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TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)

Steering Committee

Fifty-second Session

30 November 2009, Vienna, Austria

REPORT

PARTICIPATION

1. The fifty-second session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Vienna, Austria on 30 November 2009. Representatives of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Turkey participated in the session. The representatives of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the TEM Project Manager and the independent consultant also took part. Albania and Montenegro attended the session as observers. List of participants is attached to this report as its Annex 1.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. Mr. M. Arman, the outgoing Chairman, opened the session, extended his thanks to the Austrian Government and the organizational team for the invitation to host the session in Vienna and for its excellent preparation.
3. Mr. K. Nemeč, Deputy Head of the Division Legislation Federal Roads in the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology and Austrian TEM National Coordinator, welcomed the participants and confirmed the intention of its Government to further support the TEM Project, wishing at the same time full success and fruitful results to the session.
4. Ms. M.-S. Fouvez, the Regional Consultant of the UNECE Transport Division, joined the wishes of the Austrian host and conveyed to the participants also the greetings of Mrs. Eva Molnar, Director of the UNECE Transport Division.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA,

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6. Mr. K. Nemeč (Austria) and Ms. S. Mastilović (Bosnia and Herzegovina) were elected Chairman and Rapporteur of the session, respectively.

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

7. In his report, the Project Manager briefed the session about TEM PCO's as well as about his own activities in the reporting period. In the short space of two months, he attended high level meetings related to the TEM Project in Warsaw, Geneva, Ostrava (Czech Republic) and Istanbul and initiated closer collaboration with some additional international organizations dealing with transport such as CEI, ECO and Jaspers, which expressed their interest in collaboration with the TEM and which may support its extension eastwards. His report was approved by the session.
8. In this connection, Ms. M.-S. Fouvez (UNECE) informed the Committee about the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the UNECE and ECO in 2003, the Addendum to which, intended to strengthen the mutual co-operation is expected to be signed in 2010.

TEM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR I. – III. TRIMESTER 2009

9. Mrs. M.-S. Fouvez reported on the financial position of the Project. She also informed the session about the status of the 2009 Trust Fund contributions, which were transferred by all the participating countries except of Croatia and Italy as well as about the additional contributions amounting to USD 2,500, not yet delivered by Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy and Romania. The Czech and Romanian representatives informed the session that the problem is under consideration and that they expect it to be solved next year at the latest.
10. The Committee took note of the financial report on the Project for the period January – October 2009, according to which the total TEM Trust Fund contributions amounted to US\$ 109,955, the net Project expenditures to US\$ 56,068 and the Programme Support costs represented US\$ 10,400. The Steering Committee took note of the report and expressed its satisfaction with the UNECE and PCO's budget management and administration.
11. Based on the fact that Croatia and Italy had not contributed to the TEM Trust Fund in the last three years, the Steering Committee requested the TEM PCO and the UNECE to contact representatives of both countries at the highest possible level, using inter alia the opportunities of the ITC meeting in February 2010 and of the CEI meeting in Trieste in March next year and to inform about the results the next session of the Committee, which would then decide about the next steps to be taken in accordance with the TEM Trust Fund Agreement provisions.
12. The Committee asked the UNECE to send the letter to the participating countries, requesting their Trust Fund contributions for 2010 in January next year, stating separately the basic amount of US\$ 7,500 and the additional one of USD 2,500.

REVISION OF THE TEM MASTER PLAN (TEM/WP.303)

13. Mr. P. Pospisil, the TEM consultant, introduced the reports on Revision of the TEM Master Plan (document TEM/WP 303) and on Preliminary Evaluation of Countries' Responses to the Questionnaire on Revision of the TEM Master Plan, accompanied by the new TEM and TER Master Plan Revision updated timetable, requiring the termination of the whole activity by the end of November 2010. He also informed the session about the draft document on Interrelationships Between the TER and TEM Backbone Networks and Other Relevant Transshipment Points, elaborated in the framework of the TER component of the Master Plan Revision, which may after its amendment and completion including the adding of information about Freight Villages and logistic centers, ports, ferries and border crossings serve as input to the Work Package 10 of this Revision.
14. The Steering Committee approved the final date for the Master Plan Revision (November 2010) as proposed in the timetable and requested the TEM PCO to send it to all the participating countries and to assign to the individual activities of the timetable the body/person in charge of its elaboration.
15. The Committee also requested the PCO to:
 - distribute to the member countries with the copy to the UNECE the questionnaire asking for communication of all original Master Plan projects terminated in the years 2005-2009;
 - distribute to the member countries with the copy to the UNECE the questionnaire asking for information concerning the contingent decrease of the traffic flows in 2009 resulting from the global crisis;
 - send to the UNECE and to the member countries the TEM backbone network status maps for 2015 and 2020, elaborated in 2007, for their information, comments and contingent updating inputs.

