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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Thirty-fifth session

Geneva, 5–7 September 2022

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session*, **

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Monday,
5 September 2022, Room XXI, Palais des Nations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Inter-regional workshop on electrification of urban mobility – opportunities and challenges for transport, energy and spatial planning.
3. Development of transport networks and/or links:
 - (a) Euro-Asian Transport Links;
 - (b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects;
 - (c) Trans-European Transport Network;
 - (d) Transport in the Mediterranean Region;
 - (e) Other initiatives on transport corridors/ links development.
4. Transport infrastructure data:
 - (a) International Transport Infrastructure Observatory;
 - (b) Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs.

* 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 ECE Sustainable Transport Division's website (www.unece.org/trans/main/wp5/wp5.html).

** Delegates are requested to register online at: uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=H87zLN. All in-person attending delegates (including those holding long-duration badge), are required to register through INDICO badge system: indico.un.org/event/1000506/ and 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 ECE secretariat by phone +41 22 917 59 75 or email: maria.mostovets@un.org. For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.



5. Transport and climate change:
 - (a) Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport;
 - (b) Climate Change mitigation: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe For Future Inland Transport Systems tool;
 - (c) Critical role of inland transport in accelerating climate change mitigation.
6. Inland transport security.
7. Sustainable urban mobility, cycling and public transport.
8. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals:
 - (a) Transport Trends and Challenges in the road, rail, and inland waterways sectors;
 - (b) Transport Trends and Economics 2022–2023;
 - (c) Technical assistance to countries with economies in transition:
 - (i) Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators;
 - (ii) Regional Adviser technical assistance;
 - (iii) Support for Landlocked Developing Countries;
 - (iv) Launch of LearnITC – the Inland Transport and Trade Connectivity elearning Platform.
 - (d) ECE Transport statistics analysis.
9. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party.
10. Other business.
11. Election of Officers for the Working Party sessions in 2023 and 2024.
12. Date of next session.
13. Adoption of main decisions.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda for its thirty-fifth session.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/71

2. Inter-regional workshop on electrification of urban mobility – opportunities and challenges for transport, energy and spatial planning

As part of the WP.5 cluster of work on `sustainable urban mobility, public transport, and cycling and as per the recommendation of the Working Party at its thirty-fourth session in 2021 inviting the secretariat to continue holding and facilitating inter-regional transport consultations on targeted topics of interest, an inter-regional workshop will be held on "Electrification of urban mobility – challenges and opportunities for transport, energy and spatial planning". The workshop will be co-organized by the Sustainable Transport Division, the Sustainable Energy Division and the Housing and Land Management Section of the ECE secretariat. The five regional commissions (ECE¹, ECA², ESCWA³, ECLAC⁴ and ESCAP⁵) of the United Nations have been invited to join this effort and identify within their specific regions, national and/ or city level best practices to be presented. The workshop will gather interested stakeholders, including city and urban transport authorities, electricity network managers as well as spatial planners, Ministry of Transport/ Mobility experts, NGOs, and academia. The workshop is also expected to provide further inputs to document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/2 entitled "Taking stock of new trends towards electric vehicle charging infrastructure" which will be presented and discussed under agenda item 8 (a). Informal document No. 1 contains the programme and concept note for the workshop.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/2; Informal document No. 1

3. Development of transport networks and/or links

(a) Euro-Asian Transport Links

ITC, at its eighty-fourth session in February 2022, acknowledged the ongoing efforts on the operationalization of Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL). ITC also noted WP.5 endorsement of the initiative of the Governments of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine to develop and implement an EATL Route 3 Corridor Coordination Management Mechanism (CCMM) and Corridor Performance Review (COPR) Mechanism and invited these Governments and the secretariat to provide an update on progress made at the next ITC session in February 2023. It is with the above mandate in mind that the ECE secretariat jointly with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) secretariat will be organizing a designated Expert Round Table to discuss the operational rail capacity of the Trans-Caspian and Almaty-Istanbul corridors including the availability of reliable corridor-wide agreed timetables and tariffs as well as en route border crossing point efficiency. The Expert Round Table will gather senior railway and customs officials from countries on both corridors and will be expected to lead to a prioritized list of actions to be taken in relation to

