High-Level Meeting on
Deepening Digitalization of International Rail Transport in Asia-Pacific
13 - 15 May 2025, Xi'an, China

PROGRAMME

Day 1: 13 May 2025, Tuesday	
08:00 – 08:30	**Registration**
08:30 – 09:15	**High-level Opening Session** Moderator: Mr. Wenzheng Jia, Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center Opening statements • Mr. Song Yang, Chairman, Shaanxi Railway Transportation Group • Mr. Ganbold Baasanjav, Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Subregional Office • Mr. Hui Xie, Deputy Director General, Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center • Mr. Lawrence Hoomyung Lee, Director, Greater Tumen Initiative (GTI) Secretariat • Mr. Wei Zhong, Chief Planner, Planning and Standard Research Institute of the National Railway Administration (NRA)
09:15 – 09:30	**Group photo**
09:30 – 11:30	Moderator: Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest, Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP **Session 1: Rail digitalization strategies and policies of the members of Trans-Asian Railway Network** *Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) members would be invited to present their strategies and policies to deepen rail digitalization in the region.* • Country presentations Azerbaijan Bangladesh Cambodia

Day 1: 13 May 2025, Tuesday	
	Georgia Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Lao People's Democratic Republic Malaysia Mongolia
11:30 – 11:50	**Coffee break**
11:50 – 13:00	**Session 1: Rail digitalization strategies and policies of the members of Trans-Asian Railway Network (cont.)** • Country presentations Russian Federation Tajikistan Thailand Viet Nam Republic of Korea Türkiye Islamic Republic of Iran
13:00 – 14:00	**Lunch break**
14:00 – 15:00	**Session 2: Regional railway interconnection standard innovation platform** Moderator: Mr. Wenzheng Jia, Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center *The session would elaborate on the proposal to set up a regional railway standards connectivity scheme to enhance efficiency of international railway transport in the region. TAR members and organizations would be invited to share their experience/cases in rail standards settings for international railway transport as well as their insights/suggestions for a collaborative mechanism for railway standard connectivity scheme.* • Overview of the regional railway standards connectivity scheme Mr. Hui Xie, Deputy Director General, GSTIKC • Research progress on the interconnection and interoperability of railway standards in neighboring countries Mr. Zhang Hongping, R&D and Digitalization Department, Managing Director, China Railway Construction Corporation (International) Ltd.

Day 1: 13 May 2025, Tuesday	
	• Integrated innovation of Chinese and Bangladesh Railway standards Mr. Zhang Fei, Deputy Project Manager, Padma Bridge Rail Link Project in Bangladesh, China Railway First Group Co., Ltd.
15:00 – 15:15	**Coffee break**
15:15 – 16:00	**Session 2: Regional railway interconnection standard innovation platform (cont.)** • Country interventions and discussions
16:00 – 16:45	**Session 3: Organizational initiatives to support rail digitalization among member countries** Moderator: Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest, Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP *The session would focus on organizational initiatives to support rail digitalization among the member States. ESCAP, OSJD, OTIF, ECE would share their work on rail digitalization, in particular, ESCAP would present the new annex to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian railway network and the Strategy 2030 on Accelerating Rail Digital Transformation in Asia-Pacific, both of which were adopted at the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Trans-Asian Railway.* • ESCAP initiatives to foster rail digitalization Mr. Sandeep Jain, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP • Mr. Zurab Kozmava, Member of Committee, Organization for Cooperation between Railways • Mr. Goran Andreev, Border Crossing Expert, Permanent Secretariat of Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA (ONLINE) • OTIF (Video Message)
16:45 – 17:45	**Session 4: Addressing rail cyber threats through a regional framework** Moderator: Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest, Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP *ESCAP would present a draft framework on rail cybersecurity (already discussed), as a way to address rail cybersecurity threats. TAR members would be invited to share the experiences on addressing rail cyberthreats in the region.* • Challenges and current state of rail cybersecurity in Asia-Pacific Mr. Basri Berahim, Associate Technical Director, AtkinsRéalis • Cyber security Threats and Countermeasures for China High-Speed

Day 1: 13 May 2025, Tuesday	
	Railway Network. Dr. Saifei Li, Associate Professor, Southwest Jiaotong University (SWJTU) • Draft regional framework on strengthening rail cybersecurity in Asia-Pacific Mr. Sandeep Jain, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP • Country interventions and open discussion
18:00 – 20:00	**Networking reception**

