

UNECE TEM and TER Projects
2nd Meeting of the Joint Rail and Road/Motorway Follow-up Expert Group
29 March 2012, Ankara, Turkey

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R E P O R T

1. The 2nd Meeting of the Joint Rail and Road/Motorway Follow-up Expert Group was held on 29 March 2012 in Ankara, Turkey. Representatives of Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey as well as the UNECE representative, TEM and TER Project Manager and the UNECE consultant took part in the meeting. The list of participants is attached to this report as its Annex 1.
2. The meeting was opened by Mr. H. Meelich, the TEM and TER Project Manager, who also acted as its Chairman.
3. Mr. P. Pospisil, the UNECE consultant, recalled the outcomes of the first meeting of the Group held in Salzburg, Austria in October 2011. The monitoring templates, developed and endorsed at that meeting, have been distributed to all participating countries and the deadline of 31 May 2012 was established for returning them filled in to the TEM or TER Project Central Office.
4. In the meantime, the TEM and TER PCOs received communication from some participating countries regarding changes that occurred in the meantime and also some new information related to the Master Plan Revision. The data and information thus obtained have been summarized in the document „New data and requirements related to the TEM and TER Revised Master Plan Final Report“ (Annex 2 to this report).
5. In the framework of the ensuing discussion, the Polish proposal to add to the TER backbone network (apart from already included section Rzepin – Wrocław) also the lines Bydgoszcz – Mysłowice, Kedzierzyn-Kozle – Katowice and Wrocław – Popielów – Opole was accepted. The Polish TER National Coordinator would also inform the TER Project Central Office about the respective decision regarding the remaining line Psary – Kraków.
6. The Czech representatives submitted a proposal on the new follow-up activity „New opportunities for TER Project: modernization of infrastructure for boosting the future and make railway fashionable“ aimed at harmonizing

infrastructure and operational planning in order to improve the international passenger railway operation in the region and to achieve a „live railway“.

7. The Slovak representatives informed the meeting about the intermodal transport infrastructure in their country. Combined transport in Slovakia represents the most dynamic transport sector with the average annual growth reaching about 20%. They also promised to inform the TER PCO of their position regarding the denomination of some railway border stations (e.g. Cierna pri Cope).
8. Answering the questions of Ms. S. Noyan, Deputy Secretary General of BSEC, concerning the participation of Azerbaijan in the TEM Project and new railway ferry connections between Turkey and Russian Federation, Mr. M. Meelich also expressed his support to the „live railway“ activity proposed, which was in line with the desirable idea to focus the TER Project more on operation topics to the detriment of extension of its geographical scope.
9. Following the discussion to the submitted document, the Group recommended to the TER Project Central Office to consider the possibility to elaborate maps of individual participating countries, showing e.g. all railway lines and those of them belonging to the revised backbone network, sections having two or more tracks/single track, lines in operation and under construction, electrified/not electrified and having design speeds' distinction, similar to the one in the Master Plan Final Report.
10. The Group further requested the TEM and TER Project Manager to consider the possibility to elaborate the document containing the comparison of the TEM and TER revised backbone networks with the recently approved draft EU TEN-T core network and with the EATL network.
11. It was also recommended to elaborate the Attachment to the Master Plan Final Report every year, summarizing the progress reached in implementation of the TEM and TER Master Plan Revision in the year in question, to be submitted to the sessions of the TEM and TER Steering Committees for examination. .