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TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)

Steering Committee

Fifty-third Session

19 April 2010, Innsbruck, Austria

REPORT

PARTICIPATION

1. The fifty-third session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Innsbruck, Austria on 19 – 20 April 2010. Representatives of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia participated in the session. The TEM Project Manager and TEM and TER Projects' consultants also took part. List of participants is attached to this report as its Annex 1.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. Mr. K. Nemeč, the outgoing Chairman, opened the session. Speaking on behalf of the Austrian Government, he welcomed the participants in Innsbruck, expressing at the same time the pleasure of hosting the session in the province of Tirol, which has always been the crossroads of major European north-south and east-west transport arteries. Using this opportunity, he confirmed the intention of his Government to further support the TEM Project, wishing at the same time full success and fruitful results to the session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The agenda of the session, presented in Annex 2 of the report, was approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4. Mr. Z. Cyndrowski (Poland) and Mr. K. Nemeč (Austria) were elected Chairman and Rapporteur of the session, respectively. The election was followed by the introduction of participants. Making use of this opportunity, the Project Manager welcomed the new Croatian TEM National Coordinator, Ms. K. Cop Bajde and wished her full success in performing her demanding tasks.

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

5. In his report, the Project Manager informed the session about TEM PCO's and about his own activities in the reporting period. In the Project, 15 member countries and 6 observer countries cooperate and the Project Central Office established in this period closer contact especially with Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Serbia and Ukraine aimed at changing their observer status to full TEM membership. In the short space of four months, which passed from the last Steering Committee's session held in Vienna on 30 November last year, he also attended some high level meetings related to the TEM Project and initiated closer collaboration with some other international organizations

dealing with transport such as CEI, OSCE and Jaspers, which expressed their interest in collaboration with the TEM and which may support its extension eastwards. OSCE will support the next meeting of the Joint Group of TEM and TER Experts in November 2010 by offering its Congress Centre in Vienna.

6. At present, the works on the Revision of the TEM Master Plan progressed well and the TEM component of the TEM and TER Master Plan are not lagging behind the TER one anymore. He also mentioned the possibility of merging the TEM and TER Projects' Central Offices, having now the same Project Manager, in order to improve and simplify the coordination of their activities, which may also result in budget savings. His report was approved by the session.
7. Mr. P. Pospisil, the TEM PCO consultant informed the session about the results of the HEEP (Highway Engineering Exchange Program) Area V (Central and Eastern Europe) annual meeting held in Salzburg (Austria) on 15 – 16 April. More information on the HEEP objectives and activities can be found on the HEEP website (www.heepweb.org). The next HEEP International Conference will be organized on 25 – 29 September 2010 in Dearborn, Michigan and the Steering Committee recommended the participation of the Project Manager in this event.
8. Mr. Pospisil also briefed the session about the content and findings of the report on Road Financing in Europe and Recommendations for the implementation of TEM Master Plan, elaborated by Mr. A. Timar, the Hungarian consultant. The report can be downloaded from the UNECE website (www.unece.org).

TEM FINANCIAL REPORT 2009

9. In the framework of the TEM Financial Report for 2009, Mr. H. Meelich, the TEM Project Manager, informed the session that as of 31 December 2009, the Project had a positive balance of USD 167.167,74. The total disbursements in the last year reached the level of USD 28.819,30, in which sum the obligatory Operational Reserve as well as the UNECE Programme Support costs are not included.

REVISION OF THE TEM MASTER PLAN

10. Mr. P. Pospisil presented the detailed report on the progress reached in elaboration of the TEM component of the Master Plan Revision. He informed the session about the updated TEM and TER Master Plan Revision timetable, based on the need to finish the Revision works by the end of October 2010 in order to submit their results to the next sessions of the TEM and TER Steering Committees to be held in November this year. He further introduced the map and list of sections of TEM Revised backbone network, its status in 2010 and its expected development in 2015 and 2020, the list of Master Plan Revision projects, elaborated on the basis of member countries' proposals and requests as well as the draft document on interrelationships between the TER and TEM backbone networks. The TEM PCO will dispatch all these documents and maps to the TEM National Coordinators for final comments by the end of April this year. The Steering Committee established the final deadline for these comments to be sent by e-mail to the TEM PCO of 21 May 2010 and decided that the comments dispatched after that date could not be taken into account.
11. The Steering Committee was also acquainted with the preliminary results of the road traffic development in the period 2008/2009, which showed decreases as a result of the global crisis especially with respect to the freight transport. The results obtained will be used for the Master Plan Revision traffic forecast until 2020. The Committee requested the remaining countries to send the respective questionnaires to the TEM PCO filled in as soon as possible, but by 21 May 2010 at the latest.

STATUS OF TEM TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2010

12. The Project Manager informed the Committee about the present situation with respect to the 2010 TEM Trust Fund contributions and stressed that they have not been yet received from most of the member countries, which situation might soon hamper the implementation of TEM Project's activities, especially of those related to the Master Plan Revision. Since the representatives of some member countries explained that their payments still depended on full implementation of the decisions of the 52nd Steering Committee session on this matter, the Steering Committee addressed the request to the Executive Agency to send to the National Coordinators the respective invoices to

transfer the whole TEM Trust Fund contribution amounting to USD 10.000 (USD 7.500 + additional USD 2.500 for 2009) at ist earliest convenience.

OTHER BUSINESS

13. The Steering Committee unanimously approved the document "Innsbruck Initiative for Safe, Secure, Prosperous and Environmentally Friendly Transport", elaborated jointly by the UNECE and the TEM PCO and decided to include the objectives and activities related to this Initiative into the TEM Programme of Work for the period 2011 – 2015. The UNECE as the Executing Agency of the Project was requested to support and promote the Innsbruck Initiative on the European transport arena. The Project Manager was asked to communicate the document to the UNECE to be published as its press release (Annex 3).
14. The Project Manager informed the session that the 2010 TEMSTAT meeting was proposed to be held in Warsaw on 21 - 22 June 2010 and that the 54th session of the TEM Steering Committee, coupled with the meetings of the TEM and TER Master Plan Coordination and Expert Groups, would take place in Vienna in November 2010. These proposals were accepted.
15. Mr. R. Galbenu, the TER GIS consultant, presented the document on possibilities of the TEM and TER GIS results' presentation. In general, two basic approaches are possible: either the web application based on a specialized GIS server or the one without such a server. The second option was recommended as more feasible with respect to related costs as well as to the relatively small extent of data to be processed.

PRESENTATION OF EXPERIENCE OF THE PROVINCE OF TIROL IN ROAD MANAGEMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST AVALANCHES

16. Mr. R. Müller, Head of the Road Department of the Province, informed the session of its road system, structure of road administration, financial resources available this year (about 100 mill. Euro, of which 25% has been assigned to the new construction, 36% to maintenance and 17% to repairs). He also introduced 3 infrastructure projects, one of them being the avalanche protection in the Paznaun valley.
17. Mr. Ch. Molzer, Head of Subdepartment Road Maintenance of the Department presented a detailed report on road maintenance activities in the Province with special respect to tunnels (the maintenance of which is 10x more expensive than that of the open air sections), namely to their safety, traffic control and equipment.
18. The Project Manager, speaking on behalf of all participants, expressed thanks and gratitude to both representatives and through them to the Government of Tirol for its hospitality as well as for their valuable contributions to the session. He will also arrange for both presentations to be displayed on the UNECE website.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

19. The report on the 53rd session of the Steering Committee was adopted.

Annexes: 3