4th MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT

SIDE EVENT
Legal frameworks in the time of changes for multimodal transport

14 December 2021 | 12:30-14:00 (UTC+7) | Virtual

Background
The slow advancement of modal integration and facilitation measures represent the main causes of high transport costs and delays in the Asia-Pacific region. There is a great potential for the development of multimodal transport operations combining the competitive advantages of each mode at different segments of international transport routes and enable an increase in environmental sustainability without compromising operational efficiency. However, in the absence of a clear institutional and regulatory framework covering door-to-door multimodal transport operations hinders their full potential.

Harmonization of legal frameworks for multimodal transport is an element of ESCAP’s ongoing work on enhancing the efficiency of multimodal supply chains. This side event will inform participants on the approaches to adjusting legal frameworks to the changing operational environment of multimodal freight transport in the region and on the progress achieved under the related project being implemented by the ESCAP secretariat. It will involve a presentation by the ESCAP secretariat on the preparation of regional guidelines for harmonization of legal frameworks on multimodal transport and possible interactive discussion.

Organizers
Transport Division of UNESCAP

Target Participants
- Officials of ESCAP member countries.
- Representatives of relevant international organizations, transport industry and academia

Time and date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Local Date and Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangkok (Thailand)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 14 December 2021, 12:30:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geneva (Switzerland)</td>
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<td>New York (USA)</td>
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<td>Tokyo (Japan)</td>
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<td>Corresponding UTC (GMT)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 14 December 2021, 05:30:00</td>
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Working modality
Due to COVID-19 Pandemic all side events and special events organized during the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Transport held on 14-17 December 2021 will be held in a virtual format. Working language of this event is English. Simultaneous interpretation to and from Russian and Chinese will be provided.

Registration:
You may register for this event and other activities organized as part of the Ministerial Conference here: https://bit.ly/MCTSideEvents as soon as possible and no later than 13 December 2021. Virtual conference room link will be circulated in due time after registration.
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Tentative Agenda
(Side event)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15-12:30 (BKK)</td>
<td>Registration of participants (Checking connection)</td>
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Opening of the meeting
12:30-12:45 (BKK)
- Mr. Weimin Ren, Director, Transport Division, UNESCAP
- Mr. Asset Assavbayev, Secretary General, Permanent Secretariat, Intergovernmental Commission, TRACECA
- Ms. Irina Bykova, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation

Session 1. Keynote presentation
12:45-13:20 (BKK)
*Approaches to harmonization of legal frameworks for multimodal transport in Asia and the Pacific*

The ESCAP secretariat will provide background information on the implementation of the related capacity development project, including on the results of the regional survey completed this year, and on the concept of a regional guideline for harmonization of legal frameworks in the region
- Fedor Kormilitsyn, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, UNESCAP
- Tatyana Tymchenko, Consultant

Session 2. Interactive discussion
*Harmonization of multimodal transport legal frameworks from the perspective of ESCAP member States, international and subregional organizations.*

Participants are invited to share their views and opinions on the matter of adjusting legal frameworks to changing operational environment of multimodal freight transport
- Ms. Yanying Li, Legal Officer and Mr. Yaochen Gong, Associate Legal Officer, UNCITRAL secretariat
- Mr Baurzhan Kussubayev, Head of the Group of Experts, Permanent Secretariat, Intergovernmental Commission, TRACECA

13:55-14:00 (BKK) Conclusions