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### Economic Commission for Europe

#### Inland Transport Committee

##### **Eighty-first session**

Geneva, 19-22 February 2019

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**Results of the meetings of the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee**

### **Results of the meetings of the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee in 2018**

#### **Note by the secretariat**

##### *Summary*

This document contains the results of the meetings held by the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee in 2018.

The Committee is invited to **consider** document ECE/TRANS/2019/22 and refer to the decisions of the Bureau under the relevant items of its agenda.

## Introduction

1. In accordance with the decisions of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC or the Committee) (ECE/TRANS/125, paras. 14 and 15 and ECE/TRANS/274, para. 130), the Bureau of the ITC met on 23 February, 16 April, 5 June, and 29-30 November 2018.
2. In accordance with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) plan of action, the Bureau fulfils the following functions related to the organization of the annual sessions of the Committee:
  - (a) the preparation of a well-focused agenda with defined objectives and allocated times for the items;
  - (b) the indication of main topics where decisions are needed;
  - (c) the selection of themes of discussion for the session;
  - (d) the monitoring and evaluation of the work since the previous session;
  - (e) the monitoring and coordination of activities in order to avoid duplication with the work of other relevant organizations;
  - (f) and the proposal of priorities in the programme of work, listing, where possible, various options (E/ECE/1347, chapter III, A, 2 (b)).
3. The annexes present the results of the meetings of the Bureau for consideration by the Committee, in line with the mandate of its Bureau.

## Annex I

### **Results of the first meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (23 February 2018)**

#### **I. Attendance**

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Elena Dumitru (Romania),<sup>1</sup> Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), Ms. Carmen Giron (Spain), Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan), Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine) and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Ms. Ingeborg Annette Dettbarn (Germany) and Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland) were unable to attend.

#### **II. Matters arising from the eightieth session of the Inland Transport Committee**

2. The Bureau expressed its satisfaction for the excellent organization of the eightieth session of the Committee, in particular, the high-level policy segment on “Intermodality: The key to sustainable transport and mobility” that attracted Ministers and Vice-Ministers from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East, alongside heads of key transport stakeholders. Overall more than 250 high level participants from 63 countries, including 27 non-ECE member States, and numerous major transport stakeholders attended the meeting. The high-level of attendance and the senior level of representatives led to the adoption by the Committee of several important decisions on 23 February 2018. The Bureau welcomed the timely preparation and dissemination before the annual session of the official documents and their translation, as well as of a streamlined draft list of main decisions in all three ECE official languages and thanked the secretariat for having delivered such a successful event.

3. The Bureau concluded that the eightieth annual session greatly contributed to raise the visibility of the Committee, link it to the top levels of transport decisions makers and strengthen its position within a strategically versatile and fast-changing environment, especially in light of its decisions on the further development, finalization and eventually, adoption of the ITC strategy until 2030 (and beyond).

4. The Bureau welcomed the results of the eighth meeting of the Chairs of the Committee’s subsidiary bodies that was held as a restricted meeting for Government delegates only. In total 111 representatives from 52 countries, including 18 non-ECE member States and 23 Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Working Parties and Administrative Committees participated.

5. The Bureau welcomed the active participation of ECE and non-ECE member States and other stakeholders at the various agenda items and supported the continuation of this trend in the future, with the expectation that the focus should be on interventions by governments with improved time management to create the necessary time.

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<sup>1</sup> On behalf of Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore who was unable to attend.

6. The Bureau decided that its extraordinary meeting would be convened in the second half of April, to allow adequate time for the secretariat to conduct its internal review of the discussion paper and further refine it based on the Committee's deliberations but also following an internal review, within the Division and with ECE senior management in order to build internal consensus. In terms of the timeline, the Bureau noted that the secretariat would need about a month to:

- (a) Summarize the discussion of the restricted session and make the necessary analysis;
- (b) Discuss with Division staff to build consensus;
- (c) Consult ECE top management.

7. Because of the tight schedule and to strengthen the transparency of the process, the Director offered that steps (a) and (b) could be opened to the Bureau members.

8. The Bureau agreed that the original ITC discussion paper would be a good basis for discussion but would need "re-engineering" internally by the secretariat. The Bureau thanked the Director for the invitation to the Bureau members to join the internal deliberations and for the openness, as these are not two separate processes and would facilitate bringing everybody onboard. Various ideas on the modalities and timing of engaging the Working Parties were discussed, to be decided at the April session.

