

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/L.1
26 October 2015
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Committee on Transport
Sixteenth session
Cairo, 23-24 November 2015

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Transport and logistics in the Arab region:
 - (a) National trade and transport facilitation committees;
 - (b) Results of the trade and transport facilitation survey;
 - (c) The ePlatform for the follow-up on the implementation of the components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM);
 - (d) Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq.
5. Progress achieved in the field of transport since the fifteenth session of the Committee on Transport:
 - (a) Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its fifteenth session;
 - (b) Implementation of transport-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work;
 - (c) Feedback of member State representatives on the proceedings of the fifteenth session of the Committee;
 - (d) Updating the Agreement on International Railways, the Agreement on International Roads and the Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq to include the Maghreb States that have recently joined ESCWA.
6. Road safety:
 - (a) The status of road safety in the Arab region;
 - (b) A proposed ESCWA manual on road safety management systems;
 - (c) Experiences of Arab countries in managing road safety (round-table discussion);

- (d) Brasilia Declaration on Road Safety.
- 7. Date and venue of the seventeenth session of the Committee on Transport.
- 8. Other matters.
- 9. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Transport at its sixteenth session.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

Prior to the opening of the session, a joint meeting will be convened by the secretariat for delegates participating in the sixteenth session of the Committee on Transport and delegates participating in the tenth session of the Committee on the Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development (which is also held in Cairo, on 22 and 23 November 2015) to launch the ESCWA report entitled "Assessment of the Arab Economic Integration: From the greater Arab Free Trade Area to an Arab Customs Union". The report is scheduled to be published towards the end of 2015. The joint meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday 23 November 2015 and will last one hour.

Afterwards, the Committee on Transport will commence its session at 3 p.m. on the same day, Tuesday, 23 November 2015, in the Conference Hall of Marriott Hotel (Al-Jazeera), in Cairo. The representative of Morocco, the country which chaired the fifteenth session of the Committee, will make a welcome statement. Ms. Rima Khalaf, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCWA, will then deliver the inaugural speech. The session is expected to be held under the auspices of the Minister of Transport in Egypt.

2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: "Member States shall chair the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations.* Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers". Pursuant to that rule, Egypt will chair the sixteenth session of the Committee, succeeding Morocco, which hosted and chaired the fifteenth session.

In order to ensure continuity, the Committee has adopted the following procedure, which maintains the spirit of rule 18, to select its two vice-chairs and its rapporteur: the vice-chairs shall be the representative of the country that chaired the previous session and the representative of the country that will chair the subsequent session of the Committee according to the Arabic alphabetical rotation. The rapporteur shall be the representative of the country next in the alphabetical order to the country of the second vice-chair. Accordingly, the representatives of Morocco and Saudi Arabia shall be the vice-chairs and the representative of Mauritania shall be the rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which applies to subsidiary bodies, states: "At the beginning of each session, once the Chair has assumed his/her duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda". Pursuant to that rule, the Committee will be presented with the

* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are as follows: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Iraq, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania and Yemen.

provisional agenda and annotations for this session in document E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/L.1 and the organization of work in document E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work in that or an amended form.

4. Transport and logistics in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/3)

The secretariat will present the following four reports to the Committee:

(a) National trade and transport facilitation committees
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/3(Part I))

This document presents a review of the progress achieved by member States in establishing national committees on trade and transport facilitation. Information on progress was drawn from reports received by the secretariat on the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its fifteenth session and the components of ITSAM, and on the developments that have occurred in the field of transport in member States during the period 2014-2015.

The member States that have not yet provided their reports are invited to do so in order to expedite the preparation of a comprehensive evaluation of the national committees on trade and transport facilitation and their role in stimulating and mainstreaming transport for trade.

(b) Results of the trade and transport facilitation survey
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/3(Part II))

The Committee will be briefed on the results of the survey conducted by the secretariat on the status of implementation of trade and paperless trade measures in the countries of the region. This survey was conducted in parallel with similar surveys administered by the other regional United Nations commissions as parts of the Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the results, which could inform the development of action plans to facilitate trade and transport in their respective countries.

