



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL**

Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/L.1  
30 July 2013  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

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

Committee on Transport  
Fourteenth session  
Amman, 9-10 October 2013

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS**

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9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Transport at its fourteenth session.

## ANNOTATIONS

### 1. Opening of the session

The fourteenth session of the Committee on Transport will commence at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 9 October 2013, at Marriott Hotel in Amman. The representative of Lebanon, in his/her capacity as Chairperson of the thirteenth session of the Committee, will make a welcome statement. Ms. Rima Khalaf, 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 Her Excellency Ms. Lina Shbeeb, Minister of Transport in Jordan.

### 2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the 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".\* According to that rule, Libya shall chair the fourteenth session of the Committee on Transport, succeeding Lebanon, which chaired the thirteenth session.

In keeping with the spirit of rule 18, and with a view to ensuring continuity, the Committee has adopted the following procedure to select its two vice-chairs and its rapporteur: the vice-chairs shall be the representative of the country that chaired the past session and the representative of the country that will chair the subsequent session of the Committee according to the 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 Lebanon and Egypt shall be the vice-chairs and the representative of Morocco 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 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 and annotations for this session in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/L.1 and the organization of work in document E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work in that or an amended form.

### 4. Progress achieved in the field of transport since the thirteenth session of the Committee on Transport (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/3)

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

#### (a) Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirteenth session (E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/3(Part I))

In this document, the Committee will review the action taken in the field of transport in implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirteenth session.

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\* ESCWA member countries 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 and Yemen.

Representatives of member countries are invited to comment on the implementation of the recommendations 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/EDGD/2013/IG.1/3(Part II))

In this document, the Committee will review the progress made in implementing transport-related activities undertaken since its thirteenth session, under the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2012-2013.

Representatives of member countries are invited to take note of those activities and make recommendations in that regard.

5. Progress achieved in implementing the components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq: National committees for transport and trade facilitation  
(E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/4)

In this report, the Committee will review the progress achieved in establishing and activating national committees for the facilitation of transport and trade. The report also includes a draft questionnaire proposed by ESCWA to monitor the transit of goods through land boundaries and the extent to which this process is linked to the implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq.

Representatives of member countries are invited to discuss the draft questionnaire and adopt it before its submission to member countries.

6. General discussion on transport issues in the Arab region  
(E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/5)

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

(a) Harmonization of institutional frameworks and legislation in the transport sector  
(E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/5(Part I))

The general discussion on the harmonization of institutional frameworks and legislation in the transport sector in the Arab region will be based on an updated report on the work undertaken by the Working Group on the Harmonization of Institutional Frameworks and Legislation in the Transport Sector since its establishment in 2011. This report was prepared by the technical secretariat of the Working Group in cooperation with ESCWA. It provides information on the status of institutional frameworks and legislation in the transport sector in member countries, which was collected from national reports prepared according to a model developed by the technical secretariat of the Working Group in coordination with ESCWA.

Members of the Working Group are invited to agree on a plan of action for the Working Group for the period 2013-2014.

(b) Proposed plan of action for advancing the implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq  
(E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/5(Part II))

This document presents a plan proposed by ESCWA to advance the implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq. It draws upon a study on the subject conducted by ESCWA in 2012 and expected to be published in 2013.

Representatives of member countries are invited to review and discuss the plan with a view to adopting it.

(c) Sustainable transport

Under this sub-item, a number of United Nations experts in the field of transport will make PowerPoint presentations on ways to achieve sustainability in the transport sector including the rationalization of energy use and the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions.

7. Programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the field of transport  
(E/ESCWA/EDGD/2013/IG.1/6)

This document presents the outputs to be achieved by ESCWA in the field of transport during the biennium 2014-2015. The programme of work was prepared on the basis of subprogramme 3, concerning economic development and integration, of the revised strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015 which was adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-seventh session (Beirut, 7-10 May, 2012). Subprogramme 3 falls under the responsibility of the Economic Development and Globalization Division at ESCWA.

Representatives of member countries are invited to take note of the programme of work in the field of transport.

8. Date and venue of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Transport

Representatives of member countries shall agree on the date and venue of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Transport, given that it convenes in the first quarter of 2014.

9. Other matters

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

10. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Transport at its fourteenth session

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

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