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## **Third Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network**

**“Common problems – Shared solutions”  
4 December 2007 - Tirana**

### **RESOLUTION**

*The signatories,  
having regard to:*

- the EC strategy paper *Transport and Energy infrastructure in South East Europe* (European Commission, 2001), the *Transport Infrastructure Regional Study* (TIRS, 2002) and the *Regional Balkans Infrastructure Study* (REBIS, 2003);
- the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, signed in Luxembourg on 11 June 2004;
- the Resolution of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers signed in Skopje 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005 and in Brussels on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006;
- the establishment of the South East Europe Transport Observatory, called SEETO;
- the Steering Committee meetings of the South East Europe Core Network in 2005, 2006 and 2007;
- the Railway Working Group meetings held in 2006 and 2007;
- the work of the High Level Group on the extension of the major Trans-European Transport Axes to the neighbouring countries and regions which is part of the Core Regional Transport Network;
- the SEETO Agreement signed by all signatories to the MoU;

reconfirm the commitment to develop a well functioning transport network that is a prerequisite to economic and sustainable development and integration of the region leading to a transport Community;

reconfirm continuing support to effective regional coordination to address jointly the need for adequate and sustainable regional transport infrastructure, as well as operational and regulatory issues of regional importance;

acknowledge progress that has been made in the implementation the Resolution of the second Annual Meeting of Ministers;

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1. Accept the recommendation of the Steering Committee with respect to the Multi Annual Plan for the five year period 2008 to 2012 and in so doing adopt the aforesaid Plan;
2. Intend to take into consideration the contents of the Plan when formulating National Agenda, to ensure its implementation and advise on the progress made at subsequent Annual Meetings;
3. According to information that SEETO received from beneficiaries at least 20% of the Core Regional Network remains in poor or very poor condition
4. Recognise that capacity problems will affect over 15% of the network in the next five years due to increase in traffic;
5. Call upon Participants to ensure that the quality of the infrastructure continues to improve through inclusion of appropriate and economically feasible projects in Multi Annual Plans;
6. Recognise that all Participants are making progress to reform the transport sector introducing new legislation and regulations in line with the *acquis communautaire*; these reforms should be introduced in an harmonise way in order to the effective management and development of the Core Regional Network;
7. Acknowledge the progress made in data collection, analysis and dissemination of information on individual projects and project proposals. But note that data collection is a continuous process which needs more resources and efforts to meet the necessity of updating on regular and harmonized basis the set of data. The harmonized approach for data collection has become part of the set of soft measures approved in the MAP 2008-2012;
8. Stress the importance of information systems to facilitate analysis and the dissemination of results;
9. Require regular publication of performance indicators covering the condition and operation of the Core Network by SEETO;
10. Having regard to meetings held in the framework of the Railway Working Group, agree to sign at the current Annual Meeting of Ministers an Addendum of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of the Core Regional Transport Network regarding the South East Europe Railway Transport Area which will boost the reform of the railway sector in the Region and support the establishment of a common railway space through the elaboration of a set of common objectives that cover the core network;
11. Acknowledge the serious problems concerning road safety and require improvements in management procedures and systems and endorse the development and introduction of road safety auditing. Require that a SEE Road Working Group be established that will coordinate the work on introducing road safety auditing as well as other actions and undertake to delegate specialists to its meetings;
12. Recognise that the preparation of road safety regulations are needed to introduce road safety auditing;
13. Recognising the role of efficient transport logistics in a modern economy requires that Inter-modal Transport receive an increasing attention in the development of the multi-modal Core Regional Transport Network, including the specific development of the inland waterways;

14. Recognising that inter-modal transport development requires a trans-national approach to create optimum conditions for users and investors support the preparation of a regional inter-modal development strategy and plan;
15. Support the development of the European Common Aviation Agreement as a key element for improving the aviation sector market in the region;
16. Recognising the importance of air transport in the regional inter-modal system in rapidly connecting participants among themselves and with the rest of the world and therefore require that air transport receives more attention in the future, on issues of security, quality of service and environment protection.
17. Acknowledging the significant development to border crossing procedures that has resulted from various programmes, remain concerned that delays persist at international borders especially for freight transport leading to slower economic development;
18. Support joint working arrangements with ongoing initiatives to facilitate trade and transportation;
19. Acknowledge the limitations of public sector funding for transport infrastructure and the need to involve the private sector and welcome initiatives to share experience in developing and improving conditions for the extension of public and private partnerships (PPP);
20. Recognise the need to develop trans-national routes and ask to explore the possibilities of cross border investment and cooperation when developing PPP initiatives;
21. Support the development of initiatives to increase the participation of the private sector in the major infrastructure transport projects in all modes of transport.

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Done in Tirana on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007



Vice-President of the European Commission  
in charge of Transport

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Mr. Jacques Barrot



Minister of Public Works, Transport and  
Telecommunication

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Mr. Sokol Olldashi



Minister of Communications and Transport

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Mr. Božo Ljubić



Minister of the Sea, Tourism, Transport and  
Development

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Mr. Božidar KALMETA



Minister of Transport and Communications

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Mr. Mile JANAKIESKI



Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and  
Telecommunications

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Mr. Andrija LOMPAR



Minister of Infrastructure

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Mr. Velimir ILIĆ



United Nations Interim Administration  
Mission in Kosovo on behalf of Kosovo<sup>1</sup>

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Mr Johan Van Lamoen

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<sup>1</sup> Kosovo is under international administration in line with UNSCR 1244 of June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999.