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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport

Twenty sixth session

Geneva, 7 and 8 March 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session* **

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday,
7 March, Room IX, Palais des Nations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport.
3. Climate change and transport assets data.
4. National and sub-national projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs.
5. Database on adaptation measures.
6. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes.
7. Other business.
8. Date and place of next meeting.

* This document was submitted late for processing in view of late clearance due to the end of the year break.

** 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 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html). On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (maria.mostovets@un.org).

Delegates (including those holding long-duration badge) are requested to register online at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1007052/> and delegates who do not hold a long-term access badge should obtain an identification badge at the Peace Gate (8, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the ECE secretariat (internal extension 75975). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.



9. Summary of main decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport (GE.3) is invited to adopt its agenda as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/51.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/51

2. Initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport

GE.3 is expected to continue its discussion on initiatives in climate change impact assessment and adaptation for inland transport. In this regard, GE.3 should consider issues such as: (a) biological changes including loss of vegetation and their impact on adaptation of transport to climate change, (b) nature-based transport adaptation solutions, and (c) marine heatwave and its trends.

To support consideration of the above issues, World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure (PIANC) will present on ways to incorporate biological changes in the adaptation work. University of Birmingham will share experience and practices in applying nature-based solutions in adaptation of transport to climate change. University of Aegean will provide more insight on marine heatwave and trends.

In addition, University of Birmingham will be invited to provide more insight on application of Global Warming Levels (GWL) for regional climate change impact assessment. Other experts may wish to provide updates on ongoing initiatives as appropriate. This will also include Oxford Institute for Energy Studies to provide information on the interdependencies between energy and transport in the context of adaptation, and Global Alliance of Universities on Climate to inform about its cross-modal transport resilience event.

Under this item, lead authors for the chapters of the final technical report may bring any issues related to the development of the specific chapters to the GE.3 attention.

Denmark will be invited to present a draft outline for case studies for chapters 1 and 2 of part 2 of the final technical report.

GE.3 may then wish to discuss and adopt a mechanism for review and comments of the report.

3. Climate change and transport assets data

GE.3 requested at the previous session preparation of the additional projections' maps, as follows:

- One day precipitation of 30mm for Europe and Central Asia, and
- Seasonal results for precipitation exceeding 50mm over 3-days for Europe and Central Asia and/or minima and maxima (for instance 90th percentiles of the model ensemble) for precipitation exceeding 50mm over 3-days.

GE.3 will be invited to consider these additional maps.

GE.3 should then discuss thresholds used for the projections and the time periods chosen for the projections. In this discussion, experts should inform about thresholds and the time periods for the projections used in their national context.

Under this item, and further to the decision to hold in 2024 a workshop on exploring interest in a tool for asset/network performance benchmarking in the events of specific climate change hazards, GE.3 will consider progress in preparation of the workshop and detailing its concept and programme. To this end, the secretariat will report on the work started in this regard.

4. National and sub-national projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs

Experts are invited to inform about their national or sub-national concluded, ongoing or planned projects on climate change impact assessment and transport asset adaptation needs.

Denmark will present its work on data collection from sensors on weather impacts along major railway lines.

5. Database on adaptation measures

University of Birmingham will inform of additional changes made to the guidance on adaptation pathways in the transport sector mainly related to signposting of specific material in the guidance.

GE.3 may then wish to explore potential case studies on application of the adaptation pathways methodology to selected transport assets.

6. Guidelines for integrating climate change considerations in planning and operational processes

GE.3 will be invited to discuss potential case studies for applying the framework for stress tests.

GE.3 should then discuss progress made in the development of a guide for assessing transport asset criticality based on the outline agreed at the twenty-fourth session. Informal document (2024) No.1 contains the draft guide.

The secretariat will inform GE.3 about collection of additional data on impacts of climate/weather related events on transport infrastructure (road and rail).

GE.3 may then wish to consider common key performance indicators (KPIs) used by transport entities and discuss how through these KPIs business case for adaptation could be presented.

7. Other business

At the time of preparing the agenda no issues have been raised under this item.

8. Date and place of next meeting

The secretariat will inform GE.3 about the date and place for the twenty-seventh session.

9. Summary of main decisions

In accordance with established practice, the Chair will briefly summarize the decisions taken. Following the session, the Secretary, in cooperation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs, will prepare the final report.