

## **THE STATE OF RAILWAY SECTOR IN KOSOVO\***

**(November 14, 2012)**

From the last RWG SEETO meeting, there were not big changes which happened in Railway Sector in Kosovo. I will mention the most important issues which happened during this time.

1. The Project on Support in the Implementation of Transport Community Agreement for Ministry of Infrastructure, which is financed by EC is completed in June 2012. Part of this project was railway sector: Review of Multi Modal Transport Strategy, New General Law on Railways, and support to the Railway Regulatory Authority.
2. Ministry of Infrastructure issued the Administrative Instructions for Licensing, Safety Authorization and Safety Certification.
3. The Railway Regulatory Authority has completed all needed regulations and instructions for licensing, certification, authorization, safety etc. for railway undertakings and infrastructure managers. Train Operator TRAINKOS is licensed, while INFRAKOS will be licensed till the end of November.
4. Feasibility study for rehabilitation of East-West railway lines in Kosovo is ongoing. Till the end of November expected finalization.
5. Railway Border Crossing Agreement with Macedonia is signed on 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2011. Joint working groups of Macedonian Railways and Kosovo Railways are working in achieving of sub agreements for joint border control. Except some contacts there aren't any movements of other interested parties (Customs, Border Police, Sanitarian, and others) to set out sub agreements for their fields.
6. Ministry of Infrastructure has approved Track Access Charges of the Network Statement 2013.
7. Infrastructure Manager – INFRAKOS has drafted a five years Financial Agreement which should be signed by the Government. Ministry of Infrastructure is working on this issue.
8. Train Operator – TRAINKOS has drafted a PSO Contract which should be signed by the Ministry of Infrastructure. Work on PSO is ongoing.
9. Track Access Agreement for 2013 between INFRAKOS and TRAINKOS is under negotiation. Expected to be signed during November 2012.

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*\*"This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence "*