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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Transport

Ad hoc Working Group on the Revision of the AETR

Third session Geneva, 22-24 May 2006 Item 7 of the provisional agenda

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AETR

Note by the secretariat

1. Presently, according to Article 14 of the AETR, the Agreement is open to States members of the Economic Commission for Europe and States admitted to the Commission in a consultative capacity under paragraph 8 of the Commission's terms of reference. The States referred to in paragraph 8 are European nations not Members of the United Nations.

2. However, road transport between countries outside the UNECE region and AETR Contracting Parties is increasing significantly. In addition, in accordance with Article 3, some provisions of the AETR also apply to vehicles registered in a non Contracting Party to the AETR when they are travelling in the territory of a Contracting Party. So, for example, transport by a Moroccan vehicle between Morocco and France will be submitted to some AETR provisions when the vehicle is in the territory of Spain and France.

3. In the interest of road safety and the harmonization of social legislation, it is proposed to open the AETR to non-UNECE member States that wish to accede.

4. The specific proposal is to open the AETR to countries admitted to the Commission in a consultative capacity under paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference. The States

referred to in paragraph 11 are any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission.

5. The proposal is as follows. Amend Article 14, paragraph 1 to read:

"Article 14

1. This Agreement shall be open for signature until 31 March 1971 and thereafter for accession, by States members of the Economic Commission for Europe and States admitted to the Commission in a consultative capacity under paragraph [8] **11** of the Commission's terms of reference.
