



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics

##### Thirty-eighth session

Geneva, 24–26 September 2025

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

##### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session\*, \*\*

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday,  
24 September 2025, Room VIII, Palais des Nations

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Development of transport networks and links:
  - (a) Euro-Asian Transport Links;
  - (b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects;
  - (c) Trans-European Transport Network;
  - (d) Transport in the Mediterranean Region;
  - (e) Other initiatives on the development of transport corridors.
3. Transport infrastructure data:

International Transport Infrastructure Observatory.
4. Transport and climate change:
  - (a) Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport;

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\* Delegates are kindly requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session, as no printed documentation will be available in the conference room. Prior to the session, documents may be downloaded from the WP.5 thirty-eighth annual session webpage:

<https://unece.org/transport/events/wp5-working-party-transport-trends-and-economics-38th-session>.

\*\* Delegates, including those in possession of a long-duration badge, are requested to register online at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1011912/> and to 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 ECE secretariat by phone at +41 22 917 59 75 or by email at: [maria.mostovets@un.org](mailto:maria.mostovets@un.org). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, please consult: [www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html).



- (b) Implementation of the Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport.
- 5. Inland transport security.
- 6. Sustainable urban mobility, cycling and public transport.
- 7. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals:
  - (a) Transport trends and challenges in the road, rail, and inland waterways sectors;
  - (b) Transport Trends and Economics 2025–2026;
  - (c) Technical assistance to countries with economies in transition:
    - (i) Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators;
    - (ii) Regional adviser technical assistance;
    - (iii) Support for Landlocked Developing Countries.
- 8. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party.
- 9. Working party evaluation report for the period 2024–2025 and updated biennial and long-term programme of work.
- 10. Other business.
- 11. Date of next session.
- 12. Adoption of main decisions.

## II. Annotations

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with its rules of procedure, the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda for its thirty-eight session.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/77

### 2. Development of transport networks and links

#### (a) Euro-Asian Transport Links

Since the thirty-seventh annual session of WP.5, the Coordination Committee on the Trans-Caspian and Almaty–Tehran–Istanbul Corridors – convening as a Group of Friends of the WP.5 Chair – has continued its work to enhance the operationalization of the two corridors, in line with its agreed biennial programme of work, as set out in document ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/1 (annex II). The WP.5 Chair, together with Coordination Committee members from Georgia and Uzbekistan, which hosted the sixth and seventh sessions respectively, will report on progress made in operationalizing the corridors since the previous session. The progress report is contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/1. Certain data on key infrastructure parameters from countries participating in the Coordination Committee was submitted to the secretariat at a later stage or remains under review. This additional information, pertaining to Cluster 1, will be made available in an update contained in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 1.

In addition, the Governments of the Russian Federation, Belarus, and Mongolia will present ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/2, which outlines the progress made toward the establishment of the Coordination Committee for the Management of EATL Railway Route No. 1. The document also reiterates the mandates underpinning the creation of this Committee and serves as an information note to the Working Party.

#### (b) Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects

The managers of the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects will brief the Working Party on activities carried out since the previous session. An overview of these activities is provided in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 2.

#### (c) Trans-European Transport Network

The European Commission will brief the Working Party on recent developments concerning the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T).

#### (d) Transport in the Mediterranean Region

The Mediterranean Transport Study Centre (CETMO) will be invited to update the Working Party on its recent activities. An overview of these activities is contained in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 3. The European Commission will also be invited to brief the Working Party on its ongoing efforts in developing the Euro-Mediterranean transport network.

#### (e) Other initiatives on the development of transport corridors

Representatives of other organizations and institutions may also wish to brief the Working Party on their activities related to the operationalization of various transport corridors.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/1, annex II; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/1;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/2; Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 1;  
Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 2; Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 3

### **3. Transport infrastructure data**

#### **International Transport Infrastructure Observatory**

The secretariat will provide a progress report and outline next steps regarding the further development of the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO), which is increasingly used by governments, regional organizations, and other stakeholders.

