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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
(Thirty-second session, 13-16 April 1999)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION */

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 13 April 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda TRANS/WP.1/63

2. Amendments to and implementation of the
1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and on
Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European
Agreements supplementing them
 - (a) Questionnaire on the implementation TRANS/WP.1/1998/12
of the Vienna Conventions and TRANS/WP.1/1999/2
the 1971 European Agreements
supplementing them

*/ New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Therefore, delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division) and to transmit the duly filled-in form at the latest two weeks before the session to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by E-mail (caroline.jeunet@unece.org). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, telephone the ECE secretariat (Int. 73242).

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| (b) | Documents transmitted by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT) | TRANS/WP.1/1999/4
and Add.1 and 2 |
| (c) | International driving permit | TRANS/WP.1/1998/9
TRANS/WP.1/1999/6 |
| (d) | Signs for roundabouts | TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/6
TRANS/WP.1/1999/9 |
| (e) | Definition of mopeds and motorcycles | TRANS/WP.1/1998/6 |
| 3. | Revision of the 1975 Agreement on Minimum Requirements for the Issue and Validity of Driving Permits (APC) | ECE/TRANS/13
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.107
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.120
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.121
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.124
TRANS/WP.1/1999/1 |
| 4. | Revision of the Consolidated Resolutions on Road Traffic (R.E.1) and on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) | TRANS/SC.1/294/Rev.5
TRANS/SC.1/295/Rev.3
TRANS/WP.1/1998/1
TRANS/WP.1/1998/2
TRANS/WP.1/1998/4
TRANS/WP.1/1999/7
TRANS/WP.1/1999/8 |
| 5. | Follow-up to the 1997 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment | ECE/RCTE/CONF./3/FINAL |
| 6. | Preparation of the third Road Safety Week in the ECE Region | TRANS/WP.1/1998/10 |
| 7. | Collection and dissemination of information | |
| (a) | National road safety requirements | TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/1
and Add.1
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/2
and Add.1-2
TRANS/SC.1/1997/5 and
Add.1-5 |
| (b) | Exchange of experiences in the field of road safety | |
| 8. | Application of informatics in road safety | |
| 9. | Consideration of possible approaches to the work on a United Nations Long-Term Strategy on Road Safety | TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/3/Rev.1
TRANS/WP.1/1999/5 |
| 10. | Collaboration with other ECE bodies and international organizations | |

11. Future work
 - (a) Consideration of the issues dealt with by the ECMT Group on Road Traffic, Signs and Signals, transmitted to ECE for follow-up TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/13
 - (b) Assistance to the victims of road accidents TRANS/WP.1/1999/3
Informal document No. 1
 - (c) Copyright of signs and signals
12. Assistance to countries in transition
13. Other business
 - Road works signing TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/46
TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/48
14. Adoption of the report

EXPLANATORY NOTES **/

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM

(a) Questionnaire on the implementation of the Vienna Conventions and the 1971 European Agreements supplementing them

At its thirty-first session, the Working Party endorsed the objectives and actions to be taken on this item as formulated by the small group in TRANS/WP.1/1998/12 and requested the small group to prepare a questionnaire which would help member States in the identification of particular problems and special issues encountered by them during the implementation of the instruments in question (TRANS/WP.1/62, paras. 3-6).

The proposal of the small group concerning the possible content of the questionnaire has been issued as TRANS/WP.1/1999/2. The Working Party may wish to consider the proposal of the small group, modify the proposed questionnaire as it deems necessary and decide on its dissemination as envisaged in the timetable put forward by the small group in TRANS/WP.1/1998/12 and approved by WP.1.

****/** For reasons of economy, delegates are kindly requested to bring to the meeting copies of the documents mentioned in this agenda received by mail prior to the meeting. There will be no documentation available in the meeting room.

