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**Economic Commission for Europe****Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics****Sixty-fifth session**

Geneva, 19–21 October 2022

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda****Annotated provisional agenda for the sixty-fifth session\* \*\***

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 19 October 2022  
one of the session's workshop running on Monday, 17 October 2022 between 10 a.m.  
and 1 p.m.

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Session's workshops.
  - (a) National experience and challenges faced with intermodal transport document digitalization.
  - (b) Automation in freight transport and logistics.
3. European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations.
  - (a) Status of the Agreement.
  - (b) Amendment proposals.

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\* For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Sustainable Transport Division's website <https://unece.org/info/Transport/Intermodal-Transport/events/368951>. On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail ([wp.24@unece.org](mailto:wp.24@unece.org)). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

\*\* Delegates are requested to register online at the following address:  
<https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=AyK2gm>.  
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 (+41 22 917 2432) or by e-mail ([wp.24@unece.org](mailto:wp.24@unece.org)). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website [www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm).

- (c) Implementation of the Agreement.
  - (d) Core networks.
- 4. Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations.
  - (a) Status of the Protocol.
  - (b) Amendment proposals.
  - (c) Implementation of the Protocol.
- 5. Policies and measures in support of intermodal transport.
  - (a) Measures to promote efficiency of intermodal transport and bottlenecks in intermodal transport services at the pan-European level.
  - (b) National policy measures to promote intermodal transport.
- 6. Emerging issues in freight transport and logistics.
  - (a) Issues, trends and performance in the industry.
  - (b) Pan-European developments in policies.
  - (c) Annual themes on Intermodal Transport and Logistics.
- 7. Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units.
- 8. Activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies.
- 9. Election of officers for 2023–2024.
- 10. Other Business.
- 11. Date and venue of next session.
- 12. Summary of decisions.

## II. Annotations

### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) is invited to adopt the agenda for its sixty-fifth session.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/150

### 2. Session's workshops

#### (a) National experience and challenges faced with intermodal transport document digitalization

At its last session, WP.24 agreed it required more in-depth insight on the issues and challenges faced with document digitalization in intermodal transport. It therefore agreed to hold a workshop during the current annual session whose aim will be to share experience and challenges faced with document digitalization for intermodal transport. Such should be discussed at both national as well as international levels. Informal document No.1 contains background information and programme for the workshop.

#### (b) Automation in freight transport and logistics

WP.24 agreed to hold a workshop on automation in freight transport and logistics during which experience, good practice and innovation in freight transport and logistics should be shared and which could offer a forum for discussion whether a handbook on the automation in the sector be produced under its auspices. Informal document No.2 contains background information and programme for this workshop.

#### Documentation

Informal document No.1, Informal document No.2

### 3. European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations

#### (a) Status of the Agreement

The European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC), at the time of preparation of this agenda, had 33 Contracting Parties<sup>1</sup>. Detailed information on the AGTC is available at [www.unece.org/trans/wp24/welcome.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/wp24/welcome.html). With reference to the Inland Transport Committee's (ITC) adopted resolution for strengthening the intermodal freight transport, which among others invites further accession to the AGTC, WP.24 may wish to consider ways for promoting these further accessions.

WP.24 had initiated a process at its sixty-second session aimed at the clarification of issues and inconsistencies identified by the secretariat in preparation of a new consolidated version of the AGTC (inconsistencies between adopted amendment proposals and the consolidated text and inconsistencies arising from the adopted amendment proposals). In this process, WP.24 at its last session requested the secretariat to continue the clarification process on issues that remain pending. The secretariat was also requested to get in contact with Contracting Parties and at the same time European Union (EU) member States to explore if differences established between AGTC and the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) for railway lines and related installations require updates to the AGTC through

<sup>1</sup> Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkiye, Turkmenistan and Ukraine.

relevant amendment procedure. The secretariat will inform WP.24 on progress made in clarifying the remaining issues. The secretariat will also present ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/1 which contains a draft consolidated text of the AGTC which incorporates amendments adopted to date.

**(b) Amendment proposals**

The secretariat will inform WP.24 about the status of amendment proposals adopted by WP.24 at its sixty-fourth session on 21 October 2021 as contained in Annex 1 of ECE/TRANS/WP.24/149.

