



Second Meeting of the Steering Committee for the development of the Core Transport Network of the MoU

Minutes of Meeting

23rd June 2005, Sarajevo Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Objectives of meeting

- Complete unfinished business from previous meeting:
- Agree operation of Secretariat SEETO
- Agree methodology for preparing the multi-annual-plan
- Agree information system development programme
- Agree solution to build national coordination capacity

Present:

Members (Voting)

- **Izet M Bajrambasic** Assistant Minister, Ministry of Communications and Transport Bosnia and Herzegovina Subsequently elected **Chairman**
- **Mate Jurisic**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development, Croatia
- **Gezim Pula**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport & Telecommunications, UNMIK/Kosovo
- **Svetlana Gligorovska**, Head of Department for International Investments and Integration, Ministry of Transport & Communications, Macedonia
- **Joaquim Rodon Blas** Technical Advisor to MoTC Montenegro (Authorized Acting Member)
- **Gordana Lazarevic**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of International Economic Relations, Serbia

Deputy Members (Non Voting)

- **Nikola SeGO**, Secretary Minister, Ministry of Communications and Transport, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Jozef Zuallaert**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Transport & Telecommunications, UNMIK/Kosovo

SEETO Manager and Advisor to the Steering Committee (non voting)

- **Douglas Rasbash**, SEETO Manager, Advisor to the Steering Committee, **Secretary**

Apologies for absence from

- Mr Edgar Thielmann, EC DGTREN, Co Chairman,
- Mr Graeme Preston, EC DGTREN
- Angelina Zivkovic, Advisor to Minister, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Transport, Montenegro
- Miodrag Jovic, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Capital Investments, Serbia
- Amna Redzepagic, Advisor for European Integration, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Transport
- Melaim Ademi, State Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Macedonia
- Davor Cilic Assistant Minister, Ministry of European Integration, Croatia



- Eduard Prodani Secretary General, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications Albania, Subsequently elected **Deputy Chairman**
- Gjergj Teneqexhi Secretary General, Ministry of Finance, Albania
- Luc Cabal EC DGTREN, (Missed connecting flight at Vienna Airport)

1. Introduction: (Chairman)

Agenda adopted without comment

The Steering Committee materials were circulated (19 items).

The Steering Committee received the first contractor's interim progress report on the Project Reference EuropeAid 116965 C SV Multi ' Establishment of SEETO'

Members acknowledged receipt of report.

All materials were also circulated on CD.

2. Minutes of Meeting, Tirana 26th 27th April

Distributed as item 4 plus annexes concerning The Steering Committee Constitution, The Objectives and Mission Statement and Key Activities and Scope of Work of SEETO were approved to be entered into record.

Matters arising:

SC member Macedonia remarked that the country must be stated as Macedonia not as FYROM in all text.

The Chairman responded that the name should be as the MoU.

The Members agreed that it would be possible to determine its own delineations within the context of its meetings.

The constitution of the Steering Committee agreed in Tirana was signed.

Macedonia will sign on separate paper

Kosovo will send letter with government approval

The signed copy of the SC Constitution was distributed

A minor amendment was required - insert 'which' can in item 7 in text.

3. SEETO Agreement

Second Draft discussion

The Chair recorded receipt of written comments from Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia only by 15th May. A compilation of comments was circulated as SC item 5.

A new draft was prepared by the Legal Adviser to SEETO and was circulated as SC item 6

Discussion about preamble regarding definition of country names, decided to have pragmatic approach, to remove names of countries and refer only to MoU.

Discussion (40 minutes) regarding article 9 (organisation) whether to list positions and role / relationship of National Coordinators. Serbia noted that SEETO was a network comprising Technical Secretariat plus National Coordinators.

The post of National Coordinators was reconfirmed. It was understood that National Coordination was an essential component for the implementation of the MoU.

Montenegro noted that care should be taken when defining SEETO as including National Coordinators to avoid implying that the Laws of Serbia do not apply to NCs.

Croatia emphasised that SEETO has a technical role in coordination not in centralised planning as in former times.

It was agreed to delete specific reference to actual positions as these may change form time to time.



Article 14, Kosovo mentioned the need to ensure that the Secretariat was not staffed only by Serbs if it is to secure finance from Participants.

Brief discussion regarding timing of the presentation budget of July 1st as being the latest date for applying for national budget.

