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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

##### Group of Experts on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks

###### Third session

Geneva, 24 April 2012

### Report of the Expert Group on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks on its third session

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## **I. Attendance**

1. The Expert Group (hereafter called the group) on Climate Change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks held its third session on 24 April 2012. Representatives of the following United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) member States participated: Bulgaria, France, Poland, Tajikistan and Turkey.
2. Representatives of the following States not members of UNECE participated: Republic of Korea.
3. Representatives of the following United Nations organizations and specialized agencies attended the meeting: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
4. The following intergovernmental organization was represented: International Union of Railways (UIC).
5. The following non-governmental organization was represented: International Road Federation (IRF).
6. Representatives of the following bodies attended the meeting at the invitation of the secretariat: Network Rail (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), National Technical University of Athens, University of Birmingham.

## **II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)**

*Documentation:* ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/5 and Corr.1

7. The group adopted the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/GE.3/5 and Corr.1).

## **III. Climate Change and International Transport Networks: Presentations of initiatives of International Organizations and Agencies (agenda item 2)**

8. The group appreciated the presentations made by its members on the initiatives of UIC and IRF on climate change impacts and adaptation for international transport networks. The group considered these initiatives as very useful for its work and requested the secretariat to further cooperate with the above-mentioned organizations so as to include the results of their research – work at the final report of the group under the chapter “International organizations initiatives and best practices”.

## **IV. International conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change” (agenda item 3)**

*Documentation:* Informal document No. 1

9. The group welcomed and thanked the Hellenic Chambers Transport Association (HCTA) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Evros (Evros CCI) for their confirmation to kindly host, support and sponsor the UNECE International Conference on “Adaptation of Transport Networks to Climate Change” in Alexandroupolis (25–26 June 2012, Greece).
10. The group welcomed and supported the invitations sent by the secretariat to the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks and the Ministry of Environment,

Energy and Climate Change of Greece requesting their participation in the conference and for placing it under their aegis.

11. The group endorsed the list of speakers for the conference proposed by the secretariat (Informal document No. 1) based on the outline and structure agreed upon at the second session of the group and asked the secretariat to send invitations to speakers and conference participants.

## **V. Partners and expected contributions (agenda item 4)**

12. The group appreciated the secretariat's efforts to explore possible collaboration with UNCTAD, the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (UNCSD), WMO, the European Commission and the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects; requested the secretariat to continue its efforts to ensure cooperation with these organizations and global coverage of the work of the group; and asked the secretariat to inform the group of the outcome at its next session.

## **VI. Report of the Expert Group (agenda item 5)**

13. The group appreciated the secretariat's efforts to ensure the further engagement of a consultant to assist the group in completing its final report.

## **VII. Questionnaire for collection of information on existing and potential climate change impacts on transport, as well as degree of preparedness and relevant policies for adaptation (agenda item 6)**

*Documentation:* Informal document No. 2

14. The group considered and approved the electronic version of the questionnaire prepared by the secretariat (Informal document No. 2), amended to include technical questions for each transport mode (road, rail, inland water, ports); requested the secretariat to send the questionnaire as soon as possible to UNECE member States and key stakeholders; and explored possibilities of gathering required information through the involvement of other organizations.

## **VIII. Other business (agenda item 7)**

15. There were no other items.

## **IX. Date and place of next meeting (agenda item 8)**

16. The fourth session of the group is tentatively scheduled for 9 October 2012.

## **X. Adoption of the report**

17. The group adopted the list of main decisions of its third session and requested the secretariat and the Chair to prepare the full and complete report to be circulated to the members of the group for comments on items other than those contained in the list of main decisions.

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