¹ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

² Economic Commission for Africa

³ Economic and Social Commission for West Asia

⁴ Economic Commission for Latin America

⁵ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

harmonization of existing tariffs, services, and time schedules and the documented physical/non-physical challenges and bottlenecks. ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/1 prepared by the secretariat contains corridor specific data collected so far as well as a set of recommendations for next steps. Previously prepared working documents entitled “Inputs from relevant ECE Working Parties on operationalization of international corridors” (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2020/1) and “Proposals and feedback by ECE Governments on further operationalisation of Euro-Asian transport links” (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2021/1) will serve as additional background material for these deliberations. Informal document No. 2 contains the programme and concept note for the round table.

(b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects

The managers of the TEM (Trans-European Motorway) and TER (Trans-European Railway) projects will inform WP.5 about their activities implemented since the previous session. An overview of activities is provided in Informal document No. 3.

(c) Trans-European Transport Network

The European Commission will brief WP.5 about developments related to Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T).

(d) Transport in the Mediterranean Region

The Mediterranean Transport Study Centre (CETMO) will update WP.5 on CETMO activities. The European Commission will brief WP.5 on its activities in developing the Euro-Mediterranean transport network.

(e) Other initiatives on transport corridors/ links development

Representatives of other organizations and/or institutions may wish to brief WP.5 about their activities along various corridors.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2021/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2020/1; Informal documents No. 2 and 3

4. Transport infrastructure data

(a) International Transport Infrastructure Observatory

The ECE secretariat jointly with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the ECO secretariat will host a high-level inaugural meeting on the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO) involving representatives of member States that have already started using ITIO in a test phase as well as representatives of Multilateral Development Banks and regional cooperation organizations. ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/3 prepared by the secretariat contains a questionnaire based on which ITIO users have been invited to provide written feedback on their user experience, identify areas for improvement and define additional features to be developed. The document also contains a technical user manual, including guidelines on how to edit existing data on infrastructure networks on the Geographic Information System (GIS) platform.

(b) Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs

The Chair of the Group of Experts on Benchmarking Transport Infrastructure Construction Costs (GE.4) will present the final report of the Group as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/6. WP.5 will be invited to consider the report and adopt it. WP.5 may also wish to agree to request the secretariat to issue the report as a United Nations publication in the three ECE working languages.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/3; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/6

5. Transport and climate change**(a) Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport**

The secretariat will report on the progress made in implementation of the mandate of the Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport.

(b) Climate Change mitigation: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe For Future Inland Transport Systems tool

The secretariat will update WP.5 about new developments on the “For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS)” project since the last session.

(c) Critical role of inland transport in accelerating climate change mitigation

In response to the request of the ITC at its last session, the WP.5 secretariat has prepared document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/5 which provides an overview of what the aviation and maritime transport sectors are doing in reducing their environmental footprint. In the context of the work undertaken by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and by other stakeholders, possible next steps for the inland transport sector to increase its own efforts are presented. The Working Party is invited to share its feedback on the proposals contained in the document and provide guidance on how it sees its own role and the role of the Committee in further advancing the inland transport sector decarbonization agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2022/16; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/5

6. Inland transport security

Further to the request by WP.5 at its previous session as endorsed by ITC at its eighty-fourth session, a round table discussion will be held on the protection of inland transport infrastructure from acts of unlawful interferences at the stages of design, construction, and operation. The discussion will feature an introductory presentation by a senior transport security consultant followed by presentations on national examples by representatives of member States. Informal document No. 4 contains the programme for this round table.

