
Steering Committee for the Development of the South East Europe Regional Core Transport Network

12th Meeting

Sarajevo/Ilidza, Bosnia and Herzegovina, June 28/29th, 2007

Present:

SC Members (Voting)

- **Kujtim Hashorva**, Director of Road Transport Policy Department, Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunication, Albania – **nominated by the MPWTT as voting SC member and chosen as new SC Chairman with two years mandate**
- **Izet M. Bajrambašić** Assistant Minister, Ministry of Communications and Transport Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Mate Jurišić**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development, Croatia
- **Svetlana Gligorovska**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Transport & Communications, Macedonia, **chosen as Deputy Chairman**
- **Angelina Živković**, Advisor to Minister, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Telecommunications, Montenegro, **chosen as Deputy Chairman**
- **Miodrag Jocić**, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Infrastructure, Serbia
- **Florim Grajevci**, Political Adviser, Ministry of Transport and Communications, UNMIK/Kosovo
- **Edgar Thielmann**, Director for Energy and Transport, EC DGTREN, **Co-Chairman**

SC Deputy Members (Non Voting)

- **Nikola Šego**, Secretary General, Ministry of Communications and Transport, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Natasa Mikus**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of European Integration, Croatia
- **Mate Gjorgjievski**, Head of Unit, Secretariat for European Affairs, Macedonia
- **Amna Redžepagić**, Advisor for European Integration, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Telecommunications, Montenegro
- **Elinor Bajraktari**, Economic Policy Office, EU Pillar, UNMIK/Kosovo
- **Francois Begeot**, Policy Officer, EC DGTREN **Deputy Co Chairman**

Apologies for absence from

- **Altin Ndroqi**, Director of Foreign Relations and Public Information, Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunication, Albania
- **Gordana Lazarević**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of International Economic Relations, Serbia

SEETO Team and Advisor to the Steering Committee

- **Slavjanka Petruševa**, General Manager
- **Dejan Dević**, Transport Planning Manager
- **Andrija Gencel**, Information Resources Manager
- **Jordana Fićović**, Administrative Assistant

Guests and Observers

- **Mensur Hodzic**, Senior Expert Associate for Transport Infrastructure, Ministry of Communications and Transport, Bosnia and Herzegovina
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- **Nenad Nikolić**, Head of Prevention and Transport Telematics Group, Ministry for Infrastructure, Serbia
- **Rame Qupeva**, Head of Road Infrastructure Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications, UNMIK/Kosovo
- **Goran Filipovic**, Task Manager, EC Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Jocelin Cornet**, SG/DAEI/SDAI/IPI
- **Guy Benattar**, Project Leader, EU CARDS National Programme 2005, France - Bosnia and Herzegovina Railway Twinning Project
- **Cristophe Chevet**, Resident Twinning Advisor, EU CARDS National Programme 2005, France - Bosnia and Herzegovina Railway Twinning Project
- **Haris Lokvancic**, Translator, EU CARDS National Programme 2005, France - Bosnia and Herzegovina Railway Twinning Project

Administrative matters

1 Adopting the Agenda for the meeting – Chairman proposed to move the presentation of Draft Addendum after presentation of the First Interim Report and to leave Twinning Project Presentation after coffee break.

Conclusion: All proposals were adopted.

2 Adopting minutes from 11th SC Meetings – Macedonia submitted comments in advance which were included in text before the 12th SC Meeting. Comments received from Macedonia were accepted.

Conclusion: Minutes were adopted.

Item 1. Presentation of the First Interim Report of Railway Working Group (Presented by Mr. François Bégeot

First Interim Report and Draft Addendum should be presented by Mr. Frank Jost. As Mr. Jost could not participate on the 12th SC Meeting, Mr. Begeot substituted him during both presentations.

Final version of the 1st Interim Report was distributed and Mr. Begeot made the presentation instead of Mr. Jost, reminding on previous RWG Meetings, explaining conclusions and progress of the Group. Following the presentation, Chairman reminded that RWG completed its mandate (ToR). He also reminded that SC Members should decide on this meeting if RWG should continue its work and how. Mr. Bajrambasic proposed discussion which raised different questions:

- Bosnia proposed to finish with RWG for now and then, after Addendum is signed, RWG should extend mandate, but with different experts.
- EC reminded that next RWG Meeting is already scheduled for September 6, 2007 when members should discuss the Addendum with the changes imposed by the SC and their ministries. RWG should continue even before Addendum is signed because SC should still be assisted by the Group.

General comment is to update RWG Members and revise its mandate.

Conclusions:

- *1st Interim Report is adopted in general. If there is any comment it should be submitted by Wednesday, July 04th, 2007*

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- *RWG will continue up to 6th September 2007 meeting, but with focus on Addendum*
 - *Both documents (Report and Addendum) can be published on the web site*

Item 2. Presentation of the Draft Addendum (Presented by François Bégeot)

Text of the Draft Addendum was distributed and presented by Mr. Begeot who briefly explained about cooperation between World Bank and European Commission. He underlined that this document is first draft given firstly to SC members and EC will send it directly to Ministers. Addendum should be delivered to ministries and public railway sector for comments. Together with them SC Members should prepare opinion on this document and submit it to SEETO. Procedure should be followed as soon as possible, because we need to prepare final document for signing on the 3rd Annual Meeting of Ministers. Final text should be prepared by October.

Discussion raised the following points:

- Chairman proposed to adopt plan of next steps from the presentation and Addendum to be distributed through Ministries and Railway Companies for comments and to prepare comments for next SC Meeting
- Serbia proposed extension of work of the members of RWG to incorporate agreements and proposals between ministries and public companies.
- In front of EC Delegation in Sarajevo, Mr. Goran Filipovic underlined that Network Statement should be common goal for all ministries, infrastructure managers, private entities and railway operators. He gave remark that even with minor reforms in railway sector; we should consider all these entities, especially considering statement on railways. Because of all mentioned above, we have to be very careful with terminology we use, otherwise we can face with problems.

Conclusions:

- *During 1st week of July EC will send official letter to each Minister to agree on the Addendum.*
- *With remark that each Ministry will submit opinion on the Addendum by August 15th, 2007, Next steps were adopted as proposed in the presentation (June 19th, 2007 - Sending of 1st drafts to SC; June 28th 2007 - 1st opinion of the SC; Bilateral to amend the drafts according; September 06th, 2007 - Views of the Working Group; End of September - final opinion of SC; July-November 2007 - discussion with donors; November 2007 – 3rd Annual Meeting of Ministers).*
- *Final comments should be received by September 15th, 2007.*

Item 3. France-Bosnia and Herzegovina Railway Twinning Project – Chairman explained cooperation between Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina and France Ministry of Transport, presenting in short Twinning Project on Railway. Presentation was made by French consultants, Twinning Project representatives, – Mr. Guy Benattar, Project Leader and Mr. Christophe Chevet, Resident Twinning Advisor.

Item 4. Presentation of procedure for election of new SC Chairman

Document with procedure was distributed and presented by Ms. Slavjanka Petruseva. Only changes in wording were proposed and adopted; changes inserted into document and document delivered to all participants.

Conclusion: *With proposed and adopted changes in the text, document Procedure for Election of New SC Chairman considered as adopted.*

Item 5. Election of new SC Chairman

Mr. Thielmann asked SC members to apply if interested for the Chairman position and asked from each short presentation. Three candidates apply for this position: Ms. Angelina Zivkovic, Mr. Kujtim Harshova and Ms. Svetlana Gligorovska.

Ms. Angelina Zivkovic considered herself as right person for next SC Chairman because through last three years of work with SEETO she gets capability to reach previous Chairman. Also Montenegro becomes stronger in approaching to different IFIs and stakeholders on one side and SEETO became much stronger organization than just a Technical Secretariat.

Mr. Kujtim Harshova explained that he was supported by Minister of Transport of Albania to apply for this position. On another side, Mr. Hashorva believes that he get good experience trough work with SEETO, Corridor 8 and other organizations trough which he was involved in development of transport in Albania. This chairmanship he would consider as challenging obligation after two years of chairing by Mr. Bajrambasic.

Mrs. Svetlana Gligorovska thanked to Mr. Bajrambasic for charring Steering Committee trough last two years. She explained that she considered herself as right person fro SC Chairman because of motivation that each delegate have, representing own country and Ministry, plus she thinks she could improve regional cooperation.

Mr. Thielmann explained that voting have to be accepted by consensus and table for voting was delivered.

After first circle, two candidates had the same numbers of votes – Ms. Zivkovic and Mr. Hashorva. Voting was repeated only for these two candidates and Mr. Hashorva was elected as new SEETO SC Chairman.

Mr. Thielmann thanked to Mr. Bajrambasic for cooperation while chairing SC Members, on representing and promoting SEETO and suggested other two SC Chairman candidates to take over the role of the Deputy Chairman, which was accepted.

