Supporting policies on low carbon and resilient transport infrastructure: Promoting Multi-modal Connectivity in the BBIN Countries

Subregional Capacity Building Workshop

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Session 2: Promoting multimodal transport system to enhance seamless and sustainable connectivity in the BBIN subregion

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I. Dry ports

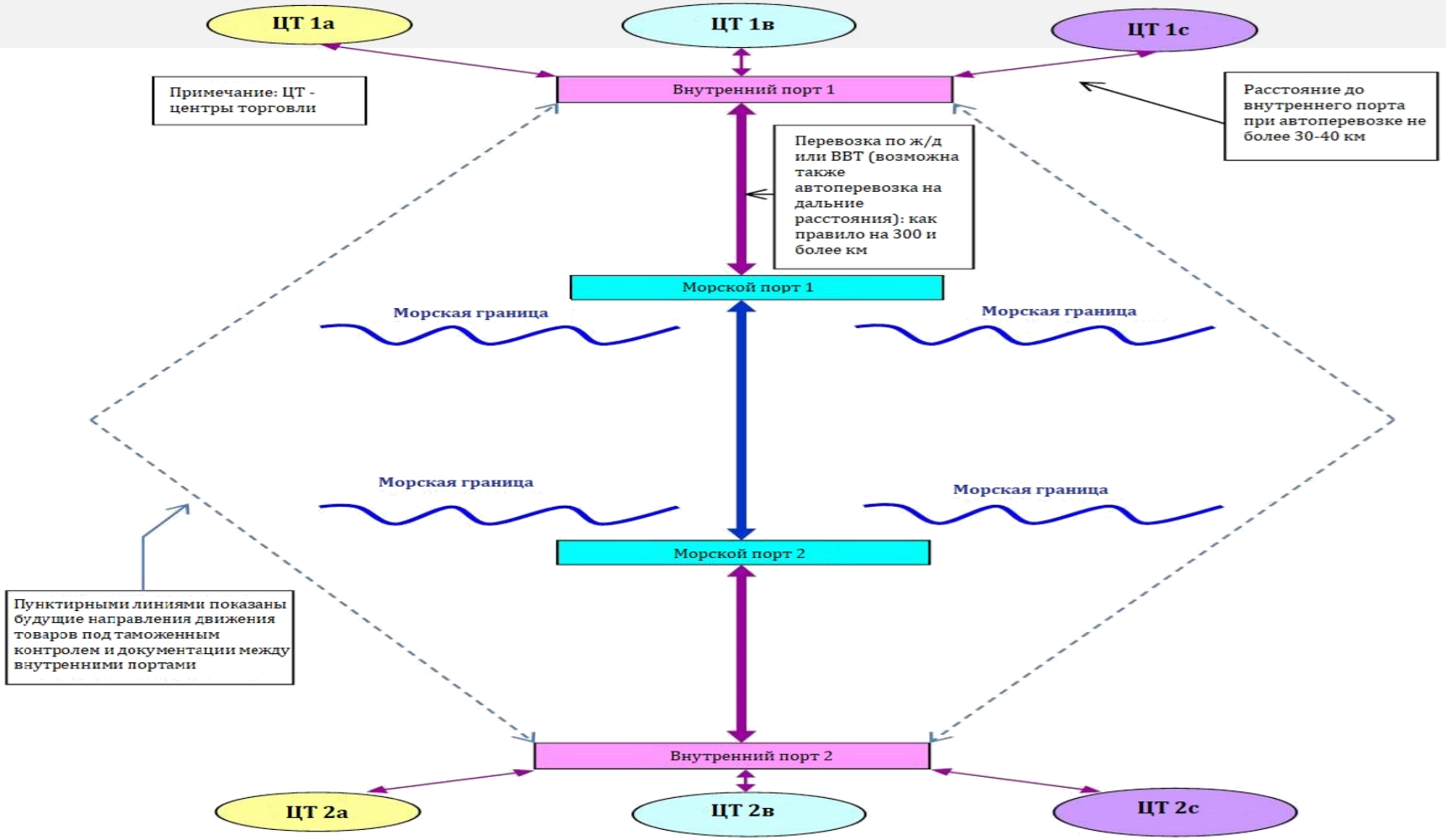
- an inland location as a logistics centre connected to one or more modes of transport for the handling, storage and regulatory inspection of goods moving in international trade and the execution of applicable customs control and formalities.

