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Working Party on Rail Transport 76th session



Agenda item 4

Rules of Procedure and Terms of Reference for
the Working Party on Rail Transport

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Background



- ITC has invited those Working Parties that have not adopted their own Rules of Procedure (RoP) to inform ITC about:
 - their plans to prepare their own;
 - their plans to align them with ITC; or
 - the reasons why they should retain the ECE RoPs.
- ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/1 provides:
 - Consideration of whether or not to adopt new RoPs
 - Commentary on proposed new RoPs
 - Proposed new RoPs
- In the event that new RoPs are adopted a change is proposed to the Terms of Reference to SC.2 included in ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/2.

Proposed Rules of Procedure

Main areas of comparison with ITC RoPs (1)



- Rule 1: ITC RoP introduces the role of full membership also for non-ECE member States where they are contracting parties. SC.2 RoPs retain this but extend it to refer also to other binding rules and standards that non-ECE member States have an interest in but require the declaration of an interest.
- Rule 2: The Chair to convene additional meetings.
- Rule 6: Adds reference to items proposed by ITC.
- Rule 12: Remove reference to the maximum of 2 consecutive terms as SC.2 participants have valued continuity. Also max 2 Vice-Chairs

Proposed Rules of Procedure

Main areas of comparison with ITC RoPs (2)



- Rule 17: Adds a subpara on the role of WP in establishing subsidiary bodies.
- Rule 18-19: Minor text amendments to better align it with Rule 1.
- Rule 23: Lower quorum introduced to reflect that not all MSs have railways, the number of contracting parties to the AGC. (Of note here also decision of WP.24).
- Rule 36: Removed reference to voting by mechanical means as it is not a well established process.

The secretariat is not aware of any compelling reason to why SC.2 should request to follow ECE RoPs.

Amendment to Terms of Reference

Change identified



- In the event that the Working Party wishes to agree with the creation of its Rules of Procedure then the SC.2 terms of reference will need to be updated as set out in ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/2.
- The relevant change can be seen in paragraph 4 where reference to the proposed RoPs is introduced.



Thank you

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UNECE

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