

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL**

Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/L.1  
4 February 2010  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

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

Committee on Transport  
Eleventh session  
Beirut, 22-24 March 2010

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. General discussion on transport issues in the Arab Mashreq: draft proposal for the formation of a working group on the harmonization of institutional frameworks and legislation in the transport sector in the ESCWA region.
5. Progress achieved in the field of transport since the tenth session of the Committee on Transport:
  - (a) Follow-up on the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its tenth session;
  - (b) Follow-up on the implementation of transport-related activities under ESCWA programme of work.
6. Progress achieved in implementing the components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM):
  - (a) Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq;
  - (b) Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq.
7. Programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 in the field of transport.
8. Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013 in the field of transport.
9. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Committee on Transport.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report on the eleventh session of the Committee on Transport.

## ANNOTATIONS

### 1. Opening of the session

The eleventh session of the Committee on Transport will commence at 10 a.m. on Monday, 22 March 2010, at the headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the United Nations House, in Beirut. The representative of Palestine, in his capacity as Chairperson of the tenth session of the Committee, will make a welcome statement. Mr. Bader Omar AlDafa, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCWA, will then deliver the inaugural speech. The session is expected to be held under the auspices of His Excellency Mr. Ghazi El Areeidi, Minister of Public Works and Transport in Lebanon.

### 2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: "Member countries shall assume the chairmanship of 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, Qatar assumes the chairmanship of the eleventh session of the Committee on Transport. In keeping with the spirit of that rule, and with a view to ensuring continuity, the Committee on Transport has, in previous sessions, adopted the following procedure when selecting its two Vice-Chairmen and its Rapporteur:

- (a) The country that chaired the preceding session shall assume one position of Vice-Chairman;
- (b) The second position of Vice-Chairman shall be assumed by the country next in alphabetical order to the country chairing the current session;
- (c) The position of Rapporteur shall be assumed by the country next in alphabetical order to the country assuming the second position of Vice-Chairman.

The Committee may follow this procedure in the selection of officers for the eleventh session. Accordingly, the representatives of Palestine and Kuwait shall assume the positions of Vice-Chairmen and the representative of Lebanon shall assume the position of Rapporteur.

### 3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Terms of Reference and 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 Chairman has assumed his 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 provisional agenda for this session in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/L.1 and the organization of work in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work in that or an amended form.

### 4. General discussion on transport issues in the Arab Mashreq: draft proposal for the formation of a working group on the harmonization of institutional frameworks and legislation in the transport sector in the ESCWA region (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/3)

The general discussion at this session will be based on a document prepared by ESCWA pursuant to a recommendation made by the Committee at its tenth session. The document contains a proposal to establish a working group on the harmonization of institutional frameworks and legislation in the

---

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

transport sector in the ESCWA region. The secretariat trusts that the representatives of member countries will prepare their comments on the proposal in order to fully contribute to the debate, especially as the Committee is required to adopt that document pursuant to the relevant recommendations made at its tenth session. Interventions may include remarks on all agenda items, with a view to enhancing interaction between member countries and the secretariat.

5. Progress achieved in the field of transport since the tenth session of the Committee on Transport (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2009/IG.1/4)

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

(a) Follow-up on the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its tenth session (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/4(Part I))

Representatives of member countries will review action and measures taken in the field of transport in implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its tenth session. The document submitted to the Committee under this item presents each recommendation made and the action taken to implement it. Representatives of member countries are invited to make observations on the needs of their countries in respect of the implementation of the recommendations.

(b) Follow-up on the implementation of transport-related activities under ESCWA programme of work (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/4(Part II))

The Committee will review progress made in implementing transport-related activities undertaken since its tenth session under ESCWA programme of work for the biennia 2008-2009 and 2010-2011. Representatives of member countries are invited to take note of those activities and make proposals and recommendations.

6. Progress achieved in implementing the components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM) (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/5)

Under this item, the Committee will review the following reports related to two components of ITSAM:

(a) Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/5(Part I))

This document contains a review of the progress achieved in implementing the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq.

(b) Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/5(Part II))

This document contains a review of the progress achieved in implementing the Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq.

7. Programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/6)

The Committee will review the programme of work which will be undertaken by ESCWA in the biennium 2010-2011 in the field of transport under subprogramme 3, Economic Development and Integration, the implementation of which is the responsibility of the Economic Development and Globalization Division.

8. Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013 in the field of transport (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2010/IG.1/7)

The Committee will consider the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013 in the field of transport, under subprogramme 3. The secretariat calls on the representatives of member countries to review the proposed strategic framework and make observations and proposals.

9. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Committee on Transport

Representatives of member countries shall agree on the date and venue of the twelfth session of the Committee on Transport, given that it convenes in the first quarter of 2011.

10. Other matters

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

11. Adoption of the report on the eleventh session of the Committee on Transport

The Committee will consider the draft report on its eleventh session, containing the recommendations, for discussion and adoption.

-----