
7th Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network

“Common problems – Shared solutions”

November 29th, 2011
Antwerp, Congress Centre

Concept note

Aim of the Meeting:

The main aim of the meeting is to give high political support to the SEETO Comprehensive Network development and formulate guidelines for the SEETO cooperation in the year 2012. The 7th AMM will focus on the TEN-T revision and its effects on the development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network. The progress made in the previous year will be assessed and presented, and further commitment by the Ministers to reinforced development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network and creation of the Transport Community is to be demonstrated.

Goals:

The fact that the 7th AMM is to be held back-to-back with the TEN-T days as one of the most significant transport events on EU level, where most prominent political stakeholders on international and European transport scene are going to be present, gives a special tone of this year's AMM and should be seen as an opportunity to endorse strategically important messages for the Western Balkans region as a whole, as well as for specific transport sectors and transport related measures.

The following main goals are to be achieved by the 7th AMM:

- To outline the major strategic points introduced with the TEN-T revision and the Transport White Paper in relation to their impact on the development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network and Regional Participants' transport policy harmonisation
- To present the progress made by the Regional Participants in development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network and to strengthen their focus on environmentally friendly transport modes
- To emphasize the general advancements achieved since the last year AMM, and to show commitment to more dynamic implementation of common infrastructure projects with cross-border importance and policy measures of regional interest with support of the European Commission and International Financial Institutions
- To acknowledge the SEETO process as a successful regional cooperation platform within the EU pre-accession process, and to demonstrate willingness for improving the use of the EU pre-accession funds for development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network and SEETO horizontal measures that support such development

Speakers:

- Vice President of the European Commission responsible for Transport, Mr. Siim Kallas
- Ministers of Transport of seven Regional Participants
- High level representative of the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport

Proposed topics:

- Welcome speech – Mr. Siim Kallas, Vice President of the European Commission responsible for Transport (15 min)
- Ministers' speeches (Session 1) - "SEETO Comprehensive Network – progress made and future plans and visions to achieve full compatibility with the TEN-T Comprehensive Network" (5-7 min each Minister's speech)
- Ministers' speeches (Session 2) - "Co-modality on the SEETO Comprehensive Network: possibilities for implementation and challenges ahead" (5-7 min each Minister's speech)
- "Results of the SEETO cooperation in 2011" – SEETO Steering Committee Chairperson's presentation of SEETO MAP 2012 (10 min)
- Conclusions – DG MOVE