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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

160th session

Geneva, 8, 9 and 10 June 2022

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies
and other United Nations organizations of interest to the Working Party**

Alignment of the work of the Working Party with the Inland Transport Committee Strategy

In Annex, the secretariat retransmit a joint letter by the Chair of the Inland Transport Committee and the Director of the Sustainable Transport Division to the Chairs of Working Parties and Administrative Committees.



Ref.: UNECE / 2022 / TRANS / 18

3 May 2022

Dear Chairs of the Working Parties and Administrative Committees,

We are pleased to send this joint letter following the Inland Transport Committee's (ITC) special session (Geneva, 29 April 2022), which was organized to complete the election of the ITC Chair, Vice-Chairs and Bureau members. This decision was adjourned at the 84th session of ITC in February 2022. The purpose of our joint letter is to invite your support and contribution to key decisions of the ITC of relevance to your Working Party, as detailed below.

1. Following the endorsement by ECOSOC of the revised ITC Terms of Reference on 16 February 2022 (E/RES/2022/2), the ITC Rules of Procedure, as contained in ECE/TRANS/294, annex III, also entered into force. As a result, we would like to encourage you to consider, as relevant and appropriate, the Committee's invitation to those of its Working Parties that have not adopted their own RoP to inform ITC about their plans to align themselves with those of the Committee, or the compelling reasons that might necessitate following ECE RoP, or developing their own (ECE/TRANS/294, para 18). Please send your response and address any questions you may have to Mr. George Georgiadis (george.georgiadis@un.org) by **Friday 21 October 2022**.
2. The Committee requested the secretariat to continue monitoring the implementation of the Strategy in collaboration with the Bureau and the Working Parties and to report on progress made at the eighty-fifth session in February 2023. Moreover, should it be necessary, to make adjustments to the implementation steps, such should be proposed and send together with the updates. Further to the Committee's decision, as reflected above, we would like to invite you to continue leading the implementation of the next steps in the implementation of the ITC Strategy as relevant for your Working Party or Administrative Committee. We would also like to invite you to provide updates to the implementation status of the ITC Strategy by providing necessary additions and changes to the status column in ECE/TRANS/2022/3 and send it to Mr. Lukasz Wyrowski (Lukasz.wyrowski@un.org) by **Friday 20 May 2022** to reflect progress made since the previous reporting in October 2021. We also invite you to report further progress by **Friday 21 October 2022**. Your progress reports will be consolidated and provided to and discussed at the meetings of the Committee's Bureau which are expected to take place in June and November 2022.

3. Noting the completion of the ECE Road Safety Action Plan in 2020, following the end of the first Decade of Action for Road Safety, the Committee requested the secretariat to develop a revised ECE Road Safety Action Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030, for consideration and possible adoption by the Committee at its eighty-fifth session. Please send your inputs to Mr. Walter Nissler (walter.nissler@un.org) **by Friday 21 October 2022.**
4. The Committee requested the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the Bureau, to prepare for the next Committee session an overview of current activities in the field of information and computerization technologies and intelligent transport systems carried out by Working Parties of ITC and link it, where appropriate, with the 70th ECE central theme in 2023 which will be on “Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the UNECE region”. Please send your contributions to Mr. Walter Nissler (walter.nissler@un.org) **by Friday 21 October 2022.**
5. Noting the critical role of inland transport in accelerating climate change mitigation worldwide the Committee has the mandates, capacity and expertise to further enhance this critical role. The Committee therefore requested the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to prepare a comprehensive paper with these activities and action-oriented options for the Committee and its Working Parties for consideration at the Committee’s eighty-fifth plenary session. We would welcome your contributions for the implementation of this very important decision and would invite you to send your contribution to Mr. Yuwei Li, Director of the Sustainable Transport Division (liy@un.org), cc to Mr. Francesco Dionori (francesco.dionori@un.org) and Mr. George Georgiadis (george.georgiadis@un.org), **by Friday 24 September 2022.**

The secretariat is at your disposal to assist in this work. In case you have questions or need clarification, you may contact your Working Party or Administrative Committee Secretariat or the ITC Secretariat.

We look forward to your Working Party’s support in the accelerated evolution of the Inland Transport Committee, especially following the endorsement of its revised Terms of Reference by ECOSOC, at a time of unique opportunities and critical needs regionally and globally for a robust role for ITC and its Working Parties. We thank you for your continuous support in this important work.

Yours sincerely,



Hannie Meesters
Chair
Inland Transport Committee



Yuwei Li
Director
Sustainable Transport Division