Members expressed doubts that it would be difficult to initiate a new budget line for funding SEETO without the SEETO agreement signed.

However, members would try to apply for a (provisional) budget item in order to secure 25% funding in 2006

Article 15. The Secretariat advised that contributions to SEETO in 2006 2007 will be in addition to the funding provided by the EC.

Kosovo stressed that bearing in mind that there was a contract to deliver certain outputs the additional funding must be spent to add value to the ongoing contract.

The Secretariat undertook to keep separate account of the contributions in 2006 and 2007 showing clearly how the funding was spent.

The Secretariat added that it had in mind many activities that were in additional to the scope of work of the project for the establishment of the SEETO.

Furthermore the Secretariat would also desire to respond to the direct requests of its members without being limited to the contract for the Project.

Serbia reaffirmed that the main objective of initiating funding was to ensure sustainable outcomes and smooth transfer of ownership to the members.

The Secretariat undertook to provide more details of specific actions at the next meeting.

Article 16. To assist members' deliberations, the Secretariat provided comparative analysis of various methods of allocation of theoretical budget by per capita GDP, GDP, Population, proportion of project value in the annual plan and average. Reference was made to SC item 9

Croatia reconfirmed that GDP basis would be unacceptable.

Bosnia felt that actual expenditure would be better than forward plan.

Serbia proposed using proportional values of projects as in the annual plan.

Members appreciated the logic and benefits of linking SEETO funding to actions in the plan.

The members agreed that allocation using proportional values of projects in the annual plan was the best option and duly adopted the method for inclusion in the Agreement.

Article 25. Ratification of the Agreement will be done as follows

Kosovo by Government and UNMIK

Serbia by Government

Croatia by Government

Montenegro by Government

Macedonia by Government

Bosnia delegation had to confirm the basis for adoption and will advise the Secretariat

Members agreed that the final text of the agreement is to be prepared by the Secretariat and should be issued to Steering Committee members for ratification by respective governments.



The Steering Committee concluded that the SEETO Agreement could be signed at the Annual Meeting of Ministers to be held in Skopje in November 2005. Where upon the agreement would enter into force.

4. Regional Planning Methodology

Referring to SC item 11, Five Year Multi-Annual Plan – Formulation Methodology
Changes agreed were to include reference to the High Level Group in paragraph 7
add to be approved by Steering Committee in paragraph 12
The planning methodology was adopted.

5. SEETO Information System

Referring to SC item 10
The Information System was adopted without comment
Members concurred that technical actions by the SEETO are expected
Serious business of SEETO should start.
Croatia confirmed support of process of data collection week commencing 26th June
Secretariat undertook to support any participant

6. National Coordination

Referring to SC item 13 NC Job Description, noted without comment
Referring to SC Item 15, unanimously agreed with Technical Assistance proposal.
Macedonia handed to Secretariat request for TA.
Croatia undertook to respond to Secretariat week commencing 26th June

7. Outstanding Matters not finished in Tirana

Sub-Committees will be adopted at next Steering Committee to help implement the plan.
Include as a part of the annual plan for discussion

8. SEETO Management

Logo The Secretariat reported that no satisfactory progress had been made and will make proposals at the next Steering Committee using professional company from budget of project.

Legalisation process stuck in Council of Ministers for S & M; Serbia Member undertook to try to solve the deadlock.

Macedonia reconfirms sending a candidate for Secretary General;

But generally agreed that it would be desirable to have candidates from all countries, deadline of 30th September 2005.

The process of recruiting the Secretary General was described, interviews would be carried out by the Chairman, Co Chairman and SEETO Manager

SEETO Manager reported that the Office occupied 11th May 2005. Office is satisfactory with new furniture and carpets.

9. First ministerial meeting

Officially confirmed that it will be hosted by Government of Macedonia.

Date agreed for Wednesday 9th November 2005

Agreement of Draft Agenda

Include item for adoption of SEETO Agreement

Session 3 to be chaired by Croatia

Session 5 to be chaired by Albania.

10. Other Business



None but to moved to top of next Agenda

11. Date, time, place of the next meeting
Second week October date to be advised by Croatia
To be held jointly with National Coordinators
The subject to be preparation of the first 5 year plan.

Minutes Approved

Chairman

.....Date.....

Annexes:

- A –
- B –
- C –

Minutes Circulated to:

- Members and Deputy Members of SC
- EC Task Manager
- Joint Venture

First draft on June 27th 2005