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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

Thirty-sixth session

Geneva, 4–6 September 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

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

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Monday,
4 September 2023, Room VIII, Palais des Nations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Inter-regional workshop on multimodal transport corridor management.
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:

International Transport Infrastructure Observatory.
5. Transport and climate change:
 - (a) Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport;

* 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 (including those holding long-duration badge) are requested to register online at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1002200/> 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.



- (b) Critical role of inland transport in accelerating climate change mitigation;
 - (c) Climate Change mitigation: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe For Future Inland Transport Systems tool.
- 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 2023–2024;
 - (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;
 - (d) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Transport statistics analysis.
- 9. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party.
- 10. Working Party evaluation report for the period 2020–2023 and up-dated biennial and long-term programme of work.
- 11. Other business.
- 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-sixth session.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/73

2. Inter-regional workshop on multimodal transport corridor management

As part of the WP.5 cluster of work on "development of transport networks and/ or links" and as per the request of the Working Party at its thirty-fifth session in 2022 inviting the secretariat to continue holding and facilitating consultations on targeted topics of interregional interest, an inter-regional workshop will be held on "Multimodal transport corridor management". The workshop will be organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) secretariat and representatives of the five regional United Nations commissions (ECE, ECA¹, ESCWA², ECLAC³ and ESCAP⁴) will join this effort and identify within their specific regions best practice approaches to be presented. The workshop will gather interested national stakeholders, including from ministries in charge of transport, national railway undertakings, transport infrastructure managers and operators as well as private sector associations, NGOs, and academia. Considering the request by the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) at its eighty-fifth session to hold consultations with the Organization for Cooperation of Railways (OSJD) and the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) on the establishment of coordination mechanisms for the management of international transport corridors, OSJD and OTIF as well as other relevant regulatory international and regional stakeholders will be invited to share their experience in this area.

Documentation

Informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 1

3. Development of transport networks and/or links

(a) Euro-Asian Transport Links

The WP.5 Chair and Vice Chair together with the Corridor Coordinators (Georgia and Uzbekistan) appointed in the framework of the Coordination Committee on the Trans-Caspian and Almaty-Tehran-Istanbul Corridors, which has been established in the format of a Group of Friends of the WP.5 Chair, will provide a progress update on improved corridor management. A report on the outcomes from the first two sessions of the Coordination Committee (Geneva, December 2022 and Istanbul/ Türkiye, June 2023) together with the Committee's endorsed Terms of Reference and a 2023–2025 biennial programme of work will be presented as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/1. Document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/2 provides an overview of ongoing and planned corridor operationalization initiatives by the governments. The report on the outcomes of the third session (Baku, July 2023) is expected to also be presented and be provided in informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 2.

¹ Economic Commission for Africa

² Economic and Social Commission for West Asia

³ Economic Commission for Latin America

⁴ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

(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 ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/3.

(c) **Trans-European Transport Network**

The European Commission will brief WP.5 about developments related to the 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 on various other corridors.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/3;
Informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 2

4. Transport infrastructure data

International Transport Infrastructure Observatory

The secretariat will provide an update report and overview of next steps regarding the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO) which is currently being used by governments and representatives of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and regional cooperation organizations in a test phase.

5. Transport and climate change

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

The GE.3 Chair and/ or 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 (WP.5/GE.3).

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

The Chair and the secretariat will brief the Working Party on the request put forward by the Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-fifth annual session (Geneva, February 2023) inviting the secretariat to develop an ambitious strategy document for reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, supported by a strong action plan with milestones, for consideration and possible adoption at its eighty-sixth plenary session (in 2024). The Working Party is invited to provide concrete inputs and proposals on what its role could be in the development and implementation of such a strategy and action plan and for which tasks it would want to be responsible.

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

The secretariat will report on developments on the “For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS)” project since the last session.

6. Inland transport security

Further to the request by WP.5 at its previous session as endorsed by ITC at its eighty-fifth session, a designated workshop on cyber security threats to electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS) will be held under this agenda item. Informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 3 contains the programme for this workshop.

7. Sustainable urban mobility, cycling and public transport

The Working Party will be briefed on the progress made in the implementation of the mandate of the Group of Experts on cycling infrastructure module (GE.5) and planned next steps.

8. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals

(a) Transport trends and challenges in the road, rail, and inland waterway sectors

Further to the request of the Working Party at its previous session to designate its Transport Trends and Economics 2022–2023 publication on general trends and developments surrounding electric vehicles and their charging infrastructure, a draft publication as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/4, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/5, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/6, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/7, and ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/8 has been elaborated and will be presented for feedback by the Working Party. WP.5 delegates are invited to deliver presentations on national case studies and best practice examples for inclusion in the final version of the publication. For ease of reference, the part of ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/8 which contains preliminary conclusions for the entire publication has been reproduced in the three ECE working languages as Informal Document No. 4.

(b) Transport Trends and Economics 2023–2024

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 provide an update on the “Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN) platform and next steps planned to further promote its use among government stakeholders.

(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 the outcome document of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) Regional Review Conference for the Euro-Asian region (Bangkok, August 2023) co-organized by ECE, ESCAP and the Office of the High-Representative for Landlocked Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS). The secretariat will also brief on the next steps leading up to the VPoA Global Review Conference scheduled to take place in Kigali in 2024.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/4; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/5; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/6; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/7; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/8; Informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 4; Informal document WP.5 (2023) No. 5

(d) **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Transport statistics analysis**

The Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) 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

At its eighty-fifth annual session (February 2023) the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) requested that, considering the adoption by ECOSOC of its revised Terms of Reference (E/RES/2022/2) and to ensure a successful implementation of the ITC Strategy until 2030, the work of ITC and its Working Parties needs to be fully aligned, including their Terms of Reference (ToRs) and Rules of Procedure (RoPs). In response to this request, the Chair, in close coordination with the secretariat, has prepared document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/9 which explores the scope and applicability of alignment of the WP.5 ToRs and RoPs (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2011/2, Annex I) with those of its parent body. WP.5 is invited to consider, share its feedback on and endorse the proposals contained in this document.

Documentation

E/RES/2022/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2011/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/9

10. Working party evaluation report for the period 2020–2023 and up-dated biennial and long-term programme of work

As per the adopted biennial and long-term programme of work of the Working Party, at its thirty-second annual session in September 2019 (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/66/ Annex II), the WP.5 Chair with the support of the secretariat has prepared an evaluation report covering the period 2020–2023 as well as a new biennial 2024–2025 and up-dated long-term programme of work, considering both the current and new activities being undertaken in the framework of WP.5 (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/10). This document also serves as a contribution to the ongoing fourth cycle of reviews of Working Parties' mandates by their parent sectoral committees initiated by the Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-fifth annual session, as per the 2005 reform of ECE (ECE/EX/1). WP.5 is invited to consider, share its feedback on and endorse the proposals contained in this document.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/66 (Annex II); ECE/EX/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/10

11. Other business

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

12. Date of next session

The next WP.5 session is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva on 25–27 September 2024.

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.