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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Committee on Transport and Logistics  
Twenty-third session  
Alexandria, Egypt, 20-21 October 2022



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Provisional agenda and annotations**

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5. Geographic information system for transport networks and facilities in the Arab region: latest developments.
6. Developments in the transport and logistics sectors in member States.

**New issues in the transport and logistics sectors**

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8. Blockchain and logistics: opportunities for the Arab region.
9. Round-table discussion 1: evidence-based policies to improve road safety in Arab countries.
10. Round-table discussion 2: preparing transport professions in the Arab region and future challenges (in collaboration with the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport).

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11. Date and venue of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee.
12. Other matters.
13. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Transport and Logistics at its twenty-third session.

### **Annotations**

1. Opening of the session

The twenty-third session of the Committee on Transport and Logistics will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 20 October 2022, at the headquarters of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport in Alexandria, Egypt. The representative of the State that chaired the twenty-second session of the Committee will make a welcome statement, followed by an opening address by the ESCWA secretariat.

2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the ESCWA Rules of Procedure 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”.<sup>\*</sup> The Committee shall elect two vice-chairs and a rapporteur from representatives of member States.

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 adopt the provisional agenda and annotations for this session in document E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/L.1 and the organization of work in document E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/L.2 or as amended.

### **Follow-up issues**

4. Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme plan in the field of transport and logistics, of technical cooperation activities, and of recommendations made by the Committee at its twenty-second session (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/3)

The Committee will review the activities implemented since its twenty-second session, held in Cairo from 6 to 7 December 2021. Some of the activities were included in the ESCWA programme plan, some were implemented based on requests by member States for technical cooperation and others were undertaken by the secretariat in implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its twenty-second session.

The Committee is invited to review these activities and express views on them.

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

5. Geographic information system for transport networks and facilities in the Arab region: latest developments (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/4)

The Committee has been reviewing developments in the geographic information system project for transport networks and facilities in the Arab region since its twenty-first session (held online on 24 November and 8 December 2020), and it has been briefed on the phases of development of the project, its platform and capacity-building activities for national coordinators (please see document E/ESCWA/C.5/2020/3).

The Committee is invited to review these developments and express its opinion on enhancing the use of the project.

6. Developments in the transport and logistics sectors in member States (interventions by State representatives)

Representatives of member States will make presentations on developments in the transport and logistics sectors at the national level and progress in implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee to member States at the conclusion of its twenty-second session (please see the final report of the session in document [E/ESCWA/C.5/2021/8/Report](#)).

Representatives of ESCWA member States wishing to give a presentation or make an intervention are invited to submit a request in advance to the Committee Bureau.

**New issues in the transport and logistics sectors**

7. Use of hydrogen in the transport sector: the case of the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/5)

The Committee will discuss the use of hydrogen in the transport sector, addressing its technical characteristics and advantages as well as the possibility of production and use in the Arab region now and in the future.

The Committee is invited to give its opinion on this subject and explore the possibility of moving to hydrogen use in the transport sector in the region.

8. Blockchain and logistics: opportunities for the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/6)

The Committee will review the use and advantages of blockchain technology in the logistics sector and how Arab countries can benefit from it.

The Committee is invited to give its observations and opinions on the potential of blockchain technology to improve the logistics sector in the Arab region.

9. Round-table discussion 1: evidence-based policies to improve road safety in Arab countries (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/7)

During its twenty-third session, the Committee will hold a round-table discussion on road safety, in which it will discuss the latest developments in the world and the Arab region, the status of the implementation of the activities of the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030, the requirements for the preparation and implementation of evidence-based policies to improve road safety and the interim results of the project implemented by ESCWA in this area funded by the United Nations Road Safety Fund.

Representatives of member States are invited to participate in the discussion by reviewing national developments in the field of road safety and discussing ways to improve it in the Arab region.

10. Round-table discussion 2: Preparing transport professions in the Arab region and future challenges (in collaboration with the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport) (E/ESCWA/C.5/2022/8)

The Committee will hold a second round-table discussion on transport professions during its twenty-third session, in which it will discuss the preparation of transport professionals in the Arab region currently, major trends in the sector and their implications for transport professions in the future, and the necessary policies to tailor the preparation of transport professions for the expected future transformations. In this context, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport will make a presentation on the role of the digital transformation and capacity-building in the field of artificial intelligence in the Arab region and the Academy's role in this field.

Representatives of member States are invited to participate in the discussion by expressing their opinions on the sector's future and the preparation of transport professions.

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11. Date and venue of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee

The Committee shall agree on the date and venue of its twenty-fourth session.

12. Other matters

This item will cover any other matters that the Committee may decide to discuss when adopting the agenda.

13. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Transport and Logistics at its twenty-third session

The Committee will consider the draft recommendations for discussion and adoption.

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