9. It was agreed that the extraordinary April meeting of the Bureau would focus on the strategy. The June meeting of the Bureau would consider the traditional topics for the preparation of next year's meeting. Potential themes for the policy segment were not discussed during the Bureau meeting.

10. The Bureau welcomed its newly elected members and congratulated its new Chair, Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) for his election. The Bureau welcomed Mr. Yuwei Li, the new Director of the Sustainable Transport Division, who officially assumed his duties on 5 February 2018, and expressed its readiness to contribute actively to the success of his work. The Bureau noted with regret the news about the retirement from the Bureau of one of its longest serving members, Ms. Isabelle Paillet (France) and expressed its gratitude for her significant contribution and consistent support to the work of the Committee and various of its subsidiary bodies over the years.

### **III. Date of next meeting**

11. The Bureau agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday, 16 April 2018 starting at 10 a.m. in Salle VIII.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Ex post note from the secretariat.*

## Annex II

### Results of the second (extraordinary) meeting of the 2018-2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (16 April 2018)

#### I. Attendance and adoption of the agenda

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Mr. Dominik Schmalen (Germany),<sup>1</sup> Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore (Romania), Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan), Mr. Mykhailo Harmash (Ukraine)<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), Ms. Carmen Giron (Spain), and Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland) were unable to attend.

2. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2018/3. The Bureau also adopted the draft report of its February meeting (TRANS/BUR.2018/2).

#### Documentation

TRANS/BUR.2018/2, TRANS/BUR.2018/3

#### II. Discussion on the Inland Transport Committee Strategy until 2030

3. The Bureau considered informal documents under this agenda items 6 and agreed to forward comments to the secretariat on Informal documents Nos. 1-6 within a week.

4. The Bureau considered more extensively Informal documents. 5 and 6.

5. The Bureau welcomed progress in the preparation of the strategy and requested the secretariat to revise Informal document No. 5, for further discussion and, hopefully finalization at the June meeting of the Bureau, in line with the discussions during the Bureau meeting and keeping the following in mind:

- Servicing of the regulatory functions of the Committee is the highest priority and should be reflected in the document.
  - Develop an options paper on global membership.
- (a) In Part I:
- Opportunities to start with bullet point on accessions to legal instruments.
  - The discussion of initiatives should offer a balanced view of initiatives in ECE and other regions.
  - Climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and environmental impact to be assigned more prominence.
  - The Vision is adopted as in the existing document; mandates to be limited to the Ministerial resolution.

<sup>1</sup> On behalf of Ms. Ingeborg Annette Dettbarn who was unable to attend.

<sup>2</sup> On behalf of Mr. Roman Symonenko who was unable to attend.

- Once the revised document is circulated, Bureau members are encouraged to share comments in writing before the June Bureau meeting to facilitated/accelerate discussions on the ITC strategy.
- (b) In Part II
- The “centre for initiatives” to be more specific with more information. Word “initiatives” to be replaced, potentially by “Policy dialogues” or “forum”.
  - In the order of the four Centres, first will come the centre for conventions, followed by the centre for new technologies and innovation, followed by the centre for “initiatives” and then the centre for connectivity. The order to be maintained throughout the document.
6. On the list of priorities: Add a column on indicative budget (RB or XB? Ways to manage; Partnerships, etc.); rephrase third column to also reflect priority “actions”); add box on servicing legal instruments under centre for conventions. List specific activities under green transport and mobility.
7. Before the reference to “UN specialized agency”, add text “continues to function as a”.
8. Add a separate box (in brackets) on road safety, given the enhanced role of the Committee (Special Envoy, RS trust fund) to show the future role of ITC in the decade and post-decade of action period.
9. Clarify the section on resource mobilization, including by rephrasing the “common fund” and clarifying regular budget and XB budget tasks.
10. Link resource mobilization to the table of priorities.
11. Add in specialized agencies WHO and ILO.
12. Add list of abbreviations as annex.
13. On Informal document No. 6 containing the proposed decision path and indicative timeline of the development of the new strategy, the Bureau requested that the period of informal consultations with EXCOM to be reduced to 2 months.

#### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 1, Informal document No. 2, Informal document No. 3, Informal document No. 4, Informal document No. 5 (Draft ITC Strategy until 2030), Informal Document No. 6 (Indicative timeline and decision path of the Strategy)

### **III. Other business and Date of next meeting**

14. The Bureau welcomed the update of the Director of the Sustainable Transport Division on:
- the adoption on 12 April 2018 of the UN GA Resolution 72/271 on Road Safety;
  - the launch of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund;
  - UN Transport;
  - Sustainable Mobility for All (SuM4All);
  - Recent visits of non-ECE countries for possible accession to United Nations legal instruments.
15. The Bureau confirmed that its next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 5 June 2018 starting at 10 a.m. in Salle XXVII.

## Annex III

### **Results of the third meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (5 June 2018)**

#### **I. Attendance and adoption of the agenda**

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Ms. Ingeborg Annette Dettbarn (Germany), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Carmen Giron (Spain), Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland), Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation), Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine) and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore (Romania) and Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan) were unable to attend.

2. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2018/5.

##### **Documentation**

TRANS/BUR.2018/5

#### **II. Adoption of the report of the previous Bureau meeting**

3. The Bureau adopted the report of meeting held on 16 April 2018, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2018/4.

##### **Documentation**

TRANS/BUR.2018/4

#### **III. Meeting of the ITC Chair with the Executive Committee**

4. The ITC Chair gave detailed information about his participation at the ninety-eighth meeting of EXCOM on 18 May 2018. The Bureau welcomed the update of its Chair on his presentation at EXCOM and the outcome and decisions of that meeting approving the ITC biennial budget and extension of the mandates of three of its Groups of Experts.

##### **Documentation**

ITC Chair report to EXCOM and powerpoint presentation

#### **IV. Discussion on the Inland Transport Committee Strategy until 2030**

5. The Bureau considered the draft ITC strategy until 2030 (Informal document No. 1) that had been revised by the secretariat based on the conclusions of the Bureau's extraordinary April meeting.

6. The Bureau:

(a) Discussed in detail the content of the ITC strategy and requested the secretariat to circulate the strategy document (Informal document No. 1), as modified during the discussions, to the Bureau members. Bureau members should send their comments within a week, following which the secretariat is expected to finalize the consolidated version and circulate it for consultations, as per the timeline and decision path in Informal document No. 3.

(b) Discussed the use of the terms “global” and “international” as the best term to include in the ITC strategy, next to “regional”, to better describe the Committee’s vision and mission. Tentatively recommended to circulate the ITC strategy with both terms in square brackets.

(c) Emphasized the importance of consulting the strategy with Working Parties. In this regard, requested that the discussion of the ITC strategy become part of the agendas of the meetings of the Working Parties until the end of the year and that the draft strategy document be circulated accordingly to facilitate the consultations.

7. The Bureau also considered Informal document No. 2 on options for the proposed global membership of the Committee that were developed by the secretariat at the request of the Bureau (TRANS/BUR.2018/4, para 5). Informal document No. 2 also contained as an Annex proposed revised Terms of Reference for the Committee.

8. The Bureau discussed the paper containing options on the global membership of the Committee and the draft ToR and decided that it was useful in the consideration of the overall ITC strategy and should therefore be developed further for the Bureau to decide on the option(s), which will be sent to ITC for consideration/decision. In particular, the following areas should be developed further:

(a) Clarify the objective - being comparable to IMO, ICAO -and, in this prospective, to open up not only the conventions globally, but also ITC as such;

(b) Reduce options. Variants of options 2, 3 and 4 received support from some Bureau members. Those options should be accompanied with analysis of advantages and disadvantages;

(c) Examine the experience of other parts of ECE (e.g. CEP/Environment Division) and other regional commissions, if relevant;

(d) Further develop regional and global aspects of the work.

9. The Bureau further decided that parts I-V of the document should be revised according to the feedback of the Bureau, in order to be reconsidered by the Bureau at its November 2018 session.

10. The Bureau requested the secretariat to leave in brackets clause (b) from the draft ToRs and attach them as an annex to the Draft Strategy. Bureau members were requested to send their feedback to the secretariat within a week.

11. Finally, the Bureau considered Informal document No. 3 containing the revised decision path and indicative timeline of the development of the new strategy and decided to support the decision path, consultation process and timeline included in the document and requested the secretariat to follow up accordingly.

### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 1, Informal document No. 2, Informal document No. 3

## **V. Preparing for the eighty-first session of the Inland Transport Committee**

12. The Bureau discussed the preparations of the eighty-first session of the Committee, on the basis of the draft provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat (Informal document No. 4), and the secretariat's proposals on the possible themes for the high-level policy level segment (Informal document No. 5).

13. On the restricted segment, the Bureau decided that Section II, should be renamed to: "Ninth Meeting for Government Delegates only with the Participation of the Chairs of the Committee's Subsidiary Bodies". The annotations to the agenda should make it clear that the topic of discussion would be on the strategy and that it is Governments deciding. The adoption of the strategy could be associated with an ITC resolution that would add more gravitas and political weight to the important accomplishment.

14. The Bureau decided that Section V "Partnerships and Activities of other organizations of interest to the Committee" of the draft provisional ITC agenda should be moved higher to the agenda, preferably under the horizontal/thematic segment (section III.4).

15. On the policy segment (Informal document No. 5) the Bureau opted for option (b) "Automation of Transport", noting however that it should also cover topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals and road safety and that it would cover also intermodal/multimodal topics, i.e. not focus exclusively on road transport and vehicles. On the duration of the policy segment, the Bureau decided that it should be organized within half day and then be followed by the restricted session.

### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 4, Informal document No. 5

## **VI. Topics of strategic nature**

### **A. Interregional Coordinating Committee on Transport between Europe and Asia**

16. The Bureau considered Informal document No. 6 on the Inter-regional Coordinating Committee on Transport between Europe and Asia (ICCTEA) proposed by ESCAP, in line with the decisions of the Committee at its eightieth annual session (ECE/TRANS/274, paras 43 and 115). The Bureau took note of the secretariat's note and expressed some concerns on the possible enhancement of WP.5, noting its preference to wait for the outcome and the conclusions of the EATL conference in September. The Bureau noted the ITC decision contained in ECE/TRANS/274, para. 42, on further implementation of EATL. On this basis, the Bureau decided that more time and information would be needed to reach a decision on its position on the proposal of ESCAP on ICCTAE.

### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 6

### **B. Update on the United Nations Management Reform**

17. In light of recent management reforms proposed by the Secretary-General and adopted by the General Assembly, the Committee at its eightieth annual session requested the secretariat to monitor closely the forthcoming changes to the programmatic framework, to

ensure timely and coherent adaptation of current methods of work, thus minimizing risks for disruption to the work of the Committee and its Working Parties (ECE/TRANS/274, para. 125). The Bureau was updated by the secretariat on the latest information concerning the three-year programme plan and annual budget that are under development.

18. The Bureau took note of the information provided by the secretariat on the UN management reform and in particular the implications on the development of the annual programme of work, containing the deliverables of the Committee within the new Results Based Framework.

19. The Bureau also took note of the development of nexus areas, i.e. horizontal coordination workstreams in ECE, as part of aligning the work of ECE and the Sustainable Development Goals.

## **VII. Other business**

### **A. Migration of Bureau website**

20. The Bureau took note that as part of the overall migration of the ECE website scheduled for the second half of 2018, the restricted Bureau website would be moved to the Confluence platform and that the secretariat would provide the Bureau members with the key parameters of the new site, including login credentials and access codes in a timely way.

### **B. Date of next meeting**

21. The Bureau decided that its next meeting would be held on Wednesday and Thursday, 29 and 30 November 2018.

## Annex IV

### **Results of the fourth meeting of the 2018–2019 Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee (29 and 30 November 2018)**

#### **I. Attendance and adoption of the agenda**

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kristof Schockaert (Belgium) and was attended by the following members: Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck (France), Ms Yasmin Sadeghi<sup>1</sup> (Germany), Mr. Antonio Erario (Italy), Mr. Hans G. Scholten (the Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Kleniewski (Poland), Ms. Maria Magdalena Grigore (Romania), Mr. Jean-Claude Schneuwly (Switzerland), Mr. Sergey Andreev (Russian Federation) and Mr. Stefano Paci (European Commission). Mr. Ravil Isgandarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Sergei Dubina (Belarus), Ms. Carmen Giron (Spain), Mr. Atageldi Haljanov (Turkmenistan) and Mr. Roman Symonenko (Ukraine) were unable to attend.

2. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2018/7.

