

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-fifth session

Geneva, 27-30 October 2009

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

INLAND TRANSPORT SECURITY

Recommendations by the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security

Note by the secretariat

The Expert Group's terms of reference stipulate that the Group is "to prepare in a coordinated manner recommendations and/or proposals to the UNECE Governments for consideration by the ITC for improving inland transport security in *inter alia* the following areas of activity: infrastructure, personnel, goods, transport means, information exchange and borders." Moreover, the Terms of Reference state that "the above recommendations and/or amendments to existing legal instruments should, *inter alia*, be aimed at minimizing the risk of terror attacks in the field of inland transport..."

The Expert Group has agreed on the following recommendations:

1. The Expert Group invites all UNECE member States and other interested parties to provide the secretariat with up-to-date information about inland transport security regulations and initiatives in order to complete and maintain the inventories of national legislation and regulations, international regulatory initiatives and private sector standards and best practices.
2. The Expert Group recommends that all UNECE Inland Transport Committee subsidiary bodies review international legal instruments under their respective areas of responsibility. As the first necessary step, each subsidiary body will place "transport security" on the agenda of its first session after 20 February 2008.
3. The reviews – by each subsidiary body - will necessarily include the following elements and be undertaken in order to:
 - (a) Create an inventory of the existing security measures
 - (b) Provide a clear rationale/justification why there exist no security measures, if appropriate

- (c) Provide a preliminary evaluation concerning the appropriateness/sufficiency of the existing security measures
- (d) Examine the effectiveness of the implementation of the existing security provisions
- (e) Create a list of potentially desirable additional security measures
- (f) Explore the cost effectiveness of future security provisions

4. The Expert Group recommends that Chairmen of all UNECE subsidiary bodies provide preliminary, written reports on their findings not later than two months prior to the 2009 ITC meeting. The reports are to be sent to Director, Transport Division, UNECE.

5. In addition to work on recommendations 2, 3 and 4, as appropriate, UNECE ITC subsidiary bodies should begin and/or continue work towards incorporating security provisions in the relevant international legal instruments under their responsibility.

6. All subsidiary bodies should explore the relevance/applicability of the draft annex IV to the AGN agreement to be used as a possible approach.

7. In the area of transport of dangerous goods, WP.15 with assistance of other relevant international organizations should assess the implementation of Chapter 1.10 of ADR, ADN and RID.

8. The Expert Group recommends that ITC delegates take note that Russia, with assistance of the UNECE, may convene an international conference to address issues of future co-operation in inland transport security.

9. Other areas of possible future security work by UNECE subsidiary bodies could include the following inland transport areas: container security beyond maritime/ports; public urban transport security, critical transport infrastructure protection and research in the area of transport security technology.

10. In order to take stock of the above work, the Expert Group should be re-activated for a two-day session prior to the 2009 ITC meeting.

REPORT OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
on its Seventieth session
(GENEVA, 19-21 FEBRUARY 2008)

TRANSPORT AND SECURITY (Agenda item 7)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/2008/6, Bureau Informal Document No. 1

1. The Committee **noted** and **expressed** its appreciation for the Bureau's Informal Document No. 1 ("Expert Group report"). The Committee **approved** the Expert Group report and requested its subsidiary bodies to act expeditiously upon the recommendations contained therein. In this context, the Committee **noted** that several subsidiary bodies (such as those in the areas of dangerous goods and inland water transport) had already begun to address inland transport security-related issues and underlined that further work was to proceed in a differentiated way. In addition, some delegations expressed the opinion that the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15), in particular, had already dealt with the issue of security in depths and details through the introduction of provisions of Chapter 1.10 of ADR, RID and ADN. Further on, information was given about the EC project that currently evaluates the implementation and the relevance of these provisions within the EU. In light of this and of the fact that additional security measures would result in increased costs to transport operators, which cannot be justified on the basis of the effective risks, they were of the opinion that the recommendations of the expert group should not fully apply to the Working Party on Dangerous Goods. At the same time they considered that the report of the multidisciplinary expert group could be or rather should be brought to its attention for comments.