(b) Documents transmitted by the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT)

The text of draft amendments to the Convention on Road Traffic (CRT) and to the Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2), concerning cyclists and moped riders, as originally proposed by ECMT and, subsequently, agreed by the Working Party on a preliminary basis in the course of its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions has been issued by the secretariat as TRANS/WP.1/1999/4. The proposal of Italy on a revised version of the definition of the term "cycle track" is being circulated as TRANS/WP.1/1999/4/Add.1 and the considerations of the Governments of Norway on this item have been issued as TRANS/WP.1/1999/4/Add.2. The Working Party may wish to continue the consideration of the above draft amendments on the basis of the documentation available.

(c) International driving permits

At its thirty-first, session the Working Party had an extensive exchange of views on the problems related to the issue of both Domestic (DDP) and International Driving Permits (IDP) basing itself on the discussion paper (TRANS/WP.1/1998/9) prepared by the small group. The small group was invited to continue its work on this matter following the actions proposed in paras. 5.2 - 5.4 of document TRANS/WP.1/1998/9 and to report the first results (concerning in particular para. 5.2 of TRANS/WP.1/1998/9) already by its thirty-second session. The secretariat was requested to undertake the compilation of the list of associations authorized to issue IDPs as suggested in para. 5.1 of the proposal of the small group (TRANS/WP.1/62, paras. 19-21).

The draft list of associations authorized to issue IDPs in States Contracting Parties to the 1949 and 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic is being circulated by the secretariat as TRANS/WP.1/1999/6. The proposals of the small group will be issued as soon as they are available. The Working Party may wish to consider the documentation prepared on this item by the secretariat and by the small group and decide on further action as appropriate.

(d) Signs for roundabouts

At its thirty-first session, the Working Party considered a paper prepared by the delegate of Germany containing proposals on replacement of signs for roundabouts (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/6) and agreed not to amend the Convention on Road Signs and Signals at this stage. It further decided that it would consider the option in the future of amending Article 18 of the Convention on Road Traffic regarding intersections and the obligation to give way so that it complemented the Convention on Road Signs and Signals as regards roundabouts. The delegate of Germany offered to prepare a proposal for other alternatives involving the use of existing signs and their legal implications regarding the amendment of Article 18 of the Convention on Road Traffic (TRANS/WP.1/62, paras. 22-24).

The new proposal of Germany has been circulated as TRANS/WP.1/1999/9.

(e) Definition of mopeds and motorcycles

At its thirty-first session, the Working Party took note of the discussion paper prepared by IMMA on the issue of the definition of mopeds and motorcycles (TRANS/WP.1/1998/6) and decided to discuss this issue in greater depth at its

thirty-second session, under the agenda item on amendments to and implementation of the 1968 Vienna Conventions (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 53).

3. REVISION OF THE 1975 AGREEMENT ON MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE AND VALIDITY OF DRIVING PERMITS (APC)

The Working Party, at its thirty-first session, took note of the discussion paper on the above item prepared by the small group of experts (Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, Ukraine and European Commission) at the request of, and within the mandate given by, the Working Party at its thirtieth session (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/60, para. 19) and agreed to take up the issue at the thirty-second session when the document would be available in all working languages of ECE (TRANS/WP.1/62, paras. 25-28).

The considerations of the small group have been issued as TRANS/WP.1/1999/1. The Working Party may wish to continue the discussion on possible revision of APC taking into account the recommendations of the small group and earlier documentation on this subject received from Governments (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.107, TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.120 and TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/R.121).

4. REVISION OF THE CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC (R.E.1) AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS (R.E.2)

At its thirty-first session, the Working Party envisaged to continue its work on the revision of R.E.1 and R.E.2 on the basis of:

- (i) a draft corrigendum to R.E.1 to be prepared by the secretariat with due regard to the remarks and proposals by Governments concerning small misprints and omissions in the existing text of TRANS/SC.1/294/Rev.5 as well as to any comments and observations from delegations concerning the editorial corrections appearing in TRANS/WP.1/1998/1;
- (ii) the proposal by the delegations of Israel and Denmark summarizing the provisions of the Guidelines on speed control humps (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/4) into a number of general principles to be included into R.E.1;
- (iii) the proposal of the small group (Netherlands, Hungary, International Road Prevention (PRI) and the International Federation of Pedestrians (FIP)) on a new section 6 of R.E.1 on pedestrians; and
- (iv) proposals by Governments on the possible amendment of R.E.2 (TRANS/SC.1/295/Rev.3).

