its adoption in 2011 (ECE/TRANS/2016/20) and proposals for future activities of SC.3.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Working Party preliminarily adopted the amendments to Annex II “List of inland navigation ports of international importance” to the AGN.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that the International Expert Group on Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters’ Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation (IEG) (ECE/TRANS/236, para. 30), held three meetings in 2015.

The Committee may wish to **take note** that SC.3 has prepared a proposal on aligning the AGTC Protocol and AGN, agreed that this document could be a basis for further work on alignment of the AGTC Protocol and AGN and decided to transmit it to WP.24 for further consideration.

The Committee will be **informed** about the publication of the fifth edition of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI, revision 5) in 2015.

The Committee may wish to **note** the adoption of the third revision of Resolution No. 48 on Electronic Chart Display and Information System (Inland ECDIS).

The Committee will be **informed** about changes in the regulatory environment in inland waterways and may wish to **provide guidance** on secretariat document ECE/TRANS/2016/21, an update of the strategy of SC.3, with the aim of updating the Working Party's terms of reference in this biennium.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/201, ECE/TRANS/2016/20, ECE/TRANS/2016/21

(h) **Strengthening border crossing facilitation (Harmonization Convention, TIR Convention, eTIR Project and other Customs transit facilitation measures**

The Committee may wish to **take note** and **support** the outcome of recent activities of the secretariat, Contracting Parties and the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30), with a view, in particular, to strengthen the Harmonization Convention, 1982 and the TIR Convention, 1975 (ECE/TRANS/2016/22).

Furthermore, the Committee may also wish to **take note** of the contribution of TIR Contracting Parties aimed at further improving and amending the provisions of the TIR Convention, which are currently under discussion in WP.30 and the TIR Administrative Committee (AC.2). The Committee may wish to **welcome** ongoing efforts to further increase transparency in the TIR system and **urge** governments to finalize pending amendments, particularly on the items of the Convention as mentioned above.

With regard to the application of the TIR Convention, the year 2015 continued to be marked by the so-called ‘TIR crisis’, which began in 2013 when the Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation decided that an increasing number of customs offices would no longer accept TIR guarantees issued by foreign authorized national associations and to require, instead, that operators obtain a national guarantee. The Committee will be **informed** about the most recent developments concerning the implementation of the TIR Convention in this regard. The Committee may wish to **provide** guidance to the Working

Party as well as the secretariat on how to re-establish the full and unrestricted functioning of the TIR system.

The Committee may wish to **reiterate** its call for full respect of the provisions of the TIR Convention, including the obligation of Contracting Parties, in accordance with its Article 42 bis, to communicate any planned measure that may have an impact on the implementation of the TIR Convention in a timely manner to the TIR Executive Board or AC.2.

The Committee may also wish to **take note** that, at its 140th session, WP.30 considered and supported document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2011/4/Rev.1, containing version 4.1 of the eTIR Reference Model, as a basis for future work of the Group of Experts on Legal Aspects of the Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.2) as well as for pilot projects. The Committee may wish to **welcome** progress towards the implementation of eTIR and **encourage** governments to actively participate in the development of the eTIR legal framework as well as support the ongoing eTIR pilot projects.

The Committee will also be **informed** about progress in the UNECE/IRU eTIR Pilot Project between Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Turkey as well as about the activities and projects carried out in the framework of the United Nations Development Account project: 'Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration'. Within the context of the computerization of the TIR procedure, the Committee is invited to **support** the continuation of the eTIR Project, including the various pilot projects and to **prolong** the mandate of the WP.30 Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1) to the year 2016.

The Committee will be **informed** about the activities of GE.2, whose main task is to provide a specialized and dedicated international platform with the objective of developing the eTIR legal framework.

The secretariat will further **inform** the Committee about the recent accession of Pakistan to the TIR Convention, becoming its sixty-ninth Contracting Party, and the interest of countries to join the TIR Convention, in particular, China. To further facilitate the promotion of the TIR Convention, the Committee is invited to **support** that, pursuant to ECOSOC Resolution 1984/79, the United Nations secretariat continues to ensure that the TIR Handbook be made available in the six official United Nations languages.

The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about (a) the current situation with regard to the implementation of the Harmonization Convention (1982), and, in particular, progress that is being made in the drafting of a new Annex 10 to the Convention on the facilitation of regulatory procedures and controls at sea ports; (b) the International Convention to Facilitate the Crossing of Frontiers for Passengers and Baggage carried by Rail (January 1952) and ongoing efforts to draft a new Convention on the international traffic of passengers by rail.

Finally, the Committee may wish to **take note** of the "Spectrum of Border Crossing Facilitation Activities" prepared by the secretariat with the aim of promoting UNECE border crossing facilitation activities and related United Nations legal instruments. The Committee may wish to **endorse** the mandate of WP.30 to the secretariat, to ensure, in coordination with the relevant UNOG services, the printing of the brochure in the three UNECE working languages.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/22

(i) **Transport of dangerous goods**

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2015/7 on 8 June 2015 on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (see Informal document No. 8) and that the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15), the RID/ADR/ADN⁵ Joint Meeting and the ADN Safety Committee have already taken or are taking action as required in operative paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 of section A of the resolution. The Committee may also wish to **note** that, pursuant to operative paragraphs 2 of sections A and C, the secretariat has already published the nineteenth revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations (in English, French and Spanish), the sixth revised edition of the Manual of Tests and Criteria (in English, French and Spanish) and the sixth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (in English, French and Spanish). Other language versions should be available soon.

The Committee may wish to note that in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of section B of the resolution, the secretariat will soon seek information from all States Members of the United Nations and other States on the contact details of competent authorities responsible for national regulations applicable to the transport of dangerous goods and those entitled to allow the allocation of the “UN” mark on packaging, pressure receptacles, bulk containers and portable tanks.

The Committee may wish to note that the secretariat has already sought such information from all States members of the UNECE through a survey used for a self-evaluation by the secretariat of the global and regional impact of UNECE regulations and UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. As the number of countries having responded remains very low, the Committee may wish to urge all States members of the UNECE which would not have yet done so to provide the secretariat with the information requested by the Economic and Social Council.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods of the Economic and Social Council met from 22 to 26 June 2015 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94 and Corr.1) and will meet again from 30 November to 9 December 2015. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals met from 29 June to 1 July 2015 (see report ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/58) and will meet again from 9 to 11 December 2015.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the number of Contracting Parties to the ADR remains 48. 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-three Contracting Parties have done so to date, and the Committee may wish to **urge** the remaining Contracting Parties (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine) to take the necessary steps to allow the Protocol to come into force.

The Committee may wish to **note** that WP.15 endorsed the common amendments to RID, ADR and ADN adopted by the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (WP.15/AC.1) during the

⁵ Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID), European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN).

biennium; adopted amendments specific to ADR, e.g. as regards construction and equipment of vehicles for the carriage of dangerous goods; requested the secretariat to prepare a consolidated list of all the amendments which it had adopted for entry into force on 1 January 2017, so that they could be made the subject of an official proposal in accordance with the procedure set out in article 14 of ADR. All these amendments should come into force on 1 January 2017.

The Committee may wish to **endorse** the request by WP.15 that the consolidated text of ADR as it would be amended on 1 January 2017 be published by the secretariat, sufficiently in advance to prepare for its effective implementation before the entry into force of the amendments in question.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that the number of Contracting Parties to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) remains eighteen.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to ADN (ADN Safety Committee) (WP.15/AC.2) held its twenty-seventh session from 24 to 28 August 2015.

The Committee may wish to **note** that the ADN Safety Committee has adopted a wide range of new provisions concerning the carriage of dangerous goods in inland navigation vessels, and will meet again from 25–29 January 2016 (see agenda ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/57).

The ADN Administrative Committee should meet on 29 January 2016 (see agenda ECE/ADN/34 and Add.1), mainly to adopt all draft amendments prepared by the Safety Committee in 2015 and January 2016, i.e. the set of amendments that should enter into force on 1 January 2017 and that would ensure harmonization of ADN with ADR and RID.

Documentation

Informal document No. 8, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94 and Corr.1, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/58, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/228, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/230, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/138 and Add.1, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/140 and Add.1–2, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/56, ECE/ADN/32

(j) Transport of perishable foodstuffs

The Committee will be **informed** about the status of proposed amendments to the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP) adopted at the seventieth session of the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11) in 2014 (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/231, Annex I).

The Committee may wish to **note** that at its seventy-first session (6–9 October 2015), WP.11 adopted methods for calculating the external surface area of panel vans, which is required for accurately testing the K value of those vans and that a proposal to extend the procedure to include railway wagons other than tank wagons will be considered at the seventy-second session of WP.11. WP.11 also adopted provisions on in-service tests for non-independent equipment, the refrigeration unit of which is powered by the engine of the vehicle (ECE/TRANS/WP.11/233, Annex I).

