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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Working Group on the Asian Highway

Fifth meeting
Bangkok, 7-8 October 2013
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Proposals for amendments to the Agreement

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Note by the secretariat

Summary

The present document contains proposals made by the Philippines, Viet Nam and Cambodia, which are parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, for amendments to Annex I 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, which was 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, 29 member States are parties to the Agreement, namely Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 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.

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

* E/ESCAP/AHWG(5)/L.1.

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

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 member States of the proposed date of the Working Group meeting and requested that proposals be submitted for consideration by the Working Group.

5. The Philippines, Viet Nam and Cambodia have proposed amendments to Annex I to the Agreement, as outlined below.

6. In accordance with article 9(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 Philippines

7. 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, which is described below, is to change the names of places along the AH26 route as listed in the itinerary.

> Under route number AH26, *replace* the current itinerary:
>
> ….Allen – Tacloban (– Ormoc – ferry – Cebu) – Liloan – ferry – Surigao – Davao (– Cagayan de Oro) – General Santos – Zamboanga
>
> *with*:
>
> ….Allen – Tacloban (– Ormoc City – ferry – Cebu) – Sogod (– Maasin City – Bato – Baybay – Ormoc City) – Liloan – ferry – Surigao – Butuan City (– Cagayan de Oro City – Iligan City – Tukuran) – Davao (– Cagayan de Oro City) – General Santos – Tukuran – Zamboanga.

III. Proposal by Viet Nam and Cambodia

8. In conformity with article 9(2) of the Agreement, Viet Nam and Cambodia have proposed a new route between Quy Nhon port in Viet Nam and Poipet in Cambodia. The proposed route would have the following itinerary:

> Quy Nhon port – Pleiku – Le Thanh/O Yadav (Viet Nam-Cambodia border) – Banlung – Stung Treng – Preah Vihear – Siem Reap – Serei Saophoan

Since this would be a new route, the secretariat proposes that it be numbered AH17 in conformity with existing route numbers.

IV. Recommendation

9. The Working Group may wish to consider the above proposals in accordance with article 9 of the Agreement.