2. The Committee **invited** the Chair and members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Group on Inland Transport Security to find appropriate ways to continue their work until the final Expert Group meeting, which is expected to take place two months prior to the 2009 session of the Committee.

3. The Committee **welcomed** the Russian Federation's intention to hold an international conference to address issues related to inland transport security. The Committee **invited** the Russian Federation to provide further details about this event and **invited** its Members to contribute and/or take active part. The Committee also **welcomed** the information provided by the representative of the ITF who notified the Committee about a forthcoming Round Table "Security, Risk perception and Cost-benefit analysis" to be held on 27 and 28 November 2008.

REPORT OF THE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
on its Seventy-first SESSION
(GENEVA, 24-26 FEBRUARY 2009)

G. Transport and security (Agenda item 12(g))

Documentation: Informal Document No. 4

4. The Committee **recalled** that at its seventieth session, the Committee had approved the report presented by the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security and requested all ITC subsidiary bodies to act expeditiously upon the recommendations contained in it (ECE/TRANS/200, paras. 36-38). At the current session, the Committee **considered** informal document No. 4 and additional information provided by the Chairman of the Expert Group about the status of implementation of the report's recommendations by ITC subsidiary bodies, about the most recent and final session of the Expert Group that took place on 15-16 January 2009 and about the Group's final recommendations on how to address inland transport security in UNECE.

5. The Committee **endorsed** the report of the Chairman of the Multidisciplinary Inland Transport Security Expert Group, **agreed** that the Group should be re-activated annually as an informal group to discuss horizontal issues addressed at the Committee's subsidiary bodies and provide an international platform for exchange of best practices, and **decided** to include the subject of inland transport security on the agenda of its next session.

Chairman of the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security
REPORT OF THE FINAL SESSION (15-16 JANUARY 2009)
1 February 2009

(Excerpts).....

6. The Expert Group believes it has fulfilled its mandate as prescribed by the terms of reference: three inventories of national, international and private sector transport security initiatives have been prepared and made available. The final report with recommendations was issued on 25 January 2008 and subsequently approved by ITC. Some recommendations have begun to be implemented by ITC subsidiary bodies. More work, however, remains to be done at the subsidiary body level and at the ITC level.

7. In this respect, the Expert Group posits the following for ITC consideration at its 24-26 February 2009 session:

- (a) Consistent with its terms of reference, the Multidisciplinary Expert Group on Inland Transport Security (Expert Group) should not continue in its current form;
- (b) However, given the importance of inland transport security, UNECE - as the administrator of 57 international legal instruments - should remain closely engaged in promotion and advancement of security work;
- (c) In general, at UNECE, transport security issues have not received the attention they deserve. This should be acted upon by a structured, gradual and selective introduction of transport security issues into the UNECE work programmes. The overall goal is to give greater emphasis to inland transport security in UNECE work. In this context, first and foremost, more focused transport security work could be pursued by ITC subsidiary bodies;
- (d) To assist UNECE subsidiary bodies in this regard, the “Expert Group” (perhaps to be re-named as “UNECE Inland Transport Security Forum”) could be re-activated periodically (preferably annually) to act as the horizontal forum to further address transport security issues already discussed at the UNECE subsidiary body level;
- (e) Moreover, given that best practice sharing is often considered as the most effective way of enhancing transport security, UNECE could also play a role in providing an international forum for exchange of best practices;
- (f) Given this framework, the regular, periodic sessions of the “Expert Group” could consist of a one-day session to take stock and consider transport security work undertaken at UNECE and a one-day seminar to discuss and share national/international/private sector best practices and initiatives;
- (g) The annual “Expert Group” meetings could be scheduled before ITC sessions to facilitate consistent, periodic reporting to ITC.