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Item 5 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of proposals for amendments to the Agreement

Proposals for amendments to the Agreement

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The present document contains proposals made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Philippines and Viet Nam, which are parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, for amendments to annexes I and II of the Agreement. The Working Group may wish to consider adopting the proposals.

I. Introduction

1. The Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network[1] was opened for signature on 24 April 2004, during the ministerial segment of the sixtieth session of the Commission, held in Shanghai, China. On that occasion, 26 member States signed the Agreement. Malaysia signed the Agreement on 24 September 2004 and the Philippines signed it on 2 November 2005.

2. The Agreement entered into force on 4 July 2005, 90 days after the requisite number of States had definitively signed, ratified or approved it. Currently, 28 member States are parties to the Agreement, namely Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Georgia, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

* The late submission of the present document was due to the need to await the submission of an amendment proposal by one party, which was received on 22 July 2011, as it was required to support the amendment proposal of another party

1 United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. I-41607.

3. In accordance with article 7(1) of the Agreement, the Working Group on the Asian Highway has been established to consider the implementation of the Agreement and any amendments proposed.

4. Articles 8(2), 9(2) and 10(2) of the Agreement state that amendments may be proposed by any party. In this connection, the secretariat informed the member States of the proposed date of the Working Group meeting along with a request to submit proposals for consideration by the Working Group.

5. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Philippines and Viet Nam have proposed amendments to annexes I and II to the Agreement, as outlined below.

6. In accordance with articles 9(3) and 10(3), the secretariat circulated the text of the amendment proposals from the parties to all members of the Working Group 45 days before the Working Group meeting.

II. Proposal by the Lao People's Democratic Republic

7. In conformity with article 9(2) of the Agreement, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has proposed an amendment to the itinerary of Asian Highway route AH13. The proposal is to extend the existing section of the route to a point at the border with Viet Nam, as described below:

Under route number AH13, replace the current itinerary:

"Oudomxai – Muang Ngeun – Huai Kon – Uttaradit – Phitsanulok – Nakhon Sawan"

with:

"Tai Trang/Pang Hok (Lao-Viet Nam border) – Muang Khoua – Oudomxai – Muang Ngeun – Huai Kon – Uttaradit – Phitsanulok – Nakhon Sawan".

8. In conformity with article 10(2) of the Agreement, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has proposed an amendment to include axle load capacity under the Asian Highway classification and design standards (Annex III), as described below:

Axle load capacity	11 tons/axle

III. Proposal by the Philippines

9. In conformity with article 9(2) of the Agreement, the Philippines has proposed an amendment to the itineraries of Asian Highway route AH26. The proposal is to change the names of places along the AH26 route as listed in the itinerary, as described below.

Under route number AH26, replace the current itinerary:

"Laoag – Manila – Legazpi – Matnog – ferry – Allen – Tacloban (– Ormoc – ferry – Cebu) – Liloan – ferry – Surigao – Davao (– Cagayan de Oro) – General Santos – Zamboanga"

with:

"Laoag – Tuguegarao – Manila – Legazpi – Matnog – ferry – Allen – Tacloban (– Ormoc – ferry – Cebu) – Liloan – ferry – Surigao – Davao (– Cagayan de Oro) – General Santos – Zamboanga".

IV. Proposal by Viet Nam

10. In conformity with article 9(2) of the Agreement, Viet Nam has proposed an amendment to the itinerary of Asian Highway route AH13. The proposal is to extend Asian Highway No. 13 (AH13) with a new section between Hanoi and a border point between Viet Nam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, as described below:

Extend route number AH13 by a new section with the following itinerary:

"Hanoi – Hoa Binh – Dien Bien – Tai Trang/Pang Hok (Viet Nam-Lao border)"

V. Issues for Consideration

11. The Working Group may wish to consider the above proposals in accordance with articles 9 and 10 of the Agreement.