Mr. Bajrambasic thanked to everyone for cooperation and relegated chairmanship to Mr. Hashorva.

Conclusions:

1. *Mr. Kujtim Hashorva is elected as new SEETO SC Chairman*
2. *Ms. Angelina Zivkovic and Ms. Svetlana Gligorovska were nominated as SEETO SC Deputy Chairmen*

New SEETO SC Chairman, Mr. Kujtim Hashorva opened second day of the meeting, thanking once more for electing him as a new Chairman. Before Meeting started with Agenda, Ms. Petruseva delivered originals of signed SEETO Agreement and Resolution. Each voting member get one copy for own Ministry.

Item 6. SEE Core Transport Network Modification

Copies of sublimation of received proposals CN Modification as well as comments on document Modification of the CN of SEE were shared with participants.

Albania didn't send any comment and explained that both subjects mentioned above are still subjects for discussion in the Ministry. Final comments should be sent during first week of July.

Serbia explained Route: Cacak – Kraljevo – Krusevac – Pojate is part of UNECE E-Routes which connects different Pan European Corridors and is considered as very important route. According to regional importance and the volume of traffic flows this route should be a part of the Core Network. The plans for the feasibility study for full motorway profile is undergoing. This motorway will supplement existing railway corridor Cacak – Kraljevo – Krusevac – Stalac (Route 11).

Macedonia confirmed that their proposals were presented very well by SEETO and also supported by Bulgaria in letter which is distributed in 12th SC Meeting material.

UNMIK/Kosovo didn't agree with terminology which SEETO used for presentation. Submitted proposal is not doubling of the part of the alignment of route 6 (as stated in SEETO presentation). It is part to be added to route 6. This should be changed. - **Agreed**

Montenegro wanted to know which criteria were used for evaluation of proposals for CN Modification. Mr. Gencil explained that Criteria and Principles was used as written in the Transport and Energy infrastructure in South East Europe, (Brussels – 15 October 2001) document, but only for preparation of the distributed working document. Montenegro also asked for change in the procedure for CN Modification, asking to add forth category in the document Modification of the CN of SEE.

Croatia confirmed that their proposals can be even better justified and better evaluated, but also explained that they are aware that modification of the Core Network is very limited for any further changes

In front of EC, Mr. Thielmann thanked to SEETO for the presentation of the received proposals. Regarding Core Network Modifications he agreed that some categories were not clarified and explained as should be, but also reminded that we are practicing regional cooperation which should develop and time is limited. When speaking about CN Modification, Mr. Thielmann was surprised that each beneficiary has only something to add, but no one to suppress and proposed to each beneficiary to check cost of proposed projects. He would like to call for prudence, plus SEETO to continue with further technical discussions and to prepare very serious analysis done in comparison with costs and time horizon. Mr. Thielmann underlined that everyone should be very careful with this exercise. Regarding to document for Modification of CN, Mr. Thielmann confirmed that Category 1 is mainly ok and that special work has to be done for Categories 2 and 3 – Category 2 should be clarified and Category 3 we would need much deeper analysis done by SEETO. While explaining Category 2, he highlighted that procedure regarding any change, like by-passes or any other deviations on Core Network (e.g. connections for two cities on Core Network...), expect for border crossings, inside the MoU country participants should notify SEETO a month before the implementation phase. Regarding to Criteria, Mr. Thielmann stressed that still is not clear as should be. He proposed to everyone to read it carefully again and if still there are misunderstandings, to contact the Secretariat for further explanation. This way it will be easier for submitting more information and proposals. Mr. Thielmann also confirmed that preparation of MAP 2008-2012 is the most important subject and that everyone should be keen to it. Still he asked SEETO to prepare clear criteria, especially for Category 2 and to be careful when explaining received proposals. He also confirmed that it is very important to evaluate projects comparing with neighboring countries; otherwise it is not regional process.

In front of EC Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Filipovic stressed importance of open possibility for Core Network Modification, explaining on example of B&H how helpful it could be. He asked from SEETO to submit more information on this subject, but also reminded each beneficiary that minimum for this challenging process of CN Modification is to have at least prefeasibility studies and as much as possible bilateral contacts between countries.

Bosnia didn't send any comment or proposal because they still don't have National Plan or Strategy and these documents should include needed information. Still they confirmed needs for CN

changes, but they can't send it without Parliament opinion. They can only send proposals using cost benefit analysis.

