



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Transport Statistics

##### Seventy-third session

Geneva, 15–17 June 2021

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

##### Adoption of the agenda

### **Annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-third session\*\***

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva in a hybrid/online format starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 15–17 June 2022.

#### **I. Provisional Agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Big Data for transport statistics.
4. Travel surveys.
5. The transport-related Sustainable Development Goals.
6. Statistical activities of member States.
7. Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics:

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\* Delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Sustainable Transport Division's website: <https://unece.org/info/Transport/Transport-Statistics/events/365086>.

\*\* Delegates are requested to register online at the following address: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=DDbKJg>. Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (+41 22 917 2432) or by email (Yana.Brynkina@un.org). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website at: [www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html).

- (a) Tram and metro statistics;
  - (b) Common questionnaire;
  - (c) Vehicle statistics.
8. Traffic censuses and geospatial statistics:
  - (a) 2020 E-Road traffic censuses;
  - (b) 2020 E-Rail traffic censuses;
  - (c) Other geospatial applications in transport statistics.
9. Dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
10. Programme of work 2022–2024 and biennial evaluation 2020–2021.
11. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies.
12. Statistical activities of international organizations of Interest to the Working Party.
13. Other business:
  - (a) Date of next session;
  - (b) Information on upcoming meetings on transport statistics.
14. Summary of decisions.

## II. Annotations

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/182

### 2. Election of officers

Mr. Michael Scrim of Statistics Canada was elected as Chair in 2020 for the period 2021–2022. However, his duties have changed within Statistics Canada, and he no longer works on transport matters. The Working Party will need to choose a replacement for the seventy-third session.

In addition, in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to preside over the sessions in 2023 and 2024.

### 3. Big Data for transport statistics

Since the COVID-19 outbreak started, many member States have accelerated the use of new data sources, either due to timeliness or because they can provide sub-national or temporal detail that traditional surveys and administrative records cannot.

This agenda item will include updates from member States on their own activities in integrating new data sources into regular transport statistics.

At last year's session the secretariat mentioned the possibility of further collaboration at the international level on big data, in particular on using mobile phone data for transport statistics. The work of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics will be presented, in particular the task team on mobile phone data and its subgroup on transportation and commuting statistics (with involvement from the United Nations Statistics Division and the International Telecommunications Union among others). This group is currently working on a handbook of using mobile phone data for production of transport statistics. Working Party members are welcome to participate in this group and are encouraged to provide case studies of their own experiences in using mobile phone data for transport statistics.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/3

### 4. Travel surveys

Many countries conduct national travel surveys in the ECE region, either on a fixed term (annually, every two years etc.) or on a more sporadic basis<sup>1</sup>. These surveys can provide a rich source of data on questions like trip purpose, gender characteristics of journey types,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC83304>.

length of trips, as well as cycling and walking data that are difficult to obtain from automatic counters or administrative sources.

It would improve international transport statistics to ascertain the extent of comparability across countries of the results of these surveys, and it is hoped that countries can learn from the experiences of each other.

Under this agenda item, countries are invited to share their own experiences of running travel surveys, and discuss how to take forward cooperation at the international level. Presentations are foreseen from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (who are scheduled to moderate this item), Netherlands and Sweden among others.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/9

## **5. The transport-related Sustainable Development Goals**

This agenda item will cover data collection and monitoring activities for each of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to transport, as well as looking at transport and the 2030 agenda with a more holistic approach. Member States are encouraged to share their views and own experiences on monitoring the transport-related Sustainable Development Goals.

The secretariat will provide an update on collecting and disseminating data on road traffic accidents, in the context of monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 3.6.1 which calls for the halving of road traffic accident fatalities by 2020. Member States are encouraged to share their experiences in monitoring road traffic safety. The World Health Organization will provide an update on their statistical activities as custodian of indicator 3.6.1.

The ECE Statistics Division will update on their new report “measuring Progress towards SDGs in the UNECE Region”, identifying targets of the 2030 Development Agenda that are on track, where progress has to accelerate and where the direction of travel has to be reversed.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/8

## **6. Statistical activities of member States**

This standing agenda item allows member States to share their current and future activities in the field of transport statistics. Any presentations of current projects and plans for the future are welcome. Delegates are encouraged to discuss their planned interventions with the secretariat beforehand.

