



Role of the European Railway Agency (ERA)

Zagreb, 14&15 May 2009

Dragan JOVICIC – Safety Assessment Sector (Safety Unit)



1 – Role of the European Railway Agency

EU Transport Policy – Revitalising the railways

EU rail transport policy and legislation are based on:

- opening up of rail transport and rail supply market to competition
- technical harmonisation – interoperability
- maintaining at least, and increasing when reasonably practicable, existing level of safety by developing a common approach to safety
- transparency – publication of rules and regulation by public bodies



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Core Objectives and Role of the Agency

- ❑ to contribute, on technical matters, to the implementation of the EU legislation (Article 1 of the Agency Regulation 881/2004)

and

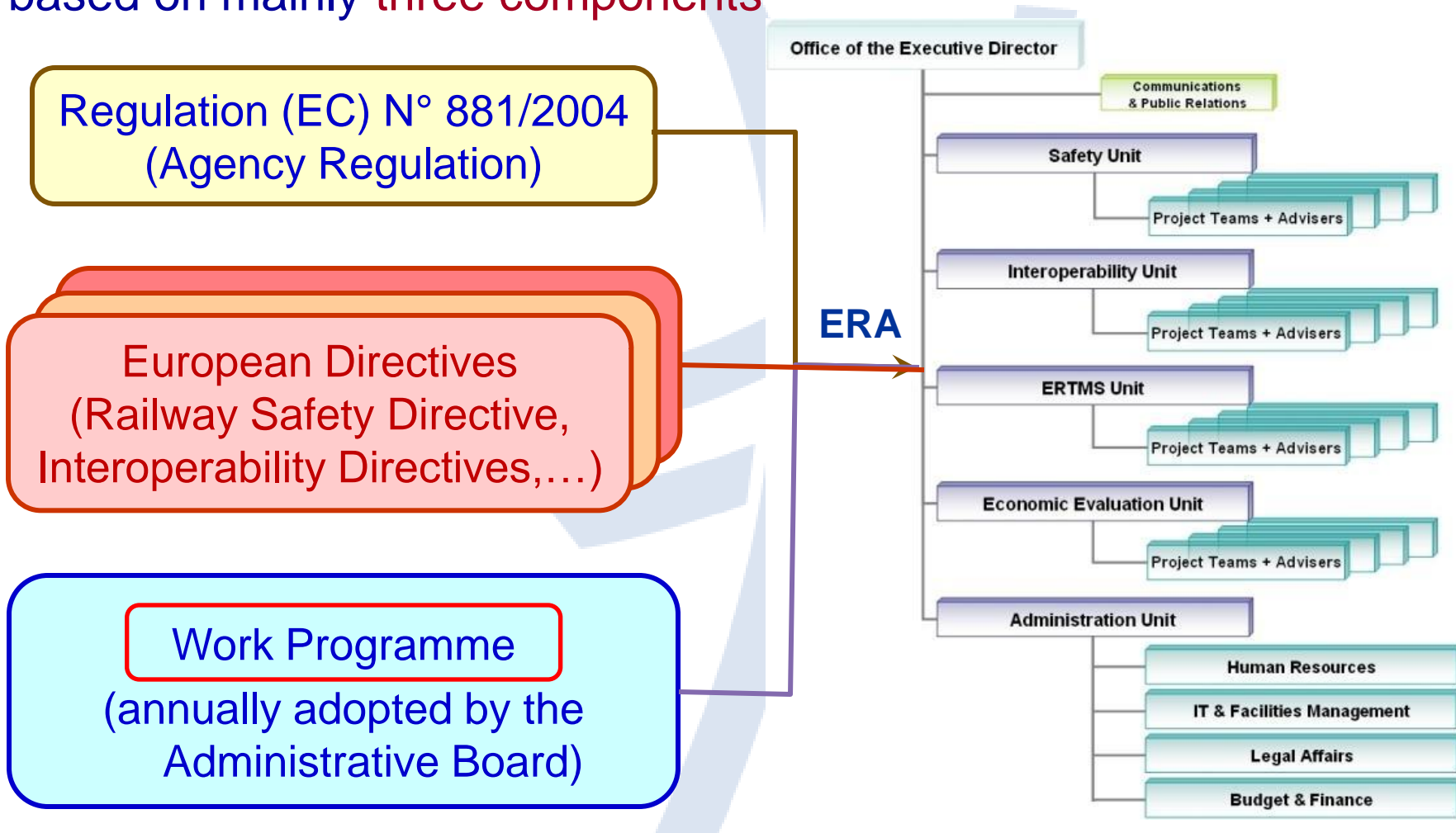
- ❑ to oversee the processes related to safety and interoperability and to provide greater impetus to the processes



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Legal basis for the Agency's work

The Agency's tasks and, hence, its organisational structure are based on mainly **three components**





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Organisation Chart of the Agency





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Agency Tasks

ERTMS

P. Guido

- ❑ Agency is System Authority
Steering ERTMS activities, seeking for operational harmonisation, ensuring change control management

Interoperability

J-C. Pichant

- ❑ Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSIs)
- ❑ Operational Interoperability
(TSI OPE, Vocational Competences, 1520-System, etc.)

