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TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)

Steering Committee

Thirty – fifth Session

30 May – 1 June 2001, Trieste, Italy

**ABRIDGED
REPORT**

PARTICIPATION

1. The thirty-fifth session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Trieste on 30 May – 1 June 2001. Representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey took part in the session. The representatives of Denmark, Slovenia and Sweden, having the TEM observer status, representative of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE) and the Project Manager also participated.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. Mr. E. Sammartino, the outgoing Chairman of the Committee, opened the Session and passed the floor to Mr. M. Adamantiadis, Regional Adviser to the Transport Division of the UN Economic Commission for Europe.
3. Mr. Adamantiadis, speaking on behalf of Mr. J. Capel Ferrer, Director of the Division, expressed thanks to the Italian Government and the regional Government of the Friuli Venezia Giulia for hosting the session in Trieste and informed the participants about recent

initiatives and developments of interest for the TEM Project. He ensured the Steering Committee of the importance attached by the ECE to the TEM Project and the permanent support which the Executing Agency is providing to it. He stressed that TEM is in front of great challenges for continuing and further strengthening its useful role. He emphasized that TEM may give valuable contribution in monitoring and promoting the development of the Pan European Transport Corridors and that with concrete actions it can help TEM member countries in their efforts to cover existing transport infrastructure needs. For achieving these goals he said that it is necessary having a strong PCO, an active participation of its members and a closer cooperation with the European Commission and the transport related bodies. He summarized the outcomes of the recent TER Steering Committee session which inter alia approved its strategy for integration in the new European transport environment and finally he informed the session about the letter of invitation sent to Mr. Capel Ferrer by the Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation, Mr. Kazantsev to visit Moscow and discuss the conditions of participation of the Russian Federation in the TEM Project. It was envisaged that the invitation would be accepted and the visit be materialized in June 2001.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (TEM/WP. 193)

4. The agenda of the meeting was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

5. Mr. K. Nemeč (Austria) and Mr. E. Sammartino (Italy) were elected Chairman and Rapporteur of the session, respectively.

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER (TEM/WP. 194)

6. In the first part of his report, the Project Manager pointed out that all the activities in the reporting period (November 2000 – May 2001) have been carried out in accordance with the TEM Programmes of Work for 2000 and 2001.

7. He continued with the general description of TEM international activities and contacts, starting with the cooperation with the European Commission's bodies, more specifically with the Directorate General Transport and Energy, G-24 Transport Working Group, TINA Senior Officials' Working Group and the Corridors and Areas Co-ordination Group. He also gave an account of the cooperation with the WERD (Western European Road Directors) and the OECD Transport Division, Central European Initiative, TER Project Central Office in Budapest, the HEEP (Highway Engineering Exchange Program) headquarters in the USA and with the ASECAP (Association Europeenne des Concessionnaires d'Autoroutes).
8. In the course of the presentation of his report, the Project Manager highlighted that the OECD/ECMT International Conference on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) of which the Czech Government, ERTICO Brussels and the TEM PCO are the co-organizers, would be held in Brno, Czech Republic on 17-18 September 2001. He stressed the importance of this event in the light of the growing need of implementation of these systems in Central and Eastern European countries.
9. While reporting on very close and active collaboration with the Transport Division of the UN ECE, he stressed the importance of the appointment of the respective Regional Adviser to backstop the activities of the TEM and TER Projects and the positive effects of the involvement of the TEM PCO in the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels.
10. The Project Manager then presented a detailed information about the PCO activities, meetings and training courses related to the TEM Programme of Work. In this respect, he summarized the results, conclusions and recommendations of the TEM Permanent Table on Development and Coordination of Motorway Construction and Operation in the South-Western Region held on 29 May 2001 in Trieste (Italy), where also the Rules and Procedures of its Working Group were approved, the Meeting of this Working Group which took place in Trieste on 22-23 February 2001, the TEMSTAT Data Collection and Training Meeting held in Budapest, Hungary on 18-20 April 2001 and the TEM/HEEP Area V Annual Meeting held on 21-23 May in Prague (Czech Republic).

11. He also provided the information about the wish of the Government of the Russian Federation to become the member of the TEM Project, officially expressed at the 63rd session of the ECE Inland Transport Committee which took place in Geneva, Switzerland on 13-15 February 2001 and about the initiative of the Croatian Government of February 2001 aimed at the consideration of the continuity of the Adriatic-Ionian corridor from Trieste (Italy) to Kalamata in Greece.
12. The Project Manager was further pleased to announce the launching of the TEM web page within the framework of the UN ECE home page and the termination of the updating of the TEM Document Numbering System as at 1 January 2001 (document TEM/INF/18), copies of which were distributed at the session.
13. Following the ensuing discussion, in which the representatives of Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and the UN ECE as well as the Project Manager participated, the Steering Committee expressed its satisfaