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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Transport Statistics

(Fifty-second session, 14-16 November 2001,
agenda item 4 (c))

INTERSECRETARIAT WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT STATISTICS (IWG)

IWG Mission Statement

Note by the Secretariat

BACKGROUND AND MANDATE

At its fifty-first session, (24-26 October 2000), the Working Party asked Eurostat to prepare a paper on the mission of the IWG, and submit it to the next IWG meeting (TRANS/WP6/139, para. 11). In accordance with the Working Party's request, Eurostat has produced a draft document on which UNECE and ECMT secretariats have made comments. The final version of the document is reproduced in the annex for consideration by the Working Party.

Annex

Eurostat¹/UNECE²/ECMT³
Intersecretariat Working Group
on Transport Statistics
(IWG)

MISSION STATEMENT

The IWG should contribute to the development of a coordinated statistical system for transport, in order for users to have access to high quality data.

This should be achieved by:

- Leading the development towards harmonized definitions (as contained in the Glossary for Transport Statistics) and classifications, encouraging their use and keeping track of exceptions in the use of them
- Reducing the burden on the countries by coordinating and limiting common data collection
- Developing and improving the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics and promoting it as the main tool for common collection of transport statistical data
- Making data available to other organizations as well as to the participating countries
- Cooperating with specialized and professional organizations with expertise in the transport domain
- Following and supporting methodological work in transport statistics and in adjacent areas that might influence transport statistics
- External transport statistics collectors/ providers/ users profit from the work done within the framework of the IWG
- Encouraging countries to share best practices

The IWG is composed of one or more representatives from Eurostat, UNECE and ECMT. Experts from countries or organizations may be invited to participate in the work.

The Member States in the UN-ECE WP.6 meeting should be consulted for any major decisions whereas any implementation or other decisions should be made by the IWG itself.

The IWG should meet at least twice a year with Eurostat, UNECE and ECMT alternating as hosts and chairpersons.

Annex

1 Statistical Office of the European Communities, a Directorate-General of the European Commission.

2 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

3 European Conference for Ministers of Transport.

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This should be achieved by:

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- Reducing the burden on the countries in providing statistics by coordinating and limiting common data collection
- Developing and improving the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics and promoting it as the main tool for common collection of transport statistical data
- Making data available to member countries as well as other organizations.
- Cooperating with specialized and professional organizations with expertise in the transport domain
- Following and supporting methodological work in the collection of transport statistics and in adjacent areas that might influence transport statistics
- External transport statistics collectors/ providers/ users to make use of the work done within the framework of the IWG
- Encouraging countries to share best practices in the collection and distribution of transport related statistics.

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