Economic Evaluation

A. Magnien

- ❑ Economic Studies for European funded infrastructure projects
- ❑ Impact Analyses for the operational Units

Cross Acceptance

R. Lockett

- ❑ Equivalence of national rules with basic parameters in TSIs
- ❑ Processes of placing vehicles into service and their alignment with the Interoperability Directive



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Agency Tasks



- ❑ **Safety Regulation**
 - ↪ Validation and registration of the notifications of national safety rules, including an analysis of their mode of publication
 - ↪ Technical advice on new national safety rules and on safety-related aspects
- ❑ **Safety Reporting**
 - ↪ Elaboration of common safety indicators as well as monitoring and analysis of the development of safety on Europe's railways, including dissemination of information
 - ↪ Common methods and approaches to accident investigation
- ❑ **Safety Certification**
 - ↪ Common Safety Method for Conformity Assessment
 - ↪ Development of a migration strategy towards a single Community certificate
 - ↪ Certification Scheme for the Entity in Charge of Maintenance



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Agency Tasks



- ❑ **Safety Assessment**
 - ↪ Common framework for risk assessment
 - ↪ Methodology for calculating and assessing the achievement of safety targets for EU Member States
 - ↪ Definition, for each Member State, of their respective safety targets including their assessment

- ❑ **Horizontal Activities**
 - ↪ Support to the national safety authorities and investigating bodies to facilitate their exchange of information and harmonisation of decision making criteria by setting up networks and task forces
 - ↪ Public databases of safety related documents such as safety certificates, licences, national safety rules, investigation reports and indicators



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Governance and Control

The Agency is controlled by an Administrative Board and has some binding principles for its work

The Administrative Board

- 1 representative per **Member State**
- 4 **Commission** representatives
- 6 representatives of **sector organisations** (railway undertakings, infrastructure managers, railway industry, trade unions, passengers, freight customers) – no voting rights
- Norway and Iceland – no voting rights



The Working Principles

- Budgetary and financial control with regular evaluation of all work
- Transparency and public access to documents
- Neutrality and impartiality