WP.24 will be then invited to consider ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/2 which contains amendment proposals submitted by Lithuania to the Annex I and Annex II of the AGTC.

**(c) Implementation of the Agreement**

WP.24 agreed at its previous session to establish a monitoring mechanism for the AGTC lines and related installation vis-à-vis their technical parameters by creating the AGTC inventory in Geographic Information System (GIS) environment. The mechanism should possibly be fully established before the sixty-sixth session in 2023 during which time data should be pooled into the GIS environment from other existing databases or submitted directly and validated by the Contracting Parties. The secretariat will report on the progress achieved in the establishment of the monitoring mechanism at the time of the current session.

WP.24 further agreed to explore availability of data in the Contracting Parties for measuring the performance targets referred to in the AGTC, to which end it requested the secretariat to disseminate a survey to the Contracting Parties as well as research availability of data through other fora or industry associations. The secretariat will present ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/3, which contains the results of the survey and the research undertaken.

WP.24 also expressed interest to be informed about the results of the TEN-T regulation revision process. To this end, the representative of the European Union will be invited to inform WP.24 about it.

**(d) Core networks**

WP.24 requested the secretariat at the last session to contact Contracting Parties to the AGTC in order to request them to identify a line or lines crossing through their territories, which possibly should be given a status of a core line on which special procedure would be used in case of emergency. The secretariat will present ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/4 which contains suggestions received for core lines and special procedures.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/1, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/2, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/3, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/4

## **4. Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations**

**(a) Status of the Protocol**

The Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the AGTC (AGTC Protocol), at the time of preparation of this agenda, had nine Contracting Parties<sup>2</sup>. Detailed information on the AGTC Protocol is available at [www.unece.org/trans/wp24/welcome.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/wp24/welcome.html).

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<sup>2</sup> Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Romania, Serbia and Switzerland.

**(b) Amendment proposals**

WP.24 took note at its sixty-second session of additional differences between the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN) and the AGTC Protocol regarding European inland waterways and ports included in both instruments. WP.24 further invited Contracting Parties to the AGTC Protocol to consider submission of an official amendment proposal to aligning the text of the AGTC Protocol to the AGN. At the time of a preparation of this provisional agenda no submission was received by the secretariat.

**(c) Implementation of the Protocol**

WP.24 recognized at its previous session the growing misalignment between the AGTC Protocol and the AGN. To this end, it invited the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) to hold a joint conference to consider solutions to the misalignment challenge. With the acceptance of this proposal by SC.3, a joint workshop on container transport on inland waterways and a roundtable on the promotion of the AGTC Protocol was scheduled to take place back-to-back with the sixty-sixth session of SC.3 on 12 October 2022.

SC.3 requested that the following documents are prepared for its sixty-sixth session: a note which presents existing misalignments between the AGTC Protocol and AGN, a draft road map for accession to the AGTC Protocol and a draft ITC resolution on facilitating the development of container transport/containerization on inland waterways and integrating inland water transport into intermodal transport and logistics chains. ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/1- ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/14, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/2-ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/15 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/3-ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/16 constitute these documents.

WP.24 will be invited to reflect on the outcomes of the workshop and the roundtable.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/1-ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/14,  
ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/2-ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/15 and  
ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/3-ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/16

**5. Policies and measures in support of intermodal transport****(a) Measures to promote efficiency of intermodal transport and bottlenecks in intermodal transport services at the pan-European level**

Within this item, WP.24 may wish to continue its deliberations concerning issues such as (i) Intermodal issues along Euro-Asian Transport Links, (ii) Intelligent transport systems and technological developments, (iii) Intermodal transport terminals and (iv) Intermodal transport and the TIR Convention.

**(i) Intermodal issues along Euro-Asian Transport Links**

At its sixty-fourth session, WP.24 was briefed by the secretary to the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) on interest expressed by the Governments of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Türkiye, Kazakhstan and Ukraine to develop and pilot on Euro-Asian Transport Link (EATL) Route 3 a Corridor Coordination Management Mechanism (CCMM) and a Corridor Performance Review (COPR) Mechanism. In this context, the WP.5 secretary will brief WP.24 on progress achieved with CCMM and COPR on EATL Route 3.

Under this item, the WP.5 secretary will also inform WP.24 about further progress made under the United Nations Development Account's project on developing a set of Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN) and International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO).