## **7. Data collection, methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics**

### **(a) Tram and metro statistics**

The secretariat will present an update on the collection of tram and metro statistics, their value for tracking public transport post-covid-19, and future plans to improve dissemination of the figures.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/5

**(b) Common questionnaire**

The availability of data collected through the web common questionnaire for transport statistics (WebCoQ) will be discussed, in addition to the activities of the three custodian organizations aimed at increasing the response rate and improving data quality over the last twelve months. The new excel-based collection system, presented at the previous session, will be discussed and member States are encouraged to share their experiences in using it.

In 2019 a streamlining of the data requested for the common questionnaire was proposed and agreed by all three organizations and member States. The three partner organizations plan to conduct a further streamlining this year, which member States are invited to consider.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/2; ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/10

**(c) Vehicle statistics**

The secretariat will introduce a discussion around certain aspects of vehicle statistics, including emissions from electric vehicles depending on the time that they are charged (and the policy implications this), the number and capacity of vehicle charging stations, as well as statistics on the trade in used vehicles.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/6

**8. Traffic censuses and geospatial statistics****(a) 2020 E-Road traffic censuses**

The secretariat will provide an update on the data received so far for the 2020 E-Road traffic census. Some member States have indicated that their 2020 census was delayed or significantly restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Solutions on the best way to proceed will be discussed. Recalling discussions last year, the importance of providing data in a geospatial format, preferably Shapefiles, is emphasised, and the secretariat will share methods for creating Shapefiles when only limited information is available.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/12

**(b) 2020 E-Rail traffic censuses**

The secretariat will remind delegates to provide 2020 E-Rail census information by the deadline of 30 June 2022. In particular, delegates are requested to provide data on rail line traffic in a geospatial format where possible, in addition to the data requested by Eurostat (only relevant for countries who submit data to Eurostat).

Given the exceptional nature of traffic in 2020 due to COVID-19, the secretariat will request that data for 2019 are provided as well to make a more meaningful historical comparison.

**(c) Other geospatial applications in transport statistics**

In addition to the traffic censuses, the secretariat has worked for some time in using additional data sources, notably Eurostat origin-destination information, to investigate further potential in geospatial transport statistics. This will be discussed in relation to monitoring intermodal transport and potentially identifying modal shifting opportunities. Member States with their own datasets on measuring intermodal transport are invited to share them.

Presentations from academia and others are foreseen under this item.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/11

**9. Dissemination of transport statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

The Working Party will be informed about the new interactive version of the Transport Statistics Infocards, as well as the status of the ECE database on transport statistics and the status of the publications: Statistics for Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (RAS) and the “Inland Transport Statistics for Europe and North America”<sup>2</sup>. Short country interventions on their own dissemination strategies are welcome.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/7

**10. Programme of work 2022-2024 and biennial evaluation 2020-2021**

As agreed at the previous session, a biennial programme of work will continue to be drafted for approval of the Working Party for programming and monitoring reasons. Given the mid-year nature of working party sessions, the secretariat proposes that this programme of work can run until June 2024, to synchronise the reporting period with the sessions of the working party.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2022/4

**11. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies**

The Working Party will be informed about the results of the eighty-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee, which took place from 22 to 25 February 2022, in particular about its decisions relating to the activities of the Working Party, including the approval of its updated Terms of Reference (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2021/3).

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2021/3

**12. Statistical activities of international organizations of interest to the Working Party**

The Working Party may wish to receive reports from representatives of the following organizations on their current and future activities in the field of transport statistics:

- European Commission (DG MOVE)
- European Commission (Eurostat)
- International Transport Forum (ITF)

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<sup>2</sup> Both publications are available at [www.unece.org/transport/resources/publications/transport-statistics.html](http://www.unece.org/transport/resources/publications/transport-statistics.html).

- International Union of Railways (UIC)
- Other international organizations.

This agenda item will also cover any activities conducted by the Intersecretariat Working Group on transport statistics.

### **13. Other business**

#### **(a) Date of next session**

The seventy-fourth session of the working party is tentatively scheduled for 15 to 17 May 2023 at the Palais des Nations (Geneva).

#### **(b) Information on upcoming meetings on transport statistics**

The Working Party will be informed about dates and locations of upcoming meetings on transport statistics in 2022 and 2023.

### **14. Summary of decisions**

In line with established practice and in accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/156, para. 6), at the end of the session, the Chair will make a brief summary of the decisions taken. Following the session, the ECE secretariat, in cooperation with the Chair, will draw up a report on the outcome of the session.

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