The Committee may **express its concern** that a proposal to amend the unanimity rule in Article 18.4 of the ATP by requiring at least three objections in order to reject a proposed amendment to the technical annexes to the ATP, while maintaining unanimity for the articles of the ATP itself, was not accepted. WP.11 also did not accept a proposal to change its practice of putting each amendment proposal to the vote. In light of the complications

that this situation creates for the ability of WP.11 to facilitate the update and modernization of the legal instruments under its purview, the Committee may wish to **strongly encourage** all involved parties to accelerate a decision on this matter and **report** to the Committee at its next annual session.

The Committee may also wish to **note** that, at the request of WP.11, the Executive Secretary of UNECE had written to Ministers of Foreign Affairs of ATP contracting parties in December 2014 requesting the contact details of the authority in the country competent to sign multilateral agreements drawn up in accordance with Article 7 of the ATP. Replies to that letter have been received from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Serbia, Ukraine, United States of America and Uzbekistan. Other ATP contracting parties were invited to respond to that letter if they wished to be able to participate in any future multilateral agreements.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.11/231, ECE/TRANS/WP.11/233

(k) Transport statistics and data

The Committee will be informed of the transport statistics activities and the status of the 2015 E-Road and E-Rail Traffic Census Programmes in accordance with Resolutions Nos. 261 and 262 adopted at its seventy-sixth session in 2014 (Informal document No. 9).

The Committee may wish to **note** that the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) continues to be actively involved in the process of developing the statistical monitoring framework for SDGs as a member of the inter-agency and expert group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDG) and the UNSC Friends of the Chair group on broader measures of progress. The Committee may wish to **provide guidance** on how to strengthen the role and potential contribution of WP.6 in a global environment where the need for more and higher quality statistics is rapidly increasing.

Documentation

Informal document No. 9

6. Matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and other United Nations bodies and Conferences

The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about recent matters arising from the UNECE, ECOSOC and other United Nations bodies and Conferences of interest to the Committee.

7. Draft Annual Report of activities undertaken by the Committee's subsidiary bodies in 2015

The Committee will be **presented** with a comprehensive report of activities undertaken by the Committee's subsidiary bodies during 2015 in administering the 58 United Nations conventions, agreements and other types of legal instrument which shape the international legal framework for road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal transport, as well as dangerous goods transport and vehicle construction (ECE/TRANS/2016/23). These activities took the form of policy dialogue and regulatory work, analytical activities, as well as capacity-building and technical assistance. The draft Annual Report presents concise

information to ITC delegates in a form suitable for broader publicity. The Committee will also be **presented** with the expected challenges for ITC and its subsidiary bodies in 2016 (ECE/TRANS/2016/24). The polished version with photos of the Draft Annual Report will also be presented to the Committee under Informal document No. 10.

The Committee is invited to **discuss** the Annual Report as well as to **provide guidance** on improving the visibility of the results and on the future use of the Annual Report.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/23, ECE/TRANS/2016/24, Informal document No. 10

8. Preparations for the seventieth Anniversary of the Committee and the Sustainable Transport Division

The Committee will be **informed** about the ongoing preparations for the seventieth anniversary of ITC and the newly named Sustainable Transport Division.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/25

IV. Other questions relating to the work of the Committee's subsidiary bodies

9. Issues for approval by the Committee and of an informative character: approval of the reports of the Committee's subsidiary bodies

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 this document.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.1/149 and Add.1, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/151

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/58

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/169

ECE/TRANS/WP.11/233

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/228, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/230

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/138 and Add.1, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/140 and Add.1–2, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/56 and Add.1–2, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/58

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/137

ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1114, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1116, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1118

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/278, ECE/TRANS/WP.30/280, ECE/TRANS/WP.30/282

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/123, ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/125,

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/127

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/S/396, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/404, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/402

ECE/TRANS/SC.2/224

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/201 and Add.1–2

10. Results of the meetings of the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee

The Committee will **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2016/26, containing the results of the meetings held by the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee in 2015. The Committee may wish to refer to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.

The Committee may further wish to **note** that the adoption of the report of the seventy-seventh session will be limited to a list of main decisions. The complete report of the Committee will be circulated at a later stage.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/26

11. Activities of the Commission and report of the Committee to the Executive Committee

The Committee may wish to **give guidance to** its Chair on the key messages in the report — to be prepared in consultation with the secretariat — to the UNECE Executive Committee at one of its future sessions.