(c) The ePlatform for the follow-up on the implementation of the components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM)
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/3(Part III))

This document presents the ePlatform developed by the secretariat with the aim of enabling concerned focal points in member States to update maps and data relevant to the transport agreements that are part of ITSAM. The secretariat will also make a presentation of the ePlatform with practical examples that clarify its concept and objective.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the concept and objective of the ePlatform and offer their suggestions on any adjustments required, to be effected by the secretariat.

(e) Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/3(Part IV))

This document presents a review of the progress made in the plan of action that was adopted by the Committee at its twelfth session (Beirut, 17-19 May 2011) concerning the implementation of article 5, on coastal transportation, of the Memorandum. The information presented in the report is based on the maritime transport data provided by member States in their reports on the

developments in the field of transport during the period 2014-2015. The document also includes a blueprint of navigation lines for sea and river connectivity between Arab countries so as to support intraregional trade, as per the recommendation of the Committee at its fifteenth session.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the document and make comments thereon.

5. Progress achieved in the field of transport since the fifteenth session of the Committee on Transport
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/4)

Under this item, the Committee will be presented with the following four reports:

(a) Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its fifteenth session
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/4(Part I))

In this document, the Committee will review the actions taken in the field of transport in implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its fifteenth session. The document lists each recommendation and the related implementation actions.

Representatives of member States are invited to make comments thereon and express the needs of their countries with respect to implementation.

(b) Implementation of transport-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/4(Part II))

In this document, the Committee will review the progress made in implementing the transport-related activities undertaken since its fifteenth session, under the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015.

Representatives of member States are invited to make comments and recommendations thereon.

(c) Feedback of member State representatives on the proceedings of the fifteenth session of the Committee

The secretariat will give a visual presentation on the results of the feedback questionnaire that was filled by representatives of member States on the proceedings of the fifteenth session of the Committee. The secretariat will also answer queries, comments and proposals contained in the feedback.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of those results and offer their opinion on the relevancy and structure of the questionnaire.

(d) Updating the Agreement on International Railways, the Agreement on International Roads and the Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq to include the Maghreb States that have recently joined ESCWA
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/4(Part III))

This document presents the mechanisms adopted by the United Nations for amending international agreements in general. It also presents the amendments to be introduced to the Agreement on International Railways, the Agreement on International Roads and the Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Transport Cooperation in the Arab Mashreq to include the Maghreb States that have recently joined ESCWA.

Representatives of member States parties to those instruments are invited to take note of the document presented and cast their votes on the proposed amendments.

6. Road safety
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/5)

The secretariat will present the following four reports to the Committee:

(a) The status of road safety in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/5(Part I))

This report presents a review of the status of road safety in the Arab region based on reports on the subject sent by member States to the secretariat. It also includes information gathered from a questionnaire sent by the secretariat to member States as a follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its fifteenth session, the implementation of ITSAM components and the developments in the field of transport in member States in the period 2014-2015.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the document presented, in particular the questionnaire, and offer suggestions thereon with a view to adopting it as one of the follow-up questionnaires to be regularly sent by the secretariat to member States.

(b) A proposed ESCWA manual on road safety management systems
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/5(Part II))

The secretariat will present a proposed manual on establishing and activating road safety management systems in member States.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the proposed manual and discuss its content with a view to adopting it.

(c) Experiences of Arab countries in managing road safety (round-table discussion)
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/5(Part III))

The secretariat will moderate a round-table discussion in which representatives of member States shall present and discuss the experiences of their countries in managing road safety, in particular their experiences in implementing the Decade of Action for Road Safety.

Representatives of member States are invited to present the experiences of their respective countries in that regard.

(d) Brasilia Declaration on Road Safety
(E/ESCWA/EDID/2015/IG.3/5(Part IV))

The secretariat will present its remarks on the draft text of the Brasilia declaration on road safety, which will be adopted at the Second Global High-level Conference on Road Safety (Brasilia, 18-19 November 2015). It will then present the adopted version, highlighting its recommendations on road safety.

Representatives of member States are invited to review those recommendations and agree on ways to implement them and on the support that the secretariat could provide in that regard.

7. Date and venue of the seventeenth session of the Committee on Transport

Representatives of member States shall agree on the date and venue of the seventeenth session of the Committee on Transport, given that it convenes in the second half of 2016.

8. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the representatives of member States may wish to discuss.

9. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Transport at its sixteenth session

The Committee will consider the draft recommendations of its sixteenth session for discussion and adoption.
