The North-South Corridor - showing progress

Euro-Asian Transport Links Expert Group meeting

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The initial founders of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) were India, Russia, and Iran (2000).

Later on, several other countries have joined the corridor project.

UNESCAP presented a study (2001) where the North-South Corridor was shown as an integrated part of the overall TAR-network. The main routes were defined as follows:

1: The Caucasus Route (west)
2: The Central Asian Route (east)
3: The Caspian Sea Route (through)

UIC made a study in October 2008 (a specific route west of the Caspian Sea)

UN (ESCAP+ECE) included the route in their EATL study in 2008.

Several organizations have worked with or showed interest in the North-South concept.
UIC feasibility study 3.10.2008

- UIC’s objective was to prepare a feasibility study
- ...highlighting some of the required conditions for future operation
- ...on a particular route along the North-South Corridor
The selected route: criteria's

- The most viable route on longer term
- As few countries as possible (easier agreements and border crossings)
- The route has as few discontinues points (gauge break, trans-loadings etc) as possible
- The distance is as short as possible
- Focus on the railways, i.e. we use trains where it is possible or railway sections can be developed
- There are alternatives (back-up) routes/sections if the main section fails (like sea transport over the Caspian Sea and railways transport through Azerbaijan)
- The route is recommended by organizations like the UN and railway organizations like RZD, RAI, IR and others)
The new link: Astara-Astara-Quazwin
Most important project

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR – THE NEW CAUCASUS ROUTE

LEGENDS:
- 0000000000
- 0000000000
- 0000000000
- 0000000000
- 0000000000
- 1520 m.m.
- 1435 m.m.
- 1435 m.m. (project)
- 1667 m.m.
- Sea connection
- Main corridor indication

Source: Transportutvikling AS, 2008

Qazwin-Astara (335 km)

LEGENDS:
- New railway connection
- Existing tracks:
- Distance (km)

Qazwin-Rasht-Anzali (under construction)

Rasht-Astara (ongoing study)

To Russia, Europe, Turkey etc

To Turkey, Armenia etc

To Teheran and Bandar Abbas

The new link Bam-Zahedan

The new link Bam-Chabahar

Qazwin-Astara (335 km)

170 km

40 km

165 km

165 km

165 km

40 km

170 km

To Russia, Europe, Turkey etc

To Turkey, Armenia etc

To Teheran and Bandar Abbas

The new link Bam-Zahedan

The new link Bam-Chabahar
Initiate a study for an intermodal demonstration run crossing the Caspian Sea

- Until the tracks are completed between Iran and Azerbaijan an intermodal demonstration run crossing the Caspian Sea is an alternative to show progress
- This route could also for demonstration purposes be extended all the way to the NW Russian port of Murmansk
- Important to study this alternative

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR – demonstration run

LEGENDS:
- 1520 m.m.
- 1435 m.m.
- 1667 m.m.
- Sea connection

Transportutvikling AS, 2010
Logistics and discontinuous points

- India
- Persian Gulf
- Iran
- Caspian Sea
- Russia
- Moscow
- Bandar Abbas
- Bandar Amirabad
- Olya
Thank you for your kind attention

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