**(ii) Intelligent transport systems and technological developments**

At its previous session, taking into account that the ITC-adopted resolution for strengthening the intermodal freight transport encourages WP.24 to help accelerate automation in intermodal transport and to support the transport documents digitalization efforts, and further to information about the ongoing implementation of the European Union Regulation 2020/1056 on electronic freight transport information (eFTI), WP.24 agreed to consider holding a more comprehensive debate about challenges and ideas for solution in the field of transport document digitalization and its underpinning data interoperability. As part of this session, WP.24 holds a workshop on national experience and challenges faced with intermodal transport document digitalization. Taking into account the outcomes of the workshop, WP.24 may agree how to advance its work in transport document digitalization.

WP.24 may also wish to discuss the outcomes of its second workshop on automation in freight transport and logistics and agree on its further activities in this regard.

Finally, further to the adoption by ITC of a Road Map until 2025 on Intelligent Transport System (ITS) and its action 12 on enhancing the modal integrator's role of ITS, WP.24 may wish to request its Chair and the secretariat to report on its activities relevant to the implementation of the Road Map.

(iii) Intermodal transport terminals

WP.24 noted at the last session that location information about the AGTC terminals was to be included in the AGTC inventory. WP.24 may then decide to discontinue maintaining this sub-item separately in the agendas of future meetings.

(iv) Intermodal transport and the TIR Convention

At its previous session, WP.24 considered information on the application of a TIR procedure for intermodal transport. WP.24 also encouraged interested actors performing multimodal transport operations to work with the TIR secretariat should they be interested in conducting pilot projects on the application of TIR system to intermodal transport. In this context, the TIR secretariat will be invited to inform about any further developments on the application of TIR system to intermodal transport.

## **(b) National policy measures to promote intermodal transport**

In accordance with a decision of ITC, WP.24 continues work of the former European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) in: (a) monitoring and analysis of national measures to promote intermodal transport; (b) monitoring enforcement and review of the ECMT Consolidated Resolution on Combined Transport (ECE/TRANS/192, para. 90).

Comparable information for 19 Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States is currently available in English, French and Russian (<http://apps.unece.org/NatPolWP24/>).

At its previous session, WP.24 agreed that reporting on the national policy measures for promoting intermodal transport should be facilitated so that an increased number of countries would report or simply update changes in the measures. In this regard, WP.24 requested the secretariat to explore options for facilitating reporting. The secretariat will present ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/5 which contains such options for WP.24 consideration.

### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/5

## **6. Emerging issues in freight transport and logistics**

### **(a) Issues, trends and performance in the industry**

The ITC-adopted resolution for strengthening the intermodal freight transport calls upon WP.24 to undertake various actions. In addition to the actions already referred under items 3 and 4 related to the AGTC Agreement and the AGTC Protocol, and item 5 (a)(ii) with regard to automation and document digitalization, the resolutions requests WP.24 to work on (i) data interoperability for improved transparency and network integration with the aim of

improving the bundling of services in freight transport, (ii) appropriate targets for the market share of intermodal transport in freight sector and a plan for achieving the targets, and (iii) support to collaborative networks for flexible transport planning processes and integration of modes and for strengthening the voice of the intermodal industry.

In this context, for setting the appropriate targets for intermodal transport, WP.24 requested the secretariat to prepare a document listing the existing shares of intermodal transport per country. To this end, the secretariat will present ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/6 for WP.24 consideration and further action for target setting.

On collaborative networks, WP.24 requested the secretariat to collect information on good practice available in providing support to collaborative networks for flexible transport planning processes, integration of modes and for strengthening the voice of the intermodal industry. ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/7 sets out the information received from ECE countries for consideration by WP.24 and its further action in this regard.

At its last session WP.24 considered recommendations formulated within the work of the Multidisciplinary Advisory Group on Transport Responses to COVID-19 to increase transport system resilience to pandemics. WP.24 welcomed these recommendations and confirmed its interest in working on the implementation of these recommendations, in particular concerning resilience of intermodal transport and logistics. In this context, the WP.5 secretary will provide information on the work undertaken to implement the recommendations.

