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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Transport

Group of Experts on the Operationalization of eCMR

Sixth session

Geneva, 5-7 July 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixth session*,**

To be held in-person at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 5 July 2023, Salle XXIII

I. Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Report of the fifth session.
3. Programme of work:
 - (a) Proposed conceptual and functional specifications of the future eCMR system;
 - (b) Customs practices concerning the use of consignment notes; and
 - (c) Good practices from other digitalization initiatives.
4. Other business.
5. Adoption of the list of decisions.

* Delegates are requested to register online at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1002188/>.

** Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Feillantines. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext.75716 or 75964).

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt the session's agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/11

2. Report of the fifth session

The Group will be asked to take note of the report of its fifth session. It includes the list of decisions which was adopted by the Group on 5 April 2023.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/10

3. Programme of work

(a) Proposed conceptual and functional specifications of the future eCMR system

At the last session, the Group of Experts discussed ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/3 and ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/4, provided comments and requested the secretariat to revise these documents based on the discussions of the Group. To assist the secretariat, participants were invited to send their comments and revisions to the document/s prior to the deadline of the submission of documents for the next session.

Accordingly, the secretariat has prepared ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/3/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/4/Rev.1 and ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/5. These documents include and summarize the discussions of the group on:

- The requirements of article 5 of the Additional Protocol to CMR including requirements of other relevant provisions of the additional protocol important for the operationalisation of eCMR such as:
 - Stakeholders of the eCMR environment;
 - The method for the issuance and the delivery of the electronic consignment notes to the entitled party;
 - The way in which confirmation is given that delivery to the consignee has been effected;
 - Scope / Objectives of a future eCMR system;
 - The procedures for supplementing or amending the electronic consignment note;
 - The procedures for the possible replacement of the electronic consignment note by a consignment note issued by different means;
 - Authentication.
- The high-level architecture of the future eCMR system including the impact assessment for those implementation scenarios.
- The conceptual specifications but also a draft of the functional specifications of the future eCMR system including a use cases analysis.

The Group should finalise discussions on these documents, agree that its mandate has been fulfilled and submit its final report to the 118th session of the Working Party on Road Transport session (18-20 October 2023) for its review and consideration. The Group may wish to discuss and suggest to SC.1 about the next steps on Group's work

including the possibility of the continuation of the work of the Group having as a mandate the preparation of the technical specifications of the future eCMR system.

(b) Customs practices concerning the use of consignment notes

Following its mandate and program of work, the Group has undertaken considerable work to identify the users and stakeholders of the CMR convention and the paper CMR consignment note. The analysis and conclusions of this work are summarised in document ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2022/3/Rev.2. This document was the basis to analyse and formulate the high-level architecture of the future eCMR system and the use case analysis which is the main information for the functional specifications of the future system. The group may wish to finalise this document and include it in its final report to be submitted to the Working Party on Road Transport's 118th session for its review and consideration.

(c) Good practices from other digitalization initiatives

During its sessions and following its mandate the Group invited and considered presentations from several initiatives having as objective to digitalize their international agreements / conventions. The initiatives invited were:

- AEOLIX (Ertico-ITS Europe)
- CIM UR (OTIF)
- CITES (UNEP)
- eCPD (FIA)
- eFBL (FIATA)
- eFTI (European Commission)
- e-permits (Turkiye)
- eTTN (Ukraine)
- Greece eCMR pilot
- Slovenia eCMR pilot

The main objective of this work was to share experience and good practices in order to identify the best option(s) / solution(s) for the future eCMR system concerning its high-level architecture and design of the system. The group may wish to discuss if a short summary of those initiatives should be prepared and included in its final report to Working Party on Road Transport's 118th session for its review and consideration.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2022/3/Rev.2, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/3/Rev.1,
ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/4/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.1/GE.22/2023/5

4. Other business

The Group of Experts may wish to discuss any other business.

5. Adoption of the list of decisions

The secretariat will prepare a list of decisions during the session. The list of decisions will be adopted by the Group of Experts at the end of the session.