12. Approval of the biennial evaluation of the Committee's work for 2014–2015

The Committee may wish to **consider** and **adopt** the programme performance assessment for 2014–2015 (biennial evaluation) of the Transport subprogramme (ECE/TRANS/2016/27). The document provides an overview of the performance assessments of the transport subprogramme and is drawn up in line with the decision of the Commission requesting each Sectoral Committee to conduct biennial evaluations, and the plan for the biennial performance assessment which the Inland Transport Committee adopted at its seventy-sixth session in 2014.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/27

13. Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2016–2017 and Strategic Framework for 2018–2019

The Committee will have before it document ECE/TRANS/2016/28 containing the draft programme of work of the Transport subprogramme for the period 2016–2017. Document ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1 provided detailed descriptions of the cluster-based activities and expected accomplishments of the subprogramme's programme of work. At its session in November 2015, the Bureau considered the draft programme of work for the period 2016–2017 and its addendum and decided to recommend it to the Committee for approval.

The Committee is invited to **consider** and **adopt** its programme of work for the biennium 2016–2017 for subsequent formal approval by EXCOM. The Committee will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium and such adjustments will be reflected in a separate document. The Committee is also invited to **adopt** the addendum to its programme of work.

The Committee may also wish to **consider** and **adopt** the biennial evaluation plan (2016–2017) for the Transport subprogramme contained in document ECE/TRANS/2016/29. At its session in November 2015, the Bureau had considered the biennial evaluation plan and decided to recommend it to the Committee for approval.

The relevant indicators of achievement, with baseline and target data, against which performance will be measured, are presented to facilitate the task of the Committee in assessing whether all outputs which are necessary to achieve the expected result have been included in the plan.

Furthermore, the Committee is invited to **consider** and **approve** the draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 for the Transport subprogramme (ECE/TRANS/2016/30). In accordance with the UNECE programme planning process, the draft strategic framework shall be reviewed by the Sectoral Committees, (or their Bureaux when Committees have not met during the last four months of 2015) before submission to the UNECE Executive Committee in November/December 2015 and to United Nations Headquarters in early 2016. The Bureau, at its November 2015 session, considered the draft proposal and decided to recommend it to the Committee for approval.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/28 and Add.1, ECE/TRANS/2016/29, ECE/TRANS/2016/30

14. Draft work plan for 2016–2020

The Committee will have before it document ECE/TRANS/2016/30 containing its draft Work plan. The Committee may wish to **adopt** its work plan for the period 2016–2020. This document has proven very useful in the past in providing mandates for the work of the Committee's subsidiary bodies in even years, acting as a "bridge" that covers the months between the end of a programme biennium and the approval by the Committee of the Programme of Work for the next biennium. Following changes in the format of programme of work that took place in 2015 that contribution of the four-year work plan may no longer be performed. In light of this development, the Committee may wish to **decide the discontinuation** of this document in the future.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/31

15. Election of officers for the Committee's sessions in 2017 and 2018

The Committee is expected to **elect** its officers for its sessions in 2017 and 2018.

16. Composition of the Committee's Bureau in 2017 and 2018

The Committee may wish to **decide** on the composition of its Bureau for its sessions in 2017 and 2018.

17. Schedule of meetings in 2016

A preliminary list of meetings has been circulated for **consideration** and **adoption** by the Committee, based on proposals from the Committee's subsidiary bodies.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/32

V. Partnerships and activities of other organizations of interest to the Committee

18. Transport developments in the European Union

The Committee will be **informed** by a representative of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, about the most important legislative and policy initiatives in the field of transport undertaken by the European Union in 2015.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2016/33

19. Developments related to the work of the International Transport Forum

The Committee will be **informed** by a representative of the International Transport Forum about the latest developments in the work of the Forum.

20. Activities of other organizations of interest to the Committee

The Committee may wish to be **informed** by representatives from other organizations about their recent activities of interest to the Committee.

VI. Miscellaneous

21. Any other business

(a) Issues relating to the servicing of meetings and availability of documents by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies

The Committee will be **informed** by the secretariat about issues encountered in the servicing of meetings and the translations of documents and reports. The Committee may wish to take note of this information and advise the secretariat accordingly.

(b) Date of next session

The Committee may **note** that its seventy-ninth session is tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva from 21 to 24 February 2017.

VII. List of decisions

22. Adoption of the list of main decisions of the seventy-eighth session

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

VIII. Tentative timetable

Tuesday, 23 February	11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Items 1,2
	2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Items 2 (cont'd)
Wednesday, 24 February	10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Item 3 (restricted session)
	11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.	Item 4
	3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	Items 4 (cont'd), 5
Thursday, 25 February	10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	Items 5 (cont'd), 6–11
	3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	Items 12–21
Friday, 26 February	10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	Item 22