WP.24 will be then invited to consider any recent activities on intermodal transport and logistics if such are brought to its attention by stakeholders such as the European Commission, international organisations and non-governmental organisations. The secretariat will present a newly set up e-learning platform and a course on the platform for self-learning on how to develop freight transport and logistics in a sustainable way. This course was developed based on the Handbook for national master plans for freight transport and logistics.

Finally, the secretariat will inform about recent developments in transport statistics of relevance to WP.24. Discussion should continue on options for analysing intermodal transport chains to identify links on which more intermodal transport could take place. ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/8 contains examples of possible analysis.

**(b) Pan-European developments in policies**

WP.24 is invited to exchange views on recent developments in pan-European policies for intermodal transport and logistics.

**(c) Annual themes on Intermodal Transport and Logistics**

WP.24 is invited to consider ideas for a theme on which a workshop could be organized in the framework of its sixty-sixth session in 2023. Taking into account, that the ITC-adopted resolution specifies a number of activities for WP.24 to focus on, and pending discussion on the implementation of these activities as referred to in item 6 (a), WP.24 may wish to agree to explore in detail on any of these activities during the 2023 workshop.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/6, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/7, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/8

## **7. Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units**

The secretariat will report on the collection of information on users of the Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code). This information is obtained from the implementation of a registration form for downloading the CTU Code from the UNECE website.

WP.24 will be then invited to consider the results of the pre-work to the Group of Experts on the CTU Code. This pre-work was continued during 2022 in accordance with WP.24 decision

at its previous session (ECE/TRANS/WP.24/149, para 76) and further to the absence of the consideration towards the establishment of the Group of Experts by the Sectoral Advisory Bodies of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and their fourth seating on 13-15 January 2021.

WP.24 will be invited in particular to consider ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/9 which contains the reports of the informal meetings held in 2022. WP.24 will also be informed of proposals for prioritization of specific updates to the CTU Code. ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/10, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/11 and ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/12 contain such proposals.

WP.24 may then wish to agree on the modalities for the continuation of the work undertaken in the informal pre-work on sections of the CTU Code to be prioritized for updates and on the CTU Code mobile application. In doing so, WP.24 should consider the decision cycle of the ILO Sectoral Advisory Bodies.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/9, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/10, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/11, ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/12

## **8. Activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies**

The secretariat will inform WP.24 about the main decisions of the eighty-fourth session of ITC and the 2022 ITC Bureau meeting on issues of its interests to WP.24, in particular ITC decisions related to the WP.24 areas of work, including on the implementation of the ITC Strategy.

Information will be also provided on the letter received by WP.24 Chair from the ITC Chair and the Sustainable Transport Division's Director on the follow-up to the ITC eighty-fourth session. The letter makes a reference to the endorsement by ECOSOC of the revised ITC Terms of Reference on 16 February 2022 (E/RES/2022/2), and following it, the entry into force of ITC Rules of Procedures as contained in ECE/TRANS/294, annex III. Given the fact that WP.24 has not developed its own Rules of Procedure and taking into account Rule 20 of the ITC Rules of Procedure in force, WP.24 shall apply the procedures of the ITC Rules of Procedure unless it decides to develop its own Rules of Procedures, which will govern its sessions once they are adopted by ITC. ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/13 will be presented to facilitate WP.24 discussion on the rules of procedure.

The letter also requests contributions from Working Parties to the elaboration of (i) ECE Road Safety Action Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030 for adoption by ITC at its eighty-fifth session in 2023, (ii) ECE document on the activities in the field of information and computerization technologies and intelligent transport systems, and (iii) ITC paper on climate change mitigation activities and action-oriented options for ITC and its subsidiary bodies. Informal document No.3 will be presented to facilitate WP.24 discussion on these contributions.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2022/13, Informal document No.3

## **9. Election of officers for 2023–2024**

WP.24 is invited to elect a Chair and possibly a Vice-Chair for its sessions in 2023 and 2024.

## **10. Other Business**

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.



**11. Date and venue of next session**

The sixty-sixth session of WP.24 is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva from 18 to 20 October 2023.

**12. Summary of decisions**

WP.24 will be invited to review and adopt the decisions taken at the sixty-fifth session.

### III. Tentative timetable

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Monday 17 October	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Items 2
Wednesday 19 October	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Items 1-2
Thursday 20 October	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Items 3-4
	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Item 5
Friday 21 October	9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Item 6-7
	2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Items 8-12

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