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## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Inland Transport Committee**

#### **Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport**

##### **Twenty-seventh session**

Geneva, 8–10 September 2014

Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Workshop on “Transport Trends and Economics in  
Mediterranean region: haring experiences among EuroMed  
and UNECE countries”:** Report of the Union for the Mediterranean

### **Report of the Union for the Mediterranean**

**Submitted by the secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean**

#### **1. Promotion of labelled projects**

##### **a. LOGISMED Training Activities (LOGISMED-TA)**

**First semester 2014:** EIB had chosen CETMO (the Secretariat of GTMO 5+5), as the structure responsible for the technical management of all phases of the project, on behalf of the EIB.

**Second semester 2014:** CETMO will start to manage and implement the “Coordination” and “Observatory” components, which could start immediately after the signature of the contract between EIB and CETMO, planned for July 2014. The “Training” component of LOGISMED-TA will be managed by CETMO and implemented by a consultant, selected through a public tender. The Secretariat is actively working with the promoter, contributing to the coordination and general management of the Project. Due to the elections in April 2014, the contacts with the Ministry of Transport of Algeria have been temporarily suspended.

##### **b. Completion of the Central Section of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis**

**First semester 2014:** The Secretariat continued to follow the design phases closely together with the Promoter, through regular meetings and contacts with the Ministries of Transport and Equipment of the countries involved, namely Morocco and Tunisia.

The Secretariat, together with CETMO and IRU, organized the Working Days on the “Horizontal Actions for the Integration and Coordination of the Management of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis” (6-7 May 2014), with the aim to define an Action Plan concerning the key aspects of management of the Motorway. The working days brought together 58 participants, including officials from the Maghreb ministries, representatives of the companies that operate the motorways in the Maghreb countries, representatives of the IFIs, GTMO 5+5 experts, etc. The participants were presented with a compilation of actions summing up the ideas discussed.

Subsequent work by the UfMS and CETMO will focus on analysing and developing this compilation of actions summing up the ideas discussed during the Working Days in order to present the final Action Plan at the next GTMO 5+5 Ministerial Conference in October 2014.

**Second semester 2014:** Upon the conclusion of the design phase of the project between the end of 2014 and 2015, the search for funds will start immediately together with the countries. Preliminary contacts with IFIs have been established by the Secretariat in this regard.

**c. Jordan National Railway Project as part of a Regional Railway Network (JNRP)**

**First semester 2014:** The Secretariat started working on the implementation of the roadmap in the first quarter of 2014 with the Ministry of Transport of Jordan. According with the recommendations of the Project Roadmap delivered by the TUD Division in June 2013, the Secretariat concretely supported the Ministry delivering a supplementary study on the “Train Operation and Interoperability” consisting of the modelling of the future railway network and definition of its possible development stages, simulating different operational scenarios in coherence with a review of the market study executed by the Jordan Ministry of Transport. An interoperability study aimed at evaluating the best standards for a complete interoperability of the network complemented the train simulation. The simulation allowed to test the infrastructure’s performance, and detected the bottlenecks and the functional phases for a progressive adaptation of the railway capacity to the growth of the traffic demand. TUDD attended a meeting in Amman with the Jordan Minister of Transport H.E. Ms. Lina Shbeeb to present the Train Operation and Interoperability Study.

**Second semester of 2014:** The roadmap of the project will be updated on the basis of the choices of the Ministry of Transport of Jordan depending on the results of the Train Operation and Interoperability Study executed by the UfM Secretariat. An official launch of the project might take place after the opening of the worksites of the mini-project of the JNRP at a date still to be known.

## **2. Development of project pipeline**

**First semester 2014:** the Secretariat will develop its project pipeline upon a list of priority projects located in the Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network (TMN-T) with a view to preparing them for UfM label. In this regard the Secretariat participates in the Steering Committee of the Southern Neighbourhood Advisory Program for the Transport Sector (SNAP-T), aimed at the preparation for financing of key infrastructural transport projects in the Mediterranean Partner Countries. Together with EIB and EC (DG-MOVE and DG-DEVCO) the Secretariat analyses the proposals of the Countries in order to establish a list of priority projects of TMN-T.

In the area of the Motorways of the Sea, there are on-going contacts between the Secretariat and numerous stakeholders of the public and also private sector, to promote two new maritime services (Turkey-Italy-Tunisia and Tunisia-Italy-Centre of Europe) that could effectively strengthen the connections between the ports of the Northern shore of the Mediterranean and the ports of the Maghreb.

### **3. Initiatives and horizontal activities**

**First semester 2014:** The UfM Working Group on Transport held its VII Meeting on 15th May 2014. The next meeting of the Working Group will be convened within the end of 2014 depending on the possible developments in transport issues.

The Secretariat is organizing, together with the Italian Presidency of European Union and EC-DG MOVE, the International Conference on the “Financing of Future Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network (TMN-T)” on the financing of the transport projects in the region, involving European and international financial institutions. The main objective of the Conference is to bring together all the main IFIs, Donors, private Companies, academics and economists, in order to establish the general guidelines that will be used in the future for the future financial support of the TMN-T and for the priority projects. The first two meetings of the Preparatory Committee took place in Civitavecchia (Italy) on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014, and in Brussels on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The third meeting will take place in in Barcelona, in September 2014. The Conference will take place in Civitavecchia in December 2014.

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