



Report on the 2019 activities of the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)

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- 1) Amendments to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) and to the Protocol to the AGTC
- 2) The Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code) and progress in establishing the Group of Experts on CTU Code
- 3) National policy measures to promote intermodal transport
- 4) Intermodal and logistics issues (including along Euro-Asian Transport Links)
- 5) The organization of the Forum on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between Europe and Asia within the framework of WP.24 (*separate presentation*)
- 6) Other activities

(1) AGTC Agreement and Protocol to AGTC

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AGTC Agreement

- WP.24 identified some inconsistencies in the text of the Agreement which are consulted with the Contracting Parties on a one-by-one basis – *Contracting Parties are invited to collaborate with the secretariat to clarify the issues raised*

Protocol to AGTC

- WP.24 established differences between the AGN Agreement and the Protocol (due to additional amendments to the AGN Agreement)
- Protocol's Contracting Parties should consider submission of an official amendment proposal for aligning the text between the two instruments (*basis section III of ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2019/2*) – *Contracting Parties interested in aligning both instruments may wish to contact the secretariat*



Group of Experts on CTU Code

- Administrative process still ongoing – ITC (81st session) and MSC (Maritime Safety Committee) of IMO (June 2019) endorsed the ToR for the Group of Experts, ILO's Sectoral Advisory Bodies ToR's endorsement is still pending
- WP.24 requested a start of pre-work in 2020 while awaiting the finalization of the administrative processes for the Groups establishment. The focus of the pre-work:
 - Assessment of the CTU Code to prioritize CTU sections requiring updates
 - Adaptation of CTU Code for use in the mobile application
- Pre-work is to consist of two informal meetings:
 - Russian Railways will host the first meeting on 27-28 May 2020 (save the date message sent on 17 February) – *further interests to participate in the informal work should be communicated to the secretariat*

(3) National policy measures to promote intermodal transport

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- WP.24, in accordance with ITC decision (ECE/TRANS/192, para 90) monitors and analyses national measures to promote intermodal transport as well as monitors enforcement and reviews the ECMT Consolidated Resolution on Combined Transport
- Poor response from UNECE countries (*only six countries responded: Austria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland*) in updating information on policy measures for promoting intermodal transport
- *UNECE member states are reminded to return completed questionnaires with updated policy measures*



- Draft handbook for national master plans on freight transport and logistics – *national WP.24 focal points were requested to send specific inputs (case studies and proposals for specific actions) to populate draft handbook – work in progress*
- Intermodal transport terminals – possibilities to be explored on setting up a platform with information on intermodal terminals and freight villages from the entire UNECE region – *non-EU UNECE member states will receive a questionnaire for collection of information (to be sent to WP.24 focal points, or if not available to ITC focal points)*
- Collection of ideas from WP.24 focal points towards further operationalization of Euro-Asian transport corridors (*points of views exchanged also during the Forum on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between Europe and Asia organized in the framework of WP.24*)



- 2020 workshop theme - Intermodal transport and logistics' role in making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (*initially planned for 2019, postponed due to the organization of the Forum on Sustainable Transport Connectivity between European and Asia*)
- Workshop date - *28 October 2020*

Interests to speak at the workshop should be communicated to the WP.24 secretariat

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(6) Other activities – Programme of work

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- WP.24 initially agreed on its long-term programme of work (2020-2030) – clusters of work aligning with the ITC Strategy while maintaining WP.24 focus
 - Monitoring, review and updating of the AGTC Agreement and the Protocol to AGTC
 - Policies and measures in support of intermodal transport
 - Review and monitoring of emerging issues in freight transport and logistics (analysis of emerging issues, analysis of technical and organizational measures to optimize terminal, transshipment and logistical procedures, monitoring of concepts, design, weights and dimensions of loading units and preparation of analytical outputs)
 - Review and update of the IMO/ILO/ECE Guidelines for Packing of Cargo in Intermodal Transport Units
- WP.24 also agreed biennial 2020-21 programme of work – specific activities and expected accomplishments under each cluster

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- Cluster 1: AGTC lines and facilities in GIS environment, more accessions to the AGTC Agreement and the Protocol to AGTC, development of a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the legal instruments
- Cluster 2: mechanism for identification of bottlenecks, review of resolution, use of TIR carnets in intermodal transport operations
- Cluster 3: identification of one additional emerging issue, handbook for preparation of national master plans for freight transport and logistics
- Cluster 4: CTU Code under review



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Thank you!