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Item 11 (c) of the provisional agenda

Planning of future work:

Programme of work and biennial evaluation

Programme of Work and Biennial Evaluation

Note by the secretariat

1. The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) approved its 2010–2014 programme of work at its 104th session in 2009 (ECE/TRANS/SC.1/388).
2. The Working Party may wish to examine its draft programme of work for 2012–2016 and, in particular, the continued relevance of priorities assigned to individual work elements and the expected outputs identified for this period. Proposals made by the secretariat for deletion are struck through; additions are in bold text.

Draft Programme of Work for 2012–2016

Programme Activity 02.3: ROAD TRANSPORT (Trans-European network for motorways (TEM) Project)

Description:

3. The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) promotes the development and facilitation of international transport by road—of goods and passengers—by harmonizing and simplifying the rules and requirements to which such transport is subject to. To meet this objective, SC.1 draws up, manages and updates international legal instruments. SC.1 is also a parent body to technical expert groups such as those concerning the digital tachograph rules or transport of passengers by coach and bus. It also draws up non-binding recommendations and best practices in international road transport such as Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4). Finally, SC.1 promotes the third party motor liability

insurance law (Green card system). The participation in SC.1 is open to all countries across the world.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Road Transport will pursue the following activities:

Continuing Activities

- (a) *Implementation and amendment of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)* Priority: 1

Description:

In order to adapt the European road network to future requirements, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will take suitable action to implement the Agreement and amend as necessary its provisions taking into account the evolution of traffic flows, as well as the safety and security of the network.

~~Work to be undertaken:~~

~~Consideration of the AGR Agreement in the light of new traffic flows.~~

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- **Development** and adoption of amendments to ~~Annex I~~ to the AGR including, **if and when deemed necessary**, new E-roads.
- ~~Enhancing~~ **Development** of AGR standards which have **the purpose of enhancing an impact on** road safety, environmental protection and energy saving.

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- Preparation and ~~possible~~ adoption of ~~new any necessary~~ amendments to the AGR ~~to include~~ **regarding the** provisions on road safety audits and possibly on security
- Monitor the implementation of AGR standards along the E-Roads network

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- Preparation and ~~launching~~ **dissemination** of a questionnaire concerning implementation of AGR standards.

- (b) *Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) Project* Priority: 2

Description:

In order to assist in the **further development** ~~construction~~ of the TEM network as part of an integrated international road infrastructure, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will continue its close cooperation with TEM.

~~Work to be undertaken:~~

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- Review of ongoing and expected future progress ~~in~~ **of** the TEM network and consideration of possibilities to contribute to its further development (e.g., combined transport, financing).

- Monitoring of the development of the TEM Project and **providing assistance to the TEM Project** whenever possible and appropriate.

(c) *Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations*

Priority: 1

Description:

In order to simplify and harmonize requirements concerning international road transport and the facilitation of its operations, the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) will elaborate and update, as necessary, appropriate international legal instruments and/or recommendations and will consider selected aspects of international transport of passengers and goods by road, particularly those related to the facilitation of road transport between countries and sub-regions in the UNECE area including the simplification and harmonization of administrative procedures and documentation.

~~Work to be undertaken:~~

~~Output expected by the end of 2011:~~

- **Identification and execution of the necessary steps in order to ensure effective implementation of the European Agreement on the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) in general and particularly of the provisions on of the digital tachograph in particular.** Priority:1
- **Working towards the objective of the successful implementation of new the provisions concerning the regulation of driving and rest periods for professional drivers by the Contracting Parties.** Priority: 1
- ~~To the extent possible and based on the sufficient number of Member country replies, evaluation of the survey (to be conducted every two years) on the effective application of the AETR and number of problem areas identified and proposals to address them within the framework of the follow up to the survey.~~
- **Achieving effective and fully operational implementing systems for the digital tachograph in non-EU AETR countries.** Priority:1
- Consideration of questions concerning the Green Card International Motor Insurance System, **including encouraging and facilitating membership to the Green Card System as well as considering** possibilities for the establishment of a similar international motor insurance system for countries beyond the area covered by the Green Card System. Priority:2
- **Development of proposals to promote** the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in order to avoid any discriminatory practices in international road transport. Priority:2
- ~~Development of proposals regarding the harmonization of fiscal and other measures in international road transport.~~

Activities of limited duration

- (d) *Consideration of the possibility to modify the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4) in certain areas such as the security of passenger and goods transport and in relation to the access to the profession of the road transport operator* **Priority: 2**

Output expected by the end of 2011:

- ~~Consideration of the need to modify or add to R.E.4 on certain subjects, such as the security of passenger and goods transport and access to the profession of road transport operator.~~

- (e) *Consideration of new challenges, opportunities and developments in the facilitation of international road transport between countries and sub-regions in the UNECE area and beyond, including quantitative restrictions imposed on international road transport of goods.*

Priority 1

Output expected by the end of 2011:

- Cooperation including joint meetings where appropriate with other UNECE bodies such as the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) on the facilitation of border crossing e.g. visa issuance to professional drivers, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) on the safety of infrastructure.
- Adoption of a new global multilateral legal instrument on the international regular transport of passengers by coach and bus

- (f) *Implementation of transport-related UNECE agreements and conventions.*

Priority:1

Output expected by the end of 2011:

- ~~Entry into force of the Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) introducing the electronic consignment note and wide use of it~~
- **To define** and put in place well-functioning implementation monitoring mechanisms for the legal instruments dealt with by the Working Party;
- **To operationalize the Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), concerning the electronic consignment note (e-CMR).**

- (g) *Group of Experts on the European Agreement Concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR)*

Output expected:

To examine and assess the problematic aspects of implementing the Agreement and to develop proposals for their solution. These include the questions relating to the prevailing legal instrument, third country rights and obligations under the agreement, the relationship between the Agreement and the European Union parallel/coinciding legislation, the matter of art. 22bis and the difficulties with the digital tachograph.