In addition, the secretariat will provide a brief update on climate resilience aspects discussed during the 2024 WP.5 Round Table on “Financing Transport Infrastructure for Corridor Development”, emphasizing ITIO’s role in supporting climate change forecasting and impact assessment for transport infrastructure.

### **4. Transport and climate change**

#### **(a) Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport**

Under this agenda item, the final report of the Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport (WP.5/GE.3), which completed its mandate in May 2025, will be presented for consideration and endorsement by the Working Party. The final report is contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/4 and ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/7.

In addition, a dedicated panel discussion entitled “Towards Climate-Resilient Transport Systems” will be held on the morning of 25 September 2025. The panel will present the key findings and main recommendations of the Group of Experts’ final report. A brief agenda and concept note for the panel discussion are provided in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 4.

Following the panel discussion, ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/5, annex I, which contains the draft Terms of Reference for a proposed Technical Body on Inland Transport Climate Resilience will be presented to the Working Party.

The proposed Technical Body would operate with an open-ended mandate to support the implementation of the ITC Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport until 2050 (ECE/TRANS/2024/3), with particular emphasis on the Strategy’s component addressing effective climate change adaptation.

WP.5 is invited to consider and finalize the draft Terms of Reference and recommend them for adoption by the Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-eighth session in 2026; it is proposed that the Technical Body be established as a subsidiary body to WP.5. Upon endorsement by the Working Party and subsequently by the Inland Transport Committee (ITC), this new body would be established to build upon the work of the former Group of Experts (WP.5/GE.3).

#### **(b) Implementation of the Strategy on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Inland Transport**

Following the workshop on the importance of integrating the inland transport sector into Member States’ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, held during the thirty-seventh session of WP.5, and mindful of the resulting request to the secretariat – also supported by the Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-seventh session – to develop a draft NDC template for inland transport, the Working Party is invited to consider and discuss the draft proposal contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/3, annex II. The draft template is intended to assist countries in preparing their overall NDCs and in more efficiently reporting on ongoing and planned measures aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from inland transport.

As part of this agenda item, a round table will be held on the afternoon of 25 September 2025, bringing together representatives from interested member States and various mode- and submode-specific organizations active in this field. The purpose of the round table is to discuss the proposed NDC template, with a view to assist the Working Party in finalizing and

endorsing it for submission to ITC at its eighty-eighth session in February 2026. A brief agenda and concept note for the round table are provided in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 5.

Moreover, mindful of the Working Party's request at its thirty-seventh annual session that a progress report on the activities and achievements of the Informal ECE Task Force on Electric Mobility be presented at its annual session in 2025, the Working Party is invited to consider ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/3, annex I. The document summarizes key developments since the first session of the Task Force and highlights the outcomes of its second and third meetings, held in December 2024 and July 2025, respectively. It also outlines the substantive progress achieved under the prioritized clusters of work, which have convened actively over the past year, as identified in the 2024–2025 programme of work.

The Working Party is invited to review the activities of the E-Mobility Task Force in line with the 2024–2025 work plan and to provide guidance, as it deems appropriate, on the focus and scope of the 2026 work plan, as well as on the possibility of a one-year extension of the Task Force's mandate until 2027, particularly in view of the resource constraints faced by the ECE secretariat.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/3, annex I and II; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/4;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/5, annex I; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/7; ECE/TRANS/2024/3;  
Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 4; Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 5

## **5. Inland transport security**

Under this agenda item, and in line with the biennial programme of work of the Working Party – under which transport security is addressed from a different angle every two years – designated keynote statements will be delivered to highlight the important role of transport in promoting security and stability. This includes the potential of transport systems to restore confidence and facilitate connectivity in fragile or volatile settings, as well as their broader relevance in supporting national and regional efforts to enhance preparedness, resilience, and cooperation in response to evolving security challenges.