7. Sustainable urban mobility, cycling and public transport

The GE.5 Chair and/or the secretariat will report on the initiation of activities of the Group of Experts on cycling infrastructure module (GE.5). In particular, information on the outcomes of the first GE.5 meeting will be reported.

8. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals**(a) Transport Trends and Challenges in the road, rail, and inland waterway sectors**

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, ITC under WP.5 auspices, established an Informal Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (IMAG) on Transport Responses to COVID-19 which convened four meetings during the period 2020–2021. At its thirty-fourth session (September 2021), the Working Party requested the secretariat to prepare an official document for the forthcoming ITC session: (a) To provide an overview of all recommendations developed by

IMAG to date, as well as an action plan for their implementation; and (b) To develop a concept note for further information exchange and possible contingency planning for rail, road, and inland waterways (issued as ECE/TRANS/2022/19). ITC at its eighty-fourth session in February 2022 appreciated the additional efforts undertaken by IMAG, welcomed the recommendations for further action and adopted the proposed action plan. In particular, the Committee welcomed the concept note developed by the secretariat regarding contingency planning for rail, road, inland waterways, and intermodal transport and requested the secretariat to present these proposals to the relevant Working Parties for their consideration and possible further elaboration. WP.5 is invited to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/4 which is a revised version of the previous document and to provide guidance on next steps aimed at enhancing the resilience of the inland transport sector to and preparedness for future pandemics and/or international emergency situations.

In addition, ITC at its eighty-fourth session requested WP.5 “to take into consideration the new trend towards electric charging infrastructure and, in coordination with the chairs of the relevant working parties to prepare a first assessment of issues that need addressing in the realm of ITC to be presented at its eighty-fifth session”. In response, the ECE Sustainable Transport Division in cooperation with the ECE Sustainable Energy Division has prepared document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/2 entitled “Taking stock of new trends towards electric vehicle charging infrastructure”. The Working Party is invited to consider this document and provide guidance on how to further develop and improve it ahead of its submission to the Committee for consideration at its session in February 2023.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/2022/19; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2022/4

(b) Transport Trends and Economics 2022–2023

WP.5 may wish to provide further guidance and directions for future work in this field.

(c) Technical assistance to countries with economies in transition

(i) Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators

The secretariat will launch the latest ECE publication on “Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN) – Understanding the performance of road, rail, inland waterway, and inter-modal transport systems” and will report on the development of an online multilingual SITCIN user dashboard and eLearning course.

(ii) Regional Adviser technical assistance

The Regional Adviser will inform WP.5 about transport related technical assistance activities provided by ECE to countries with economies in transition (Informal document No. 5).

(iii) Support for Landlocked Developing Countries

The secretariat will provide information on its ongoing support to LLDCs in the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs for 2014–2024.

WP.5 will then be invited to discuss the information and provide its recommendations for areas in which technical assistance should be further strengthened.

(iv) Launch of LearnITC – the Inland Transport and Trade Connectivity elearning Platform

As part of its ongoing capacity building activities, the Sustainable Transport Division will facilitate the launch of the LearnITC elearning platform. LearnITC provides governmental and other stakeholders targeted training courses on the accession to, and implementation of, the United Nations Inland Transport Conventions and Legal Agreements.

Documentation

Informal document No. 5

(d) ECE Transport statistics analysis

The secretariat will present its work on transport statistics since the previous WP.5 session.

9. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party

The secretariat will inform WP.5 about the main decisions of the eighty-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee (Geneva, 22–25 February 2022) on issues of its interest.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/316

10. Other business

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

11. Election of Officers for the Working Party sessions in 2023 and 2024

The Working Party will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair for its sessions in 2023 and 2024.

12. Date of next session

The next WP.5 session is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva from 4–6 September 2023.

13. Adoption of main decisions

In accordance with the decision of the Working Party taken at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chair and Vice-Chair with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to the Inland Transport Committee.