##### **Documentation**

TRANS/BUR.2018/7

#### **II. Adoption of the report of the previous Bureau meeting**

3. The Bureau adopted the report of its June meeting, as contained in TRANS/BUR.2018/6.

##### **Documentation**

TRANS/BUR.2018/6

#### **III. ITC Strategy 2030 (Ninth Meeting for Government Delegates only with the Participation of the Chairs of the Committee's Subsidiary Bodies)**

4. In line with the decisions of the June meeting of the Bureau, and following waves of consultations with Governments and Chairs/Working Parties, the members of the Bureau had the opportunity to review Draft 2 of the ITC strategy 2030 (Informal document No. 1) and the comments received (Informal document No. 2). The Bureau discussed extensively the comments from Governments, as contained in the main text of draft 2 of the ITC strategy, and Working Parties, as contained in annex X of Draft 2 of the ITC strategy.

5. The Bureau reached consensus among its members on their respective positions, as reflected in Draft 3 of the ITC strategy and asked the secretariat to clean up the document and to circulate by Monday, 3 December 2018 cob to the Bureau members who should send comments by Wednesday, 5 December 2018 cob.

6. The Bureau took note of the deadlines for the timely submission of the strategy as an official document to ITC for its consideration and decision.

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<sup>1</sup> Replacing Ms. Ingeborg Annette Dettbarn.

7. The Bureau decided to convene a meeting, chaired by the ITC Chair, in Geneva – clearly indicating in the invitation that the purpose of the meeting would be mainly for information on the result of the consultations that led to the development of the revised strategy - with interested ECE member States on 17 December from 10.00-13.00 or, if possible, from 15-18.00, and requested the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements and send out invitations to ECE permanent missions, together with draft 3 of the ITC strategy. The secretariat would provide information on alternative possibilities for convening the meeting, as proposed above, by 5 December 2018.

8. The Bureau decided that, consistent with the practices of previous years, the final version of the draft ITC strategy, should be circulated to registered representatives participating at the ITC restricted session, to facilitate discussions.

9. The Bureau further decided to recommend to ITC that the ITC strategy (ECE/TRANS/2019/R.1) should be annexed to the report of the Committee, once adopted, and thus become publicly available.

10. In line with the decisions of its June meeting, the Bureau reflected on Informal document No. 3 on a further developed paper with options for the proposed global membership of the Committee and its proposed revised ToR. The Bureau considered Informal document No. 3 on options for global participation and related considerations and decided to recommend to the Committee for its draft revised ToR, the membership option that reflects the hybrid option on the basis of legal instruments to which of non-ECE Member States are contracting parties (Option 3.2).

11. The Bureau agreed to integrate this option in the draft revised ToRs of the Committee, as contained in annex IX of ECE/TRANS/2019/R.1.

12. On the decision path concerning the adoption of the ITC strategy and revised ToRs the Bureau agreed to proceed as follows:

- ITC will decide on the adoption of its strategy.
- ITC will decide on the adoption of its revised TORs and subsequently submit them for endorsement by the Commission (ECE) at its 68th session in April 2019. The Commission's report to ECOSOC should include information on the adoption the new ToRs of the Committee.

#### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 1, Informal document No. 2, Informal document No. 3

## **IV. Consideration of the agenda of the eighty-first session of the Inland Transport Committee**

13. The Bureau considered and approved the provisional agenda of the eighty-first session of the Committee and reviewed the draft annotated agenda (draft ECE/TRANS/287 and Add.1). The Bureau requested the secretariat to proceed with the organization of the eighty-first session of the Committee and its related events accordingly.

#### **Documentation**

Draft ECE/TRANS/287 and Add.1

## **A. High-level policy segment and draft resolution/declaration**

14. The Bureau discussed the preparation of the high-level policy segment of the eighty-first session of the Committee, on the basis of the draft concept note prepared by the secretariat (Informal document No. 4). The Bureau noted that the eighty-first annual session of ITC in 2019 is expected to mark a milestone in its history with the expected adoption of its strategy until 2030. In line with the conclusions of the June meeting of the Bureau, to mark the event and as a complement to the anticipated high-level participation of ECE and non-ECE governments and key transport stakeholders, the Bureau considered a draft resolution/declaration that could be adopted/signed at the end of the policy segment of the annual session (Informal document No. 5).

