

THE STATE OF RAILWAY SECTOR IN KOSOVO*

(June , 2015, Tirana)

From the last SEETO meeting held on 7th of May 2015, there were no important changes which happened in Railway Sector in Kosovo. I will mention the most important issues which happened during this period of time.

1. Loan agreement for general rehabilitation of the Railway Route 10 .between Kosovo Government and EBRD and EIB is still under discussions. New government has expressed its will to follow with implementation of this project. **There are no new developments concerning this issue.**
2. INFRAKOS and EBRD are evaluating companies which have applied in tender for project design for the southern part of the Rail Route 10 (Fushe Kosove – Hani i Elezit) 64 km. It is expected that project design will start in the beginning of 2016. **The evaluation process is finished. EBRD and INFRAKOS are under negotiation of the contract for project design with the winner company.**
3. INFRAKOS has drafted Network Statement for 2016 and now it is under consultation process with all interested parties. As usually Ministry of Infrastructure will check and approve Track Access Charges. **This process is still in the consultation phase.**
4. INFRAKOS is preparing 5 (five) years financial agreement which should be signed between government and INFRAKOS. **The draft agreement is finalized, and very soon will be send to the interested parties.**

**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.*

5. Railway Border Crossing Agreement between Kosovo Railways and Macedonian Railways is finalized and it is expected to be signed during May or June 2015. This agreement is based on BCA for joint border control signed in 2011 between transport ministries of Kosovo and Macedonia. Ministry of Infrastructure will make efforts to speed up signature of other sub agreement (Customs, Border Police, etc.). **Mentioned agreement was sent to Macedonian Railways (MZ Infrastructura and MZ Transport) and we are waiting for their comments.**
6. After completion of the preparation of RRA on the 20th March 2015 the Kosovo Railway – TRAINKOS J.S.C had received the license and certification for the Train Drivers from Railway Regulatory Authority – (twenty-two (22) drivers and the rejection of five (5) applications that do not meet the requirements to obtain a license).
7. PSO draft agreement for year 2015 was prepared by joint working group of MI-TRAINKOS in January 2015 but has not yet been approved.
8. On date 08-09.12.2014 RRA in cooperation and support from the European Commission was organised regional workshop on National Safety rules in Pristine.
9. On date 09.12.2014 was signet memorandum of corporation between RRA and Railway Directorate Inspectorate of Albania.
10. RRA has prepared regulation for the passenger Rights in compliance with the EC regulation nr. 1371/2007. Expected approval of this regulation.
11. RRA has prepared regulation for Subsystems and Essential Requirements. Expected approval of this regulation.