## **6. Sustainable urban mobility, cycling and public transport**

Following the endorsement of the final report of the Group of Experts on Cycling Infrastructure Module (WP.5/GE.5) at the Working Party's annual session in 2024, and in line with the request to explore the possible development of a legal instrument on cycling infrastructure – which received support from ITC at its eighty-seventh session in February 2025 – the Working Party will be invited to consider, finalize, and endorse the draft terms of reference for a new Group of Experts on the Development of a Cycle Route Network Convention, as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/5, annex II, ahead of their submission to ITC for approval at its annual session in February 2026.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/5, annex II

## **7. Review and monitoring of emerging issues and sustainable development goals**

### **(a) Transport trends and challenges in the road, rail, and inland waterways sectors**

Under this agenda item, the Working Party will be briefed on the concept of strategic foresight, including its relevance for transport policymakers in identifying long-term trends, anticipating emerging risks and opportunities, and informing the development of resilient, forward-looking transport policies. Break-out sessions on selected case studies may be organized to support a deeper understanding of the topic and generate concrete outcomes and recommendations. These outcomes are expected to help shape the future work of WP.5,

including its possible role in monitoring emerging trends in inland transport as part of its upcoming biennial programme of work. This strategic foresight introduction session will be held on Friday, 26 September (a.m.), and a draft agenda and concept note are contained in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 6.

**(b) Transport Trends and Economics 2025–2026**

The Working Party may wish to provide guidance and strategic direction for future work in this area.

**(c) Technical assistance to countries with economies in transition**

**(i) Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators**

The secretariat will present the revamped “Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity Indicators (SITCIN)” user platform. In response to the request made at the previous session, this includes enhancements to the platform’s visualization and analytical tools to more effectively present country-specific analysis results, as well as expanded accessibility through the addition of French and Russian language versions—thereby broadening its geographical reach. The update will also cover the integration of new indicator sets related to transit and border-crossing policies for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), along with indicators for pandemic and climate change resilience. A brief overview of the new features is provided in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 7.

**(ii) Regional adviser technical assistance**

The Regional Adviser of the ECE Sustainable Transport Division will inform the Working Party about transport-related technical assistance activities provided by ECE to countries with economies in transition. Details are provided in Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 8.

**(iii) Support for Landlocked Developing Countries**

The secretariat will brief the Working Party on the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3), scheduled to be held from 5 to 8 August 2025 in Awaza, Turkmenistan.

**Documentation**

Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 6; Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 7; Informal document WP.5 (2025) No. 8

**8. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe bodies of interest to the Working Party**

The secretariat will inform the Working Party about the main decisions of the eighty-seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee (Geneva, 11–14 February 2025) on issues of its interest.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/2025/L.1/Rev.1

**9. Working party evaluation report for the period 2024–2025 and updated biennial and long-term programme of work**

As per the adopted biennial and long-term programme of work of the Working Party – endorsed at its thirty-sixth annual session in September 2023 (ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/10) – the Chair with the support of the secretariat, has prepared an evaluation report covering the period 2024–2025, along with a new draft biennial programme of work for 2026–2027 and an updated long-term programme. These reflect both ongoing and newly proposed activities under the framework of WP.5. The relevant information is contained in document

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/6. The Working Party is invited to consider, provide feedback on, and endorse the proposals contained in this document.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2023/10; ECE/TRANS/WP.5/2025/6

**10. Other business**

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.

**11. Date of next session**

The next WP.5 session is tentatively scheduled to take place in Geneva on 23–25 September 2026.

**12. Adoption of main decisions**

In accordance with WP.5 decision at its fifteenth session (TRANS/WP.5/32, para. 56), decisions taken at the session will be adopted at the end of the session. The report of the session, including the decisions, will be established by the Chair and Vice-Chairs with the assistance of the secretariat, for submission to ITC.

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