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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Working Group on the Asian Highway

Third meeting
4 September 2009
Bangkok

PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGREEMENT

(Item 5 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The present document contains proposals made by China, India and Kazakhstan, 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.

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 the Agreement 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, 23 member States are Parties to the Agreement, namely Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Georgia, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

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

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2323, No. I-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 the member States of the scheduled date of the Working Group Meeting along with a request to submit proposals for consideration by the Working Group.

5. China, India and Kazakhstan have proposed amendments to annex I to the Agreement, as outlined below.

I. PROPOSAL BY CHINA

6. In conformity with Article 9(2) of the Agreement, China has proposed an amendment to the itinerary of Asian Highway route AH4. The proposal is to include the Urumqi – Takeshkan section in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region of China, connecting with Yarantai in Mongolia, as described below:

Under route number AH4, replace:

". . . – Ulaanbaishint – Hovd – Yarantai
Urumqi – Kashi – Honqiraf – . . ."

with

" . . . – Ulaanbaishint – Hovd – Yarantai – Takeshkan – Urumqi – Kashi – Honqiraf – . . ."

7. The proposed itinerary of route AH4 is:

. . . – Ulaanbaishint – Hovd – Yarantai – Takeshkan – Urumqi – Kashi – Honqiraf – . . .

II. PROPOSAL BY INDIA

8. In conformity with Article 9(2) of the Agreement, India has proposed amendments to the itineraries of Asian Highway routes AH2 and AH48. The proposals are to include Phulbari between Banglabandh and Siliguri in AH2, and to extend route AH48 from the border of Bhutan to Phulbari through Jaigaon, as described below.

(a) Under route number AH2, replace:

". . . – Banglabandh – Siliguri – Kakarbhitta – . . ."

with

". . . – Banglabandh – Phulbari – Siliguri – Kakarbhitta – . . ."

The proposed itinerary of route AH2 is:

. . . – Banglabandh – Phulbari – Siliguri – Kakarbhitta – . . .

(b) Under route number AH48, replace:

"Thimphu – Phuentsholing – Border of India"

with

"Thimphu – Phuentsholing – Jaigaon – Phulbari"
The proposed itinerary of route AH48 is:

Thimphu – Phuentsholing – Jaigaon – Phulbari

III. PROPOSAL BY KAZAKHSTAN

9. In conformity with Article 9(2) of the Agreement, Kazakhstan has proposed amendments to the itinerary of Asian Highway route AH61. The proposals are to replace "Aktyubinsk" with "Aktobe" and to create a branch to route AH61 from Aktobe via Martuk to Zhaisan, as described below:

(a) Under route number AH61, replace:

". . . – Aktyubinsk – . . ."

with

". . . – Aktobe – . . ."

(b) Under route number AH61, replace:

". . . – Karabutak – Aktyubinsk – Ural'sk – . . ."

with

". . . – Karabutak – Aktobe (– Martuk – Zhaisan) – Ural'sk – . . ."

The proposed itinerary of route AH61 is:

. . . – Karabutak – Aktobe (– Martuk – Zhaisan) – Ural'sk – . . .

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

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

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