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Working Party on Rail Transport

Sixty-sixth session

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Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Rail review

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Note by the secretariat

1. The Review of Rail Transport will be a biannual publication of UNECE with the aim of fostering the transparency of rail markets and analyzing relevant developments.
2. Main objective of this publication will be best practices sharing, main rail data dissemination, policies and strategies applied sharing. The publication is proposed to be divided into six chapters having the following structure:
3. CHAPTER 1. / Developments in International Rail Transport: This chapter should analyze the developments of rail transport worldwide. This analysis should include among others data collection and dissemination, best practices and policies implemented, big railway projects (infrastructure etc) that are taking place worldwide.
4. CHAPTER 2. / Public Private Partnerships and Railways financing: This chapter should focus on different Public Private Partnership's schemes that have been already implemented in different projects worldwide. It is very important railways to discover new ways for financing their projects or new sources for generating profits. This chapter should provide information regarding different implementation guidelines, existing practices, terms and conditions of different projects.
5. CHAPTER 3. / Overview of High Speed Trains: High speed trains are connected with the revitalization of railways worldwide. However their development requires thorough cost benefits analysis which should include energy consumption, pricing of tickets etc. The Chapter should provide information about existing successful case studies on high speed trains and case studies – if any – where the objectives were not achieved. Also, the economics for the development of a high speed service should be presented and analyzed.
6. CHAPTER 4. / Railways Productivity Indicators: This Chapter will focus on our formal document regarding the railways productivity indicators. A questionnaire will be prepared and distributed to as many rail transport authorities as possible.
7. CHAPTER 5. / Railways revitalization: many efforts have been taken the last years by railways to reform their operations and become profitable. This chapter will present different regional initiatives regarding railways reform and different case studies.

8. CHAPTER 6. / Climate change Adaptation and Mitigation. The chapter will illustrate the role that railways have to play in both adaptation and mitigation. The construction challenges for the adaptation to climate change impacts and the advantages of railways on climate change mitigation will be presented and analyzed.
