SPECA Workshop on Transport Related Sustainable Development Goals

Astana, Kazakhstan
2-3 November 2017

DRAFT CONCLUSIONS

Having in mind that:

- At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The review mechanism for the implementation of the SDGs will require a solid framework of indicators and statistical data to monitor progress, shape policies and ensure accountability of all stakeholders.

- The 21st SPECA Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossings (PWG-TBC) and SPECA Workshop on Road Transport and Road Safety Statistics held in Ashgabat in September 2016 welcomed further capacity building projects/workshops on transport statistics for the SPECA region.

- The UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) continuous to support workshops with the aim of improving SDG-relevant transport statistics capacity in individual countries and facilitating the participation of member States in data collection through the Web Common Questionnaire (WebCoQ).

- In the SPECA, East and South-East Europe region, UNECE organized capacity-building workshops on SDGs and transport statistics in Podgorica (Montenegro, October 2017) and Ashgabat (Turkmenistan, September 2016) to provide technical assistance to UNECE member States.

Over two days, the Workshop participants presented national best practices in gathering reliable and comprehensive road transport and road safety statistics. The UN Regional Commissions presented the methodology for gathering Road Transport and Road Safety Statistics, explained the global importance of reliable transport statistics to measure the SDGs, and how to use the Web Common Questionnaire. The Regional Commissions highlighted core activities relevant for member States’ SDG achievement and encouraged engagement with these activities. The Workshop Participants agreed that the capacity building workshop, under the SPECA Thematic Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity
(TWG-STTC) umbrella, strengthened the capacities of participating countries on SDGs and how to gather relevant statistics and make this information available to decision-makers, the road transport community and the general public. The workshop participants thanked the Ministry of Investment and Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan for kindly hosting this event.

**Furthermore, the Workshop Participants agreed that:**

- SPECA Workshop on Transport-related Sustainable Development Goals should be considered as a further step in supporting the SPECA member countries and SPECA TWG-STTC in setting up initial prerequisites for relevant SDGs implementation.
- Knowing the importance of robust and reliable transport statistics for monitoring the SDGs and current transport statistics availability, give full support to further SPECA TWG-STTC activities related to regional cooperation in collecting and dissemination of transport statistics related to SDGs’s implementation.
- Based on the results of this study, SPECA member countries will consider the best options to review transport statistics in their countries.
- Building on the results of the Workshop, participating countries could further exchange best practices in gathering information aimed at monitoring the SDGs, through additional workshops.
- Targeted technical assistance within SPECA countries is to be commissioned to facilitate the gathering of transport statistics and facilitate implementation of transport related SDGs.
- Recognizing the importance of statistics dissemination, SPECA member countries should provide transport data through the Web Common Questionnaire and contact UNECE for further information and advice, where necessary.