The proposal of the delegations of Israel and Denmark on speed control humps has been issued as TRANS/WP.1/1999/7. The proposals of the Government of Norway on possible amendment of R.E.1 and R.E.2 are being circulated as TRANS/WP.1/1999/8 and the rest of the envisaged documentation will be circulated once the relevant proposals by Governments reach the secretariat.

5. FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1997 REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

It is recalled that the Inland Transport Committee at its sixtieth session requested its subsidiary bodies to include the item on follow-up to the Conference in their agendas and to consider how they could contribute to activities at the international level envisaged in the Programme of Joint Action adopted by the Regional Conference (ECE/TRANS/125, para. 22).

At its thirty-first session, the Working Party took note of the suggestions of the secretariat regarding possible follow-up as outlined in TRANS/WP.1/61, item 5, feeling however that at least some of the activities suggested went beyond its competence. Governments were invited to carefully review the Programme of Joint Action (ECE/RTCE/CONF./3/FINAL) and inform the secretariat of their views regarding particular activities in the Programme to which WP.1 might be able to contribute and regarding the modalities for making such a contribution (TRANS/WP.1/62, paras. 35-37).

The views of Governments on a possible contribution by WP.1 to the implementation of the Programme of Joint Action will be circulated as soon as they are made known to the secretariat.

6. PREPARATION OF THE THIRD ROAD SAFETY WEEK IN THE ECE REGION

The Working Party will be orally informed by the secretariat of the progress made in implementation of the Programme of the Third Road Safety Week (RSW) (TRANS/WP.1/1998/10). It may wish to have an exchange of views on measures taken or envisaged to be taken at the national level within the RSW, give the secretariat further guidance in preparing the campaign and, in particular, decide on possible modifications to be made to the Internet site dedicated to the RSW established by the secretariat on a provisional basis at "<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wpl3road.htm>".

7. COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

(a) National road safety requirements

The latest information on national road traffic safety requirements appears in TRANS/SC.1/1997/5 and Adds.1-5, on national legal instruments in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/1 and Add.1 and on national methods of training and follow-up for categories A and B driving licences in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/2 and Adds.1-2. Any additional information from Governments will be circulated as soon as it reaches the secretariat.

(b) Exchange of experiences in the field of road safety

Information submitted by the Government of Poland on a new system of penalty points for offences in traffic has been circulated as TRANS/WP.1/1999/10.

8. APPLICATION OF INFORMATICS IN ROAD SAFETY

The Working Party will be informed of the progress made by the Commission of the European Communities in drafting the "European Statement of Principles on Human-Machine Interface for In-vehicle Information and Communication Systems" and may wish to decide on how to proceed further with the work on this item.

**9. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO THE WORK ON
A UNITED NATIONS LONG-TERM STRATEGY ON ROAD SAFETY**

At its thirtieth session, the Working Party approved the text of the document reflecting its position on possible approaches to the work on a United Nations long-term strategy on road safety as set out in TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1998/3/Rev.1. The secretariat was requested on behalf of Working Party WP.1 to approach international governmental and non-governmental organizations mentioned in the annex of the above document, with a letter explaining the purpose of the initiative and inviting them to explore ways of possible cooperation with WP.1 on road safety issues in general and on their possible contribution to the Third Road Safety Week, in particular (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/60, paras. 33 and 34).

A summary of responses to the letter circulated by the secretariat, received by the date of issue of this provisional agenda, is reproduced in TRANS/WP.1/1999/6. The Working Party may wish to consider the responses received so far and decide on further steps to be taken with a view to using synergy and establishing closer cooperation between WP.1 and interested international organizations as far as the improvement of the situation in road safety is concerned.