TEM PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010

16. The draft TEM Programme of Work for 2010 was presented and explained by the TEM Project Manager.
17. Following his answers to the questions raised by the participants, the Committee approved the Programme proposed by the PCO as amended in accordance with the results of the discussion. It also authorized the Project Manager to contact the Polish TEM consultant, Mr. Przybyla in order to clarify the conditions for elaboration of the TEMSTAT 2010 and Master Plan Revision maps. TEMSTAT 2010 data should be delivered by all the TEM countries to the TEM PCO by 31 March 2010.
18. Ms. M.-S. Fouvez informed the session about the new format of the UNECE website to be further developed in the forthcoming period and asked the TEM representatives to look at it and supply the UNECE with the contingent comments and ideas for further improvement. She also expressed her conviction that the results of the Master Plan Revision should be properly reflected there as soon as they were available.

TEM BUDGET FOR 2010 (TEM/WP.309)

19. The UNECE representative introduced the document TEM Budget for 2010 – Local Technical Cooperation Trust Fund/Project, containing the cost plan and corresponding resource requirements, which was approved by the Steering Committee.
20. In this connection, the Project Manager informed the Committee about the budgetary difficulties of the PCO in Warsaw, especially of those related to payments for the communication services. He also pointed out that the new arrangement of funding of TEM meetings, successfully introduced in 2009, will continue to be used in the forthcoming period.

TEM PROJECT CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF SITUATION

21. The Project Manager described the difficult staff situation of the TEM PCO in Warsaw, where the international staff was missing for some time. He informed about the UNECE's and his own activities aimed at the solution of this situation and about the results of consultations led with the Government representatives of Austria, Poland and the Czech Republic. The key to the solution is the appointment of the TEM Project Manager at least for the next two years, having his permanent deputy(-ies) in the TER PCO in Bratislava. As soon as this problem is solved, he can manage permanently the TEM PCO in Warsaw.

ELECTION OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

22. Being fully aware of this situation, the Steering Committee unanimously elected Mr. Helmut Meelich as the TEM Project Manager for the period 2010 – 2011, expressing at the same time its hope that the Austrian Government will be in a position to approve his nomination and its gratefulness to it for its understanding and continuous support of the TEM and TER Projects.

OTHER BUSINESS

23. The Project Manager proposed that the 53rd session of the TEM Steering Committee, coupled with the meetings of the TEM and TER Master Plan Coordination and Expert Groups, could be held in western Austria in April 2010. This proposal was accepted.
24. Mrs. M.-S. Fouvez explained to the session the activity aimed at collecting and assessing the ways how the road projects have been financed, initiated by the last ITC session. She asked the representatives of the TEM member countries to support this activity by filling in the questionnaire sent to them on 11 November this year, by 15 December 2009. She also underlined that the study could also contribute to the TEM Master Plan Revision, while being fully funded by the IRU.
25. The possibility of merging the TEM and TER PCOs in the future was also discussed by the Committee with the result to revert to it at its next session.

26. The Hungarian representative, Ms. J. Florian, informed briefly the session about the outcomes of the International HEEP Conference held in the USA in September this year and about the wish of the HEEP Headquarters and of American experts to continue the fruitful co-operation with the TEM Project and its Area V. The Steering Committee greatly appreciated the past positive results of this co-operation and the benefits brought by it for the TEM Project. It approved the continuation of this activity in 2010 and asked the Project Manager to include it in the TEM Programme of Work for 2010, to try to raise sponsors for its funding and inform the HEEP President about the date of the HEEP Area V meeting to be held in some TEM member country as soon as it is fixed.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

27. The report on the 52nd session of the Steering Committee was adopted.

Annexes: 2