



**United Nations
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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation
and Development
Expert Meeting on the Design and Implementation
of Transit Transport Arrangements
Geneva, 24–26 November 2004
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS¹

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Design and implementation of transit transport arrangements
4. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

¹ This document was submitted on the date indicated above because of technical delays.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1: Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the Expert Meeting is reproduced in section I above. The Expert Meeting will have three days, from 24 to 26 November 2004, to complete its work. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.3/EM.22/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3: Design and implementation of transit transport arrangements

3. The Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development decided to convene an Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on the Design and Implementation of Transit Transport Arrangements.

4. Countries that depend on transit trade, i.e. notably landlocked countries, are confronted with a variety of practical constraints that increase the logistics costs of their international trade. Specific constraints are related to Customs and border procedures and also to the fact that cargo and transport services have to adapt to different sets of administrative, legal, commercial and other conditions when passing through a third country. Transit arrangements that aim at diminishing these constraints need to take new developments into account, notably concerning trade facilitation, new technologies, multimodal transport and transport security. In order to develop and implement specific transit arrangements, the public and private sectors of the transit country and of the landlocked country need to cooperate within each country, as well as between the two countries, through appropriate national and regional coordination mechanisms. In many cases, corridor-specific arrangements can be found that lead to win-win situations, where both countries can benefit from synergies and economies of scale in investments and transport operations.

5. The Expert Meeting will review the practical constraints faced by transit transport operations. It will further review the impact of recent developments in transport and logistics that have a bearing on transit trade, including trade facilitation, new technologies, multimodal transport and transport security. Finally, it will explore ways and means to cooperate in the design and implementation of transit transport arrangements.

6. To facilitate the discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note on recent developments in multimodal transport and logistic services, and problems encountered by developing countries (TD/B/COM.3/EM.22/2). In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.3/EM.22/2 Design and implementation of transit transport arrangements

Item 4: Adoption of the report of the Meeting

7. The report of the Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development at its seventh session in February 2003. The Expert Meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chairperson, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF THE MEETING

<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY 24 November 2004</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY 25 November 2004</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY 26 November 2004</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Plenary</p> <p>Opening statement</p> <p>Item 1: Election of officers</p> <p>Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of the Meeting</p> <p>Introduction of item 3</p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: Design and implementation of transit transport arrangements</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Consideration of the outcome of the Meeting</p> <p>Plenary (closing)</p> <p>Item 4: Adoption of the report of the Meeting</p>