In this context the Working Party may wish to be informed by the secretariat about the Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP), a new initiative by the World Bank, which will be officially launched at a high-level meeting in Washington D.C. on 1 February 1999. The GRSP is drawing together interested parties from the private sector, governmental and non-governmental organizations to address road safety issues in developing countries.

10. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ECE BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Working Party will be informed orally on the work carried out by other ECE bodies of interest to it.

Representatives of international organizations are invited to provide information regarding the activities of their organizations that might be of interest to the Working Party.

11. FUTURE WORK

- (a) Consideration of the issues dealt with by the ECMT Group on Road Traffic, Signs and Signals, transmitted to ECE for follow-up

The Working Party, at its thirtieth session, considered the findings of the small group set up to examine the documents transmitted by ECMT (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/1997/13), and decided to take up the issue of the definition of mopeds and motorcycles and address in the future the questions of behaviour of motorists at pedestrian crossings and the siting of traffic signs (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/60, paras. 36 and 37).

As agreed at the thirty-first session of WP.1 (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 53), the question of definition of mopeds and motorcycles in UN instruments has been transferred to item 2(e) of this provisional agenda. The Working Party may wish to decide on how to proceed with the consideration in future of questions concerning (i) behaviour of motorists at pedestrian crossings and (ii) siting of traffic signs.

(b) Assistance to victims of road accidents

At the thirty-first session of the Working Party, the representative of the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR) introduced an informal paper reflecting a proposal of his organization concerning assistance to victims of road accidents. The Working Party took note of the FEVR paper and requested it to prepare a formal proposal for the thirty-second session outlining the objectives, proposed actions and a timetable for work by WP.1 (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 54). The proposal of FEVR has been circulated as TRANS/WP.1/1999/3 and the set of ECMT documents of 1983 on the same subject will be available at the thirty-second session of WP.1 as Informal document No.1 in English and French only.

Taking into account element 02.2.3(e) of the Programme of Work of WP.1 (TRANS/WP.1/62, annex), the Working Party may wish to decide to consider this question as a "selected timely topic related to road safety".

(c) Copyright of signs and signals

At the thirty-first session of the Working Party, the delegate of Denmark raised the question of copyright issues relating to road signs mentioned in UN instruments and promised to submit written information in this regard (TRANS/WP.1/62, para. 58). The information from the delegation of Denmark will be circulated as soon as it is available to the secretariat.

12. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION

In the course of its thirty-first session, the Working Party had an exchange of views on possible ways of assisting countries in transition on road safety issues and renewed its call to Governments to inform the Working Party of any relevant activities which have been or might be undertaken in the future in their countries both bilaterally and within multilateral cooperation. Information from Governments will be circulated as soon as it reaches the secretariat.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Road works signing

It is recalled that the Working Party, at its twenty-third session, considered possible harmonization of the way of warning for road works. The Working Party recognized the need for the revision of the recommendation for road works signing and safety adopted by it in 1986 (TRANS/SC.1/GE.20/55) and felt that the revision should include both updating of the existing provisions and supplementing them with provisions concerning lay-out of signs in various traffic situations associated with road works, particularly on motorways (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/46, para. 18). At its following, twenty-fourth, session the Working Party agreed, however, to postpone the consideration of this question until the results of the work on a similar subject under way within the European Community and the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) project were available (TRANS/SC.1/WP.1/48, para. 22).

The Working Party will be informed of the final results of work on this subject undertaken within EC (Advanced Research on Road Work Zone Safety Standards in Europe (ARROWS)) and of the findings of the TEM project and may wish to decide on possible follow-up on this item.

14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

As agreed by the Working Party at its thirtieth session, Part A of the report concerning decisions taken by the Working Party at its thirty-second session under agenda items relating to legislative work will be adopted on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. Part B of the report, reflecting in a concise form the discussion held on other agenda items, will be prepared by the secretariat after the session in consultation with the Chairman.



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