

Cross Border Agreement between MNE and ALB at implementation

Republic of Albania and Montenegro
SEETO RWWG in Belgrade 1-2 Dec 2016

CBA signed in 3 Aug 2012 in Podgorica, after that:

- Protocols on organization and regulation of railway transport in the zone of joint border station Tuzi and border station Bayze signed between both railway infrastructures on 21 June 2016 in Podgorica Montenegro
- Agreement between RUs and HSH following common protocol is signed 21 June 2016 Podgorica Montenegro

- Other official protocols between customs, border police, phytosanitary and food safety, sanitary services are all signed through 20/06-01/07/2016
- Protocols signed are currently in implementation emphasizing the importance of establishing the joint railway station.
- That is an obligation deriving for the Vienna summit 2015 and Paris Summit 2016.

- EU Transport Commissioner, Ms Violeta Bulc met with the ministers of Transport of Albania and Montenegro on 5 September 2016,
- EU Commissioner Bulc, appraised the cooperation between Albania and Montenegro, highlighting that it should serve as a model for all WB countries.
- The commitment of the respective institutions of both countries is congratulated in the realization of the signing of the four joint protocols before Paris Summit, in July 2016 and on.

Following signed protocols

- This expresses the common good will and interest to its well-functioning before Roma Summit 2017.
- Agreement between railway transporters in Montenegro and Albanian railways –Durrës(HSH) in ongoing implementation
- Trilateral Agreement between executives directors of signees of Protocol and Agreement is necessary to be signed.

- Train Timetable on border railway line Tuzi – Bayze in an annual period of Train Timetable is mutually accepted and re-confirmed.
- The train traction agreement and procedures for despatching the train jointly iss to reduce despatching time which applies for the commercial, operational and technical despatching.
- That shall be done with consent and another agreement between partners.

- In accordance with the common agreement, HSH has requested if the train traction service starting from current moment will be always to perform by Albanian railways, having a common understating between parties.
- This newest proposal both interesting and beneficial shall be re-negotiated since it was not foreseen in the previous signed documents, whereas train traction for annual period is signed to be by Montecargo Ad Podgorica.

- The representatives of the relevant institutions in the Republic of Albania and Montenegro responsible for the operations in the joint railway station of Tuzi, met on the 18 November 2016, in order to discuss about the functioning of the station.
- Both delegations met at Tuzi railway station to have a look at the premises and the spaces available for the performance of their duties. We are informed that 3 (three) offices are until now ready for the Albanian official and railway personnel.

- After the site visit the delegations met at the H.O. premises of AD Montecagro, in Podgorica.
- Albanian delegation is invited to present all their requests and logistics needs for the proper functioning of joint station under the Agreement signed for dispatching the railway transport between the two countries Montenegro and Albania and the protocols signed between railway infrastructures and official authorities.
- Albanian authorities asked for 12 offices and one external environment.

- 2 (two) offices of Albanian border police is required in joint railway station in Tuzi, MNE.
- 2 (two) offices for customs personnel, plus 1 (one) office (small room) for modem and devices for their server very much needed for Ascuda system which is running online with high speed Internet connection to all BCPs in customs of our country directly linked with General customs directorate in Albania; 1 (one) office for brokers.
- The official personnel need also to be provided with ID card (batch) and a dedicated lane to cross the border for avoiding any queue. This should be provided by BP

- MARDWA - according to national legislation 3 (three) different inspectors are attached in BIP in Albanian side and carry out the inspection for food safety, live animal and phytosanitary issues.
- Number of trains in this joint railway station is that of 5 trains/month and the inspection will be with preliminary notification.
- For this reason not necessary to have full time inspectors (every day and 12 hrs/day).

- MARDWA suggests establishing a joint working group Albania – Montenegro in order to discus in more details and to find solution for the problems of joint operation.
- Montenegrin phytosanitary service representative through the procedure have their inspectors who are common for vets and food.
- Phytosanitary services of Montenegro, accept the suggestion for establishing a joint working group Montenegro-Albania in order to solve the problems of joint operation.

- MARDWA need 3 (three) offices within the joint premises in railway station in Tuzi. These offices dedicated for them are necessary for food safety , phytosanitary and live animals inspectors; and a separate office for preserving and preparation of samples before sending to lab.
- It is also needed an external environment for quarantine.
- Albanian Railways Freight Business Unit express the need for 2 (two) offices for 5 persons staff of HSH.
- One office in addition for our IM infrastructure manager

- In the common practice for ongoing functioning of Muriqani/Sukobin joint road border station, since its establishment the Montenegrin partners are not paying any rent to the Albanian side for the premises it is using in the Muriqani joint road station.
- Another joint road border station is foreseen to be established in Grabon Albania following the model of Muriqani/Sukobin.
- Based on the signed protocols, Albanian side will cover the expenditures for energy and water consumption based on the invoices

- NS Network Statement for using their railway infrastructure of Montenegro.
- HSH is very much aware of Network Statement at its publication ZICG Railway Infrastructure website all right.
- Network Statement of Albanian Railway Infrastructure Management is recently under revision from our I.M Infrastructure Manager in close cooperation with our MoTI Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure under preparation the TAC methodology.

- Important role of the two rail regulatory authorities at negotiations for the joint railway station.
- According to the existing Railway Code in Albania the role for regulatory in railway is performed by the Albanian Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure. With entering into force of the new Railway Code the Railway Regulatory authority shall be established within 12 months after its adoption.
- NS shall be in stakeholders consultation including Albanian Competition Authority before approval.
- The NS shall be approved by Regulatory Authority.