Chairman asked an opinion on deadline for submitting proposals which again raised different comments:

- Macedonia didn't agree with one final deadline. Reminding that it is life process, they agreed with first deadline for submitting proposals, but also explained that this procedure should not stop after deadline, but to continue as rolling process.
- Mr. Filipovic suggested putting on table all proposals for discussion, select feasible one and than to agree about further dynamics on providing different feasibilities and cost benefits.
- Croatia agreed with Macedonia hoping that up to end of 2008 CN will be modified. They reminded that each country should also have own funds and not only from IFIs.

After the break Mr. Thielmann opened discussion on new version of draft document on CN Modification:

- During the break, before his departure Mr. Jurisic stated that document is ok
- Serbia asked for the explanation of Category 2 because latest sentence is not clear enough. Mr. Thielmann gave more detailed explanation after which SC Members approved and adopted document.

Conclusion: SC Members approved and adopted new version of the document Modification of the CN of SEE.

Item 7. Data Collection of Infrastructure Questionnaires on SEE CN

Data Collection Progress Report distributed and Mr. Andrija Gencel presented data collected until June 25th, 2007. He reminded that during whole July SEETO will work on MAP and asked all SC Members to provide more data and asked for comments:

- Albania promised that in short time will send missing data
 - Macedonia reminded that SEETO already have confirmation to use data from previous year, but during July they will cover all existing gaps.
 - Serbia confirmed that updated traffic data will be prepared in couple days. As regards to rail sector, they are expecting some good traffic data during next week, but it will be hard to get missing data on border crossings. SEETO reminded that in the MAP 2008-2012 is ought to have an improvement in a section about border crossings and if can use data from some other organizations. There was confirmation from Serbia and Albania that we could use data from Corridor VIII and Corridor X.
 - Bosnia confirmed that they have some new data for road which they will submit as soon as possible; also they have official statistics for Railway Border crossing which they can make available for SEETO.
 - Croatia is just in final preparation of data to submit and promised to send them during next week
 - UNMIK/Kosovo already covered majority of roads and sent traffic growth. Still, they are missing data on terminals, but missing data will be provided during July.
 - Montenegro confirmed that road data will be updated and railways still have to be checked. Still Montenegro already submitted very good data.
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Conclusion: Each beneficiary will do the best to submit as much as possible data during July 2007.

Item 8. Short presentation of MAP 2008-2012 (SEETO)

- Presentation of defined timetable – Ms. Petrusseva presented deadlines for MAP 2008-2012
- Presentation of received projects – Dejan Devic shortly presented received projects
- Presentation of proposed Soft measures – Agreed that Mr. Devic will have presentation after the break

Mr. Devic presented MAP 2008-12: received projects and new structure of the document. He also presented proposed soft measures.

After both presentations Mr. Begeot asked from SC Members for more progress. He gave example for Road Safety Auditing measure, explaining that there was no any progress made and also that railway beneficiaries should prepare report. In general, added value for previous year should be prepared.

Conclusion: It was agreed that each beneficiary will submit as much as possible missing data during July, especially concerning priority projects.

Different soft measures were proposed, explained and during discussion marked as important. Still discussion also raised question of capacity for new soft measures (UNMIK/Kosovo), Serbia confirmed problems with data collection and agreed with soft measure "Harmonized Data Collection Mechanism (all transport modes) Institutional / Organizational Component (road, rail, port/maritime, airport/air, IWW, borders/customs)". Macedonia, Bosnia, UNMIK/Kosovo and Montenegro agreed with Serbian proposal.

Conclusion: Soft Measure on Data Harmonization is adopted.

Item 9. SEETO Budget Contribution - Information on paid contribution by beneficiaries for 2006 and 2007 was updated with contribution received from Government of Albania for 2007, but payment for 2006 is missing. Mr. Jurisic informed that Croatia finished procedure for SEETO Contribution. Mr. Jovic informed that Serbia will finish procedure during July for 2006 and 2007.

Ms. Petrusseva informed SC that Procurement Commission worked on the margin of this meeting with 2 items on their agenda: procurement of lap top computers for the SC voting members and for hiring of expert for preparing the tender dossier for CARDS 2006 TA. For purchase of lap top computers company DIALOG from Belgrade was selected. Mr. Marco Manneti was elected as an expert for preparing the tender dossier.

Next SC Meeting – 13th SC Meeting to be held in Cavtat/Croatia, last week in September 2007.

Minutes Approved

Chairman

Date
