

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

28 April 2011

Ninetieth session

Geneva, 3-5 May 2011

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Any other business

Note by the secretariat

Public consultation on the future deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)

The secretariat reproduces hereafter information from the Vehicle Regulations and Transport Innovations Section as regards the Public consultation on the future deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). Mrs Dörte Schramm, Associate Expert in this section, will make a short presentation of the Public consultation during the ninetieth session of WP.15.

“Technology itself is not intelligent – intelligence is how you make use of it.”

1. Intelligent Transport Systems already play an important role in shaping the future ways of mobility and the transport sector. We expect that transport will become more efficient, safer and greener. The huge potentials and benefits however can only be reaped if ITS solutions are put in place – internationally harmonized as much as possible.
2. UNECE Working Parties have been dealing with different aspects of ITS, particularly with regard to road vehicle regulations that have been negotiated and agreed on in a number of areas, like Navigation systems, cruise control, systems that optimise vehicle braking, electronic stability control (ESC) and provisions for advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) such as lane departure warning systems (LDWS) etc.
3. Based on the wealth of information through the different debates, the UNECE secretariat with the active support of the governments of Italy and Germany has reviewed obstacles to the broader use of ITS and identified areas where the already on-going UNECE work could be of support to the dissemination of ITS results, as well as areas of work where UNECE could further promote the use of ITS.
4. A background paper was prepared and e-published already in 2010 and now a strategic note is made available for public consultation.
5. With the public consultation UNECE aims at defining its role in the promotion of ITS and is eager to listen to your ideas in order to overcome the hindrances that curb the full evolvement of ITS and its benefits to transport and the society.
6. Technological innovation is ahead of legal and institutional change. Now it is the turn of governments and policy-makers to catch-up with the current trends and even speed up their actions. A vast number of ITS projects are already in place and best practices are referred to all around the world.
7. In this regard we study vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure applications, the practical implementation of the “pay as you drive principle”, the high quality traffic information and next generation navigation system, as well as eco-driving, smart cars, cashless tolling, variable message signs, data management, different definitions of ITS, education, security and liability. Revolutionary approaches like universal, open, integrated and scalable platforms for future systems are among the issues that offer opportunities, but also create concerns for the transport policy makers.
8. The public consultation started during the last session of the Inland Transport Committee in March 2011 and will be open until 31st May 2011. After an in-depth assessment of all contributions received we shall present a final strategy package that includes the already available background paper that is meant to share information on best practices in the first place, the revised strategy note on which we are seeking your views and a Road map specifically for the UNECE activities over the next couple of years in support of ITS applications.
9. Be informed that you will find no questionnaire attached to the public consultation. We would like to learn about your ideas and would like to encourage you to be part of shaping the future for the promotion of ITS at UNECE. Therefore you are kindly invited to review, consider and respond.
10. Additional information and the strategic note for public consultation may be found on our website at http://live.unece.org/trans/events/2011/ITS_Public_Consultation.html