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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

**Group of Experts on European Agreement Concerning Work of
Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)**

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Administrative Arrangement between the UNECE and European Commission (COM) services

Submitted by the secretariat

Belarus and the Russian Federation requested the secretariat to prepare an informal document which describes the procedure for signing and extending the “Administrative Arrangement between the UNECE and European Commission (COM) services”. This document provides evidence from relevant reports on what approaches have been used since 2009.

This document provides relevant excerpts from reports of sessions of the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) and Group of Experts on AETR since 2009 to illustrate what approaches have been used for signing and extending this type of arrangements.

AETR EG, First session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/2, 2 March 2012

In para 14, the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the European Commission discussed.

AETR EG, Second session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/7, 6 June 2012

15. No specific duration is mentioned in the MoU, but JRC is appointed as Root Certification Authority for non-EU AETR countries, or AETR-RCA, until the **30 June 2012**, and point 2.3 mentions that UNECE and the European Commission Services will contribute to the smooth sustainability and further development of the system after 30 June 2012. Moreover, in section 5, JRC is recognized as the single interoperability certification laboratory. There is no specific deadline associated with this recognition.

16. All this may be interpreted in different ways, but the most direct one is that the MoU expires 30 June 2012.

AETR EG, third session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/9, 24 October 2012

6. The secretariat recalled that the Expert Group had approved at the last session a supplement to Memorandum of Understanding (Annex I, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/4) which was to be signed by three parties, i.e. Economic Commission, Joint Research Centre and UNECE.

SC.1, 107th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/398, 22-23 October 2012

The secretariat provided an update on the work of the AETR Expert Group, in particular, informing SC.1 about two meetings of the AETR Expert Group on 2 March 2012 and 6 June 2012. The secretariat also outlined a background paper describing the main AETR issues and options, informed SC.1 about a survey on the prevailing legal instruments applicable to road transport operations and the progress in renewing an MOU (ie. signing the MOU supplement) between the UNECE and European Commission services.

AETR EG, Fourth session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/11, 25 February 2013

6. The secretariat informed the Expert Group that following the signing by the European Commission of the supplement to Memorandum of Understanding (Annex I, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/4) on 5 December 2012, JRC's responsibility for the AETR Root Certification Authority had been extended until **30 June 2015**. A copy of the signed supplement to Memorandum of Understanding is available on the AETR Expert Group website.

SC.1, 108th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/400, 28-30 October 2013

The summary of developments included: (1) the renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between the UNECE and European Commission Services which recognizes the Joint Research Centre as the authority responsible for root and interoperability certification for non-EU AETR Contracting Parties until **30 June 2015**,...

AETR EG, Tenth session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/26, 26 October 2015

16. The secretariat informed the Group of Experts 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 extended Memorandum is now in effect and will expire on **30 June 2017**.

SC.1, 110th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/404, 26-28 October 2015

7. The secretariat informed SC.1 about the status of the AETR Agreement. First, information was provided about the signing of the 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 extended Memorandum is now in effect and will expire on **30 June 2017** (available at www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2015/sc1/ECE-TRANS-SC1-INF-2015-02e.pdf)

AETR EG, Fourteenth session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/35, 20 February 2017

10. Experts were informed about the status of the supplement to this Memorandum (which extends its validity until **31 December 2018**), endorsed the supplement and requested the UNECE secretariat to sign it on behalf of non-EU AETR Contracting Parties.

SC.1, 112th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/408, 17–18 October 2017

11. The secretariat informed SC.1 about the signing of a new supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which recognizes JRC as the AETR authority for root certification and for interoperability certification for the non-EU Contracting Parties to AETR (Informal document no.1). The new supplement has extended the validity of the MOU until **31 December 2018**.

AETR EG, Nineteenth session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/45, 15-16 October 2018

19. The secretariat informed the Group about a new Supplement to extend the Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and the European Commission Services which recognizes JRC as the authority responsible for

Root and Interoperability Certification for non-European Union AETR contracting parties which was signed by all parties (Informal document No. 2).

SC.1, 113th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/410, 16-18 October 2018

19. In relation to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which recognizes JRC as the AETR authority for root certification and for interoperability certification for the non-EU contracting parties to AETR, the secretariat updated SC.1 that a proposed supplement to the memorandum to extend its validity until **31 December 2020** had been successfully concluded (Informal document No. 8).

AETR EG, Twenty-fourth session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.21/55, 13 October 2020

The Group also agreed to extend the Memorandum of Understanding between ECE and the European Commission which recognizes the Joint Research Centre as the authority for Root and Interoperability for non-European Union AETR Contracting Parties to December 2022.

SC.1, 115th session, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/414, 14 October 2020

9. In relation to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which recognizes JRC as the AETR authority for root certification and for interoperability certification for the non-EU contracting parties to AETR, the secretariat advised SC.1 that a proposed supplement to the memorandum to extend its validity until **31 December 2022** has been discussed with EC officials at the last Group of Experts on AETR.