15. The Bureau supported the following contents: the proposed organization of the high-level policy segment and related side events. On side event 2 (“Digitalization and e-Documents”) the Bureau strongly supported the idea of expanding this session to include also topics related to eCMR, not only eTIR.

16. The Bureau noted that it is expected that in the panels, only Ministers/Deputy Ministers and heads of organizations/institutions/leading industries will be included. The Bureau also noted that, as in previous years, there will be possibilities to speak from the floor for other participants through scheduled interventions.

17. The Bureau also noted that due to the expected high level of attendance both in seniority and in numbers, it would be advisable to maintain flexibility on the length of the high-level policy segment, beyond the originally allocated half day, as per Bureau decisions in June 2018.

18. On the draft resolution (Informal document No. 5), the Bureau noted that it builds on two central themes of the 2017 ministerial resolution: automation and digitalization and offers broad political support for the future. It also raises the profile of the policy segment.

19. The Bureau decided that, for the consultation process of the draft resolution, to circulate the draft in early December for written consultations, after a period of comments by Bureau members that should be submitted to the secretariat not later than Friday, 7 December 2018.

20. Finally, the Bureau decided that the resolution should be adopted (not signed) and be open for adoption by all participating contracting parties.

### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 4, Informal document No. 5

## **B. Programmatic documents for ITC consideration: New one-year Programme Plan for 2020**

21. The Bureau took note of the two new programmatic documents (framework and supplement) that form Part II of the new one-year programme plan for the year 2020 of the transport subprogramme.

### **Documentation**

Informal document No. 6, Informal document No. 7

## **C. Publications Programme for 2020**

22. The secretariat informed the Bureau about the publications programme for 2020 (Informal document No. 8).

**Documentation**

Informal document No. 8

**D. Other items of the agenda for the consideration of the Bureau**

23. The Bureau reviewed and reflected on the remaining items of the draft provisional agenda and annotations of the eighty-first session of the Committee (draft ECE/TRANS/287 and Add.1).

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/287 and Add.1

**V. Topics of strategic nature**

**A. Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) Project: Beyond Phase III**

24. The Bureau took note of the information provided on the completion of Phase III of the EATL project and the related international conference on “Making Euro-Asian Transport Corridors Operational” that took place in Geneva, 3 September 2018. The Bureau was also informed about the plans to finalize the hard-copy publication in time for the ITC eighty-first annual session.

**B. Interregional Coordinating Committee on Transport between Europe and Asia**

25. The Bureau continued the discussion with regard to the proposed Inter-regional Coordinating Committee on Transport between Europe and Asia (ICCTEA) with further information (Informal document No. 9). The Bureau discussed its position on ICCTEA taking into account the outcome and conclusions of the EATL international conference on “Making Euro-Asian Transport Corridors Operational” (Geneva, 3 September 2018) and the recommendations from the final EATL phase, as well as the further review by the secretariat.

26. The Bureau took note of the information provided by the secretariat, including the probable duplication and overlapping and potential implications of resources. The Bureau also took note of the proposal of the secretariat to enlarge membership of WP.5 as an alternative to ICCTAE.

27. The Bureau requested the secretariat to discuss the collection of more information and explore different options with the ESCAP secretariat and then to report back to the Committee on these issues.

**Documentation**

Informal document No. 9

**C. United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund: Latest developments**

28. The Bureau was informed about the Fund’s Global Framework Plan of Action for Road Safety adopted in November 2018, which provides an example of the global importance of ITC and the ways that the ITC strategy can contribute to improving global road safety.

**D. United Nations Management Reform: Updates and related adjustments for the transport subprogramme**

29. As a follow-up to the detailed presentation by the secretariat at the Bureau's June 2018 session about ongoing developments in the United Nations Management Reform, the Bureau took note of the most recent developments in the reform.

**VI. Other business****A. Other matters of interest**

30. The Director of the Sustainable Transport Division updated the Bureau members about the promotion of Mr. K. Alexopoulos as a Section Chief and re-structuring of the Division.

**B. Date of next meeting**

31. The Bureau took note that its next meeting will take place on Monday, 18 February 2019, from 3 to 6 p.m. in room VII. The Bureau also took note that its meeting following the eighty-first session of the Committee will be held on 22 February 2019, from 3 to 6 p.m. in room XVII.

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