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**PHASED APPROACH TO TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE
DEVELOPMENTS**

Submitted by the Government of Belarus

The Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Belarus has examined the draft Guidelines for the phased approach to transport infrastructure projects (TRANS/WP.5/2004/2) and considers the following amendments and additions to be necessary.

The term “spatial phasing” which appears on page 5 in the third paragraph of the section entitled “Concept of phasing” simply means the ranking of individual investment projects, as referred to in the second paragraph of this section. The term “spatial phasing” should be deleted and phasing should be seen as consisting of two stages: project ranking during the formulation of national investment programmes and staggered development of infrastructure through specific projects.

In the first paragraph of the section entitled “Selecting a phased approach” (page 5 in the English version), the Russian translation of the English phrase “estimated savings” should be amended.

In the fourth paragraph on page 5, the sentence “In rail projects, railway lines were electrified, equipped with signalling and safety systems and double tracks were built to manage rising demand” should be reworded as follows:

“In rail projects, track construction, signalling and communications systems with subsequent electrification of the railway line are treated in an integrated manner to manage rising demand.”

The same section (pages 7-9) contains a detailed study of Finland’s experience with a phased approach to improving its roads and railways. A number of European Union (EU) member States and countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have similar experiences. Other countries’ experiences of phasing major transport infrastructure development projects should be included and described more fully to enhance the usefulness of this document.