Day 2: 14 May 2025, Wednesday	
08:30 – 10:30	**Session 5: Promoting cross-border electronic information exchange for efficient railway transport and transit in East and North-East Asia** Moderator: Mr. Ganbold Baasanjav, Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Subregional Office *ESCAP would share outcomes/findings from the implementation of the project on cross border electronic information exchange for efficient railway transport, involving China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation, that could be useful for other TAR members.* • Highlights of project outputs and outcomes Ms. Fideles Sadicon, Sustainable Development Officer, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Subregional Office • Electronic information exchange between railways of China-Mongolia- Russian Federation: Project findings Ms. Ekaterina Kozeyreva, ESCAP Consultant • Country interventions Ms. Yanping Cui, Director, International Transport Institute of Market Monitoring and Evaluating Center, National Railway Administration, China / Project Consultant, ESCAP (ONLINE) Mr. Sodbayar Batzogsokh, Chief Engineer, IT Department, Ulaanbaatar Railway JVC / Project National Focal Point Mr. Pavel Dykun, Commercial Director, RZD Technologies LLC
10:30 – 11:00	**Coffee Break**
11:00 – 12:30	**Session 6: Evolution of high-speed railway (HSR), lessons learned and way forward for member countries**

Day 2: 14 May 2025, Wednesday	
	Moderator: Mr. Wei Zhong, Chief Planner, Planning and Standard Research Institute of the National Railway Administration (NRA) *The session would review global experience in the development of HSR and lessons learned. Member States would be invited to share experiences and related challenges. The session would also aim to identify HSR issues for deliberation within the ambit of the TAR Network. ESCAP would present draft guidelines on HSR development in South-East Asia.* • Development and Prospects of China's Intelligent High-Speed Railway Dr. Shao Sai, Associate professor, Institute of Computing Technologies, China Academy of Railway Sciences Corporation Limited (CARS) • Practices and experiences of privately-owned high-speed railways in Zhejiang Province Mr. Xuxiang Jiao, President, Zhejiang Rail Transit and Energy Industry Association • Draft guidelines on high-speed rail for countries in Southeast Asia Mr. Sandeep Jain, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP • Country interventions and discussions Russian Federation Thailand Türkiye
12:30 – 13:30	**Lunch Break**
13:30 – 15:00	**Capacity Building Workshop on Rail connectivity between South-East Asia and North and Central Asia** Moderator: Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest, Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP *The capacity building workshop is under the project on leveraging Trans-Asian railway network for efficient and resilient transport rail network in ASEAN and beyond being implemented by ESCAP.* *ESCAP would expand on the draft road map on rail connectivity between two subregions that was presented at the side event of the Eighth session of the Committee on Transport held in November 2024. TAR members from South-East Asia and North and Central Asia would be invited to share their initiatives and suggestions to further strengthen rail connectivity between the two subregions and on related issues.* • State of rail connectivity between Southeast Asia and North and Central Asia

Day 2: 14 May 2025, Wednesday	
	Ms. Ekaterina Kozeyreva, ESCAP consultant • Draft road map on enhancing rail connectivity between Southeast Asia and North and Central Asia Mr. Sandeep Jain, Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Division, ESCAP • State of play of rail transport in North and Central Asian Countries Asian Transport Outlook Team (ONLINE) • Enhancing role of women in rail corridors: General recommendations Ms. Ashley Acker, Gender Consultant, ESCAP (ONLINE)
15:00 – 15:15	**Coffee Break**
15:15 – 17:15	**Capacity Building Workshop on Rail connectivity between South-East Asia and North and Central Asia (cont.)** • Country presentations Azerbaijan Russian Federation Kyrgyzstan Turkmenistan Cambodia Lao People's Democratic Republic Malaysia Thailand Viet Nam
17:15 – 18:00	**Concluding Session** Moderator: Mr. Sergey Khidirov, Senior Programme Officer, GTI Secretariat *The session would consider an appropriate outcome document affirming the continued importance of rail digital transformation in the region including cooperating on the railway standards connectivity scheme, promoting high speed rail in Asia-Pacific, implementing the Strategy 2030 on Rail Digitalization as well as the New Annex to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network.* • Consideration of outcome document • Wenzheng Jia, Global Sustainable Transport Innovation and Knowledge Center • Mr. Ganbold Baasanjav, Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia

Day 2: 14 May 2025, Wednesday	
	Subregional Office • Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest, Chief, Transport Connectivity and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP

Overall MC:

- Day 1, 13 May: Ms. Ma. Fideles Sadicon, Sustainable Development Officer, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office
- Day 2, 14 May: Mr. Sergey Khidirov, Senior Programme Officer, GTI Secretariat

Day 3: 15 May 2025, Thursday	
10:00 – 15:00	**Study Tour (Terracotta Warriors and Horse Museum)**