

It's just happened ...

Developing Euro-Asian land transport routes

Governments of the countries in the Euro-Asian region have started to consider possible Euro-Asian land routes for trade and transport between Asia and Europe, as alternatives to the maritime routes which hitherto have been found more reliable and competitive. At a meeting held in Odessa on 3-5 November, Government representatives from 16 countries in the Euro-Asian region agreed on the main road and rail transport routes connecting Europe and Asia to be considered for priority development. The participating countries were Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Approaches to developing the selected main Euro-Asian land transport routes will include identifying and analysing the main physical and non-physical obstacles along these routes through a time/cost analysis, and



completing a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Removing border crossing obstacles and hindrances through implementing the relevant international agreements and conventions and formulating national action plans, are also in the focus of the countries involved.

For more information contact Michalis Adamantiadis (michalis.adamantiadis@unece.org).