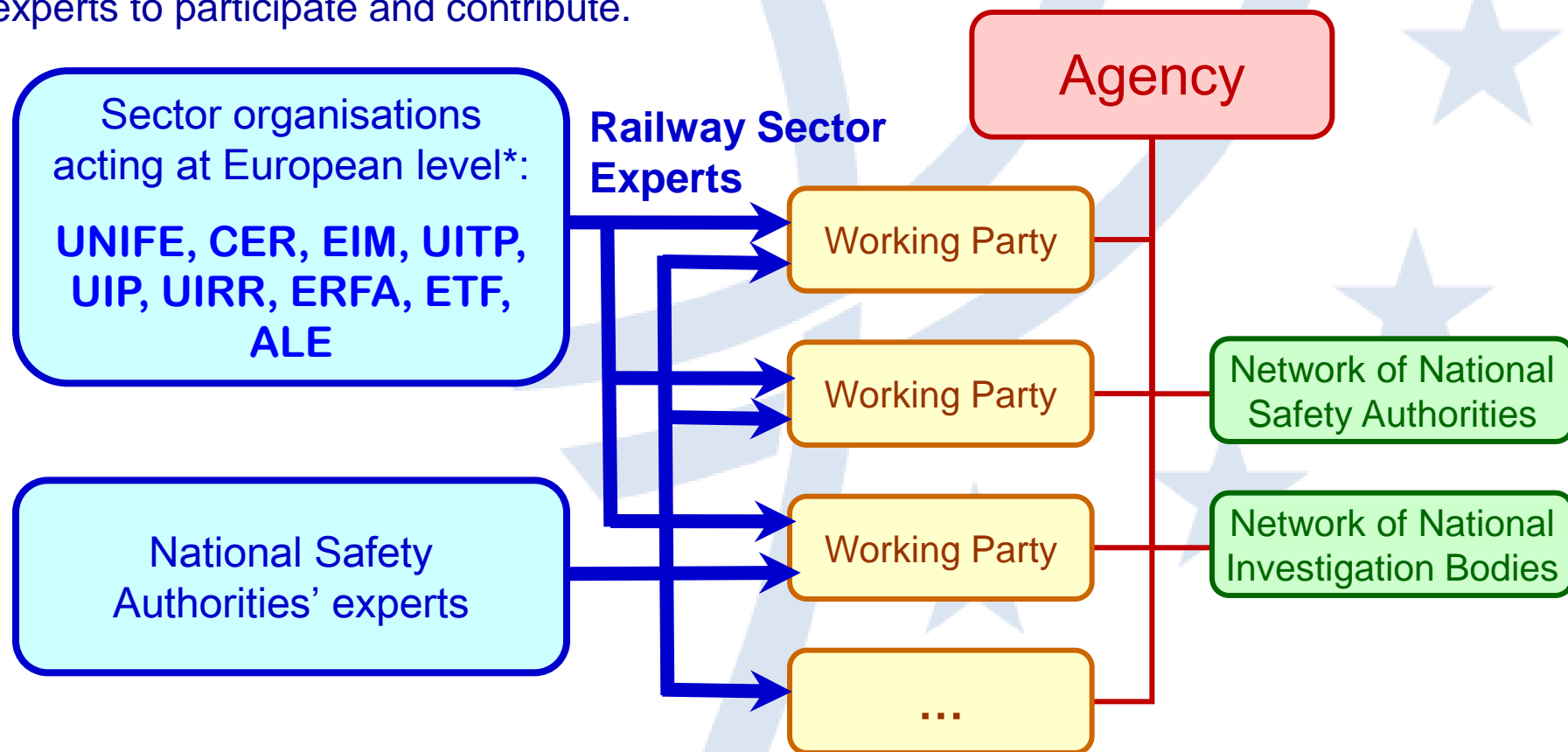


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Involvement of the Railway Sector

Article 3 of Agency Regulation (EC) N° 881/2004 obliges Agency to set up working groups according to tasks given in regulation and by Agency Work Programme.

Sector Associations are asked to send experts to participate and contribute.



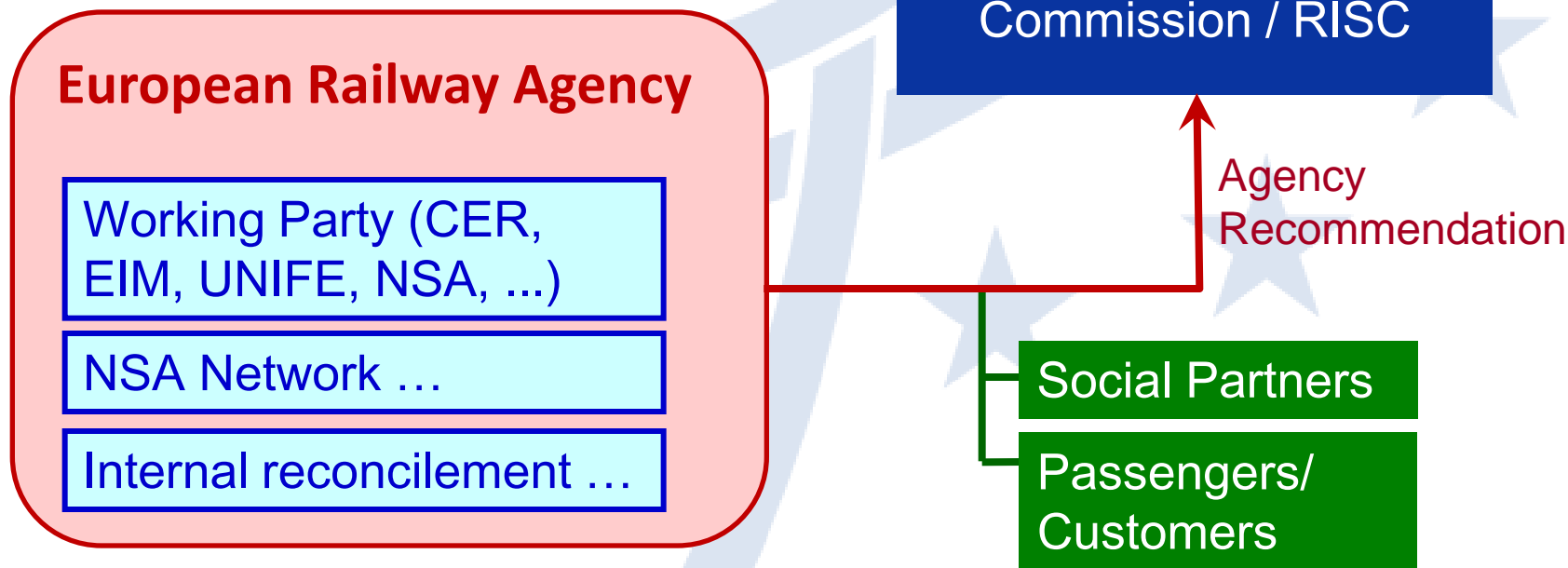
*** List established by Article 21 Committee on 22 February 2005**



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Decision Process (Commitology)

No decision power for the Agency.
The Agency gives recommendations to the Commission and technical opinions upon specific request!





Many thanks for your attention!

