

**UNITED NATIONS**

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

**Expert Group Meeting on Strengthening the capacity of ESCAP member States to harmonize standards on weights, dimensions and emissions of road vehicles for facilitation of transport along the Asian Highway network**

Tbilisi, Georgia 23 – 24 January 2019

**Conclusions and Recommendations**

1. The Expert Group Meeting on Strengthening the capacity of ESCAP member States to harmonize standards on weights, dimensions and emissions of road vehicles for facilitation of transport along the Asian Highway network was held in Tbilisi, Georgia on 23 and 24 January 2019.
2. The Meeting was attended by 25 participants from invited countries including the delegates of Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Georgia, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam; as well as resource persons and the secretariat.
3. The Meeting was organized under the project on Strengthening the capacity of ESCAP member States to harmonize standards on weights, dimensions and emissions of road vehicles for facilitation of transport along the Asian Highway network, being implemented by the secretariat with financial support from the Government of China.
4. Participants shared information on existing national, bilateral and multilateral standards of weights, dimensions and emissions for road freight vehicles as well as enforcement mechanisms for both national and foreign road freight vehicles of their respective countries; as well as national experiences on initiatives to mitigate the lack of harmonized standards, through various presentations.
5. The Meeting recognized the benefits of harmonization on standards on weights, dimensions and emissions of road freight vehicles as a mean to facilitate effective, efficient and seamless international road transportation, along the Asian Highway network, and discussed the proposed principles for recommended harmonized standards; as well as the institutional steps for its implementation.
6. The Meeting welcomed the preliminary study findings is useful for the countries along the Asian Highway network to develop harmonized standards and policies and to work together for the seamless operationalization of international road transport. The Meeting welcomed the initially proposed recommended standards on weights, dimensions and emissions as presented by the secretariat during the Meeting; and invited the participants to review the proposed recommended standards on weights, dimensions and emissions; and convey their additional comments, if any, to the secretariat by 28 February 2019.
7. The meeting acknowledged that, in line with the study finding, while in the majority of the countries present at the meeting the initially recommended standards reflected the existing national legislation, for a number of countries, these would require changes to

their national standards. The Meeting invited these countries to consider the initially recommended standards and to communicate to the secretariat their comments along with any requests for additional technical support that this issue may require by 28 February 2019. It was also clarified that the recommended standards would be applicable only to international road transport along the Asian Highway Network.

8. In line with the project document, a Regional Meeting will be organized in September 2019, possibly back to back with the Asian Highway Working Group Meeting, to present the final recommended standards.
9. The Meeting recognized the importance of enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance on weights, dimensions and emissions of road freight vehicles as important issues in their respective countries and requested the secretariat to conduct further studies and capacity building workshops to tackle the issues, depending budget availability.
10. The Meeting welcomed the publication of the Handbook on Cross-Border Transport Along the Asian Highway Network as an important source of information, including on weights and dimensions for road freight vehicles.
11. The Meeting further requested the secretariat to conduct capacity building workshops on international transport facilitation to further enhance and facilitate seamless international road transport connectivity, notably along the Asian Highway network.
12. The participants thanked the secretariat for organizing the Expert Group Meeting, Government of China for the financial support to the project and the Government of Georgia for hosting the Meeting.
13. These Conclusions and Recommendations were agreed on 24 January 2019 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

## Annex

### a) Recommended Standards on Weights and Dimensions for road freight vehicles

Item	Minimum	Maximum	Mode	Recommended standard
Maximum Width, mm	2,438	3,000	2,500	<b>2,550<sup>1)</sup></b>
Maximum Height, mm	3,350	4,750	4,000	<b>4,000</b>
Maximum Length, mm	Rigid truck	9,100	12,200	<b>12,000</b>
	Articulated Vehicle/Road Train	16,000	25,000	<b>20,000</b>
Maximum Gross Weight, ton	Rigid Vehicle	21	44	<b>30/32</b>
	Articulated Vehicle/Road Train	36	61.5	<b>44</b>
Maximum Axle Load, ton	Single Axle	8	13.5	<b>10</b>
	Group Axles	19	31	<b>18<sup>3)</sup>/24<sup>4)</sup></b>

Notes:

1) 2,600 for refrigerator

2) For powered axle

3) For tandem axle

4) for tridem axle

### b) Recommended Standards on Emissions for road freight vehicles: EURO IV