  (Article 1 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports)

Functions of dry ports

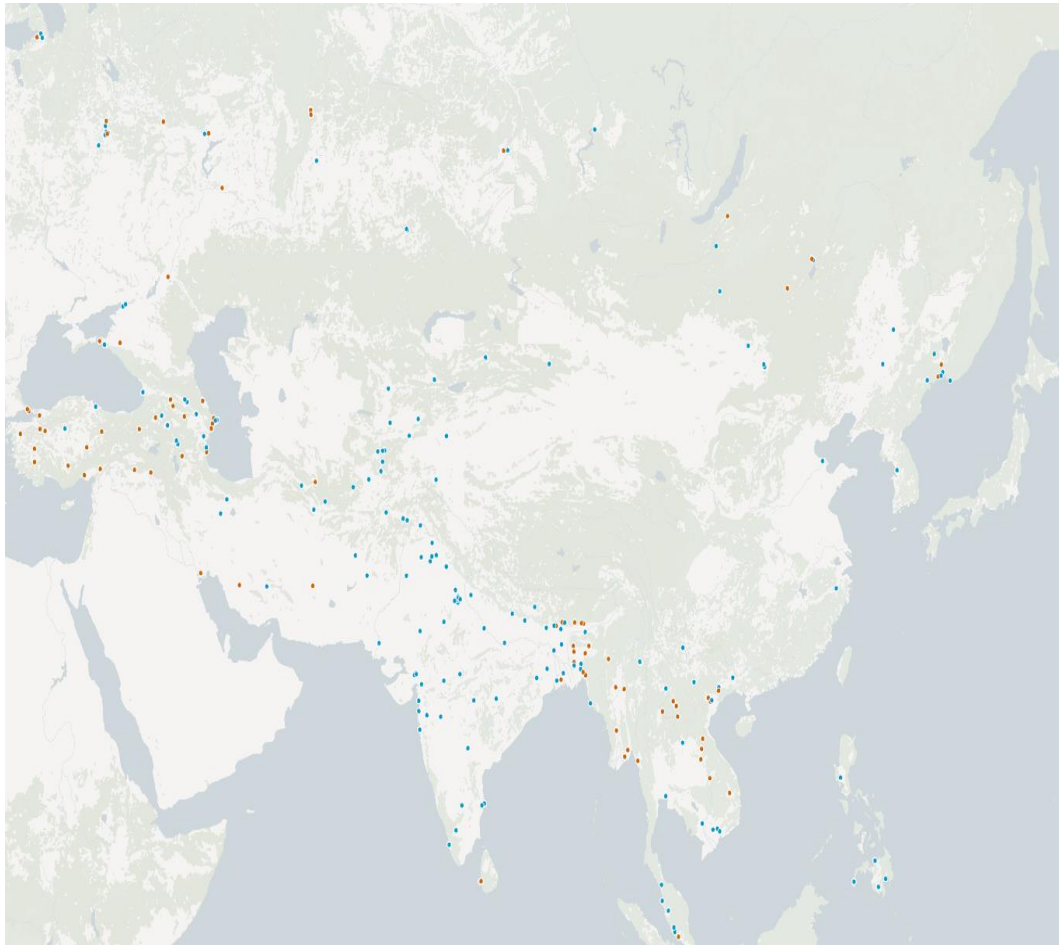
- Container handling and storage
- Container stripping and stuffing
- Breakbulk cargo handling and storage
- Customs and other border controls inspection and clearance
- Container light repairs
- Freight forwarding and cargo consolidation services
- Banking/insurance/financial services
- Transport booking/brokerage
- Value added services (e.g. packaging, labelling, long term warehousing)

A concept of regional network of dry ports



Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports

- **Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports**:
  - Provides a uniform definition of a dry port of international importance (quoted above)
  - The Parties adopt the list of dry ports, contained in annex I to the Agreement, as the basis for the coordinated development of important nodes in an international integrated intermodal transport and logistics system.
  - The Parties intend to develop these dry ports within the framework of their national programmes and in accordance with national laws and regulations.
  - The dry ports listed in annex I to the Agreement should be brought into conformity with the guiding principles for the development and operation of dry ports as described in annex II to the Agreement.



Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports

- Signed in Bangkok o November 2013
- Entered into force in April 2016
- As of November 2023 г., 17 member States became its Parties
- Total of 268 dry ports regionwide are included in annex I to the Agreement

Dry Ports in BBIN countries

- Bangladesh and India are Parties to the Agreement
- Nepal signed the Agreement but has not completed procedures to become a Party
- Number of dry ports in BBIN countries as per annex I

Bangladesh	Bhutan	India	Nepal
17 (8 existing and 9 potential)	7 (1 existing and 6 potential)	41 (all existing)	5 (4 existing, 1 potential)

ESCAP's priority directions of work on multimodal transport corridors

- Promotion of strengthening coordination arrangements for transport corridors
- Identification of transport corridor success factors
- Collection of data on transport corridors based on standardized approach
- Working towards harmonization of legal frameworks for multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific

Recommendations:

I. Dry ports

- Bhutan and Nepal can consider becoming Parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports

II. Multimodal transport corridors

- BBIN countries to consider success factors and management arrangements in planning new multimodal transport corridors

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