

Subregional Meeting on Rail-based Intermodal Transport in Northeast and Central Asia

Bangkok, 18-19 September 2017

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Subregional Meeting on Rail-based Intermodal Transport in Northeast and Central Asia¹ was organized under the project on “Development of Seamless Intermodal Transport in Northeast and Central Asia for Enhancing Euro-Asian Transport Linkages” and held in Bangkok, on 18-19 September 2017.
2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of China, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation; the representatives of Kazakhstan Freight Forwarders Association (KFFA), Zheldortrans-Aktobe LLP (Kazakhstan), Korea Maritime Institute, Korea Railroad Research Institute, Mongolian-Russian Joint-Venture Company “Ulaanbaatar Railway”, PJSC “TransContainer” (Russian Federation), JSC United Transport and Logistics Company (UTLC) (Russian Federation), Russian University of Transport (RUT (MIIT)) as well by the representative of the Eurasian Economic Commission and the resource person representing International Rail Transport Committee (CIT). The list of participants and the programme of the Meeting are attached to this document (Annex 1 and 2).
3. The UNESCAP secretariat presented the findings and recommendations of the studies on documentation and procedures, and on information systems for rail-based intermodal transport operations in Northeast and Central Asia developed under the captioned project, including the proposed unified intermodal transport document.
4. The Meeting agreed on the findings and recommendations of the studies and requested the UNESCAP secretariat to continue its work on the development of rail-based intermodal transport in Northeast and Central Asia with a target of enhancing cooperation of different modes of transport in the countries concerned to provide more efficient logistical services and increase attractiveness of land transport linkages between Asia and Europe.

¹ It was decided at the meeting that for the purposes of this document the term “intermodal” shall mean “involving at least two different modes of transport”

5. The Meeting noted that the efficiency of railway-based intermodal transport operations in Northeast and Central Asia could be increased through addressing a wide range of related issues.

6. The Meeting identified, in particular, the needs to: (i) introduce innovative models of transport process organization, covering improved interconnections between the actors of the transport chain, and upgraded customer services; (ii) integrate information resources used by governments and private sector, including setting up mechanisms for electronic data exchange and data sharing between transport enterprises and government control authorities; (iii) introduce unified and mutually recognized rules, regulations and documentation covering intermodal transport operations; (iv) strengthen mechanisms for international cooperation between government authorities and between transport companies; (v) streamline the control procedures at seaports and land border-crossing points; (vi) optimize interaction of entities represented at seaports; (vii) increase infrastructure capacity through improving railway infrastructure network and developing intermodal logistics hubs; and (viii) achieve greater level of technical compatibility of rolling stock and other elements of transport infrastructure.

7. The Meeting agreed that the issues related to operation of major intermodal transport routes in Northeast and Central Asia, including routes identified by the current project, and possibility of development of these routes into transport corridors could be further studied and discussed at the platform provided by ESCAP.

8. The Meeting suggested that the UNESCAP secretariat could plan its follow-up activities on the development of railway-based intermodal transport in Northeast and Central Asia in this direction, utilizing the relevant good practices available both within and outside the UNESCAP region.

9. The Meeting thanked the representatives of the participating countries, experts and resource persons for their valuable contribution to the deliberations of the Meeting.

10. Participants of the Meeting expressed their gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation for its generous financial support and to the UNESCAP secretariat for organizing the Meeting.

11. These conclusions and recommendations were adopted on 19 September 2017 in Bangkok.

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19 September 2017

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

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Transport Division



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Sub-regional Meeting on

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TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Day 1

Monday, 18 September 2017

	REGISTRATION of participants – Ground floor	08.45 – 09.30
	OPENING remarks Mr Pierre Chartier <i>Chief, Transport Infrastructure Section Transport Division, ESCAP</i>	09.30 – 09.40
	OVERVIEW of ESCAP's PROJECT on Development of seamless rail-based intermodal transport services in Northeast and Central Asia for enhancing Euro-Asian transport linkages Mr Fedor Kormilitsyn, <i>Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Infrastructure Section, Transport Division, ESCAP</i>	09.40 – 10.00
	COFFEE break	10.00 – 10.15
	PRESENTATION of the RECOMMENDATIONS of the studies on documentation and procedures, and on information systems for rail-based intermodal transport operations in Northeast and Central Asia ESCAP's project Mr Fedor Kormilitsyn, <i>Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Infrastructure Section, Transport Division, ESCAP</i>	10.15 – 11.30
	LUNCH break	11.30 – 13.00



PRESENTATIONS by countries and resource persons on the issues and perspectives of development of intermodal transport operations with railway element

13.00 – 15.00

COFFEE break

15.00 – 15.30



DISCUSSION on further steps towards streamlining rail-based intermodal transport operations in Northeast and Central Asia

15.30 – 17.00

*Participants are invited to **exchange opinions on key issues and priorities** related to development of intermodal transport operations with railway element in their countries and on potential **role of ESCAP** in providing further technical assistance*

Day 2

Tuesday, 19 September 2017



DISCUSSION on the follow-up to ESCAP's project, including ways to implement its recommendations

09.00 -10.15

*Participants are invited to discuss **the ways for implementation** of the recommendations of the studies on documentation (including the proposed unified multimodal transport document) and on information technology. The discussion is supposed to cover possible **arrangements for pilot application** of the proposed multimodal transport document, on **modalities of enhancing information interaction** among the transport undertakings of different countries involved in intermodal transport operations, and on potential follow-up to ESCAP's project*



COFFEE break

10.15 – 10.30



DISCUSSION on the follow-up to ESCAP's project, including ways to implement its recommendations (*continued*)

10.30 – 11.30



LUNCH break

11.30 – 13.00



ADOPTION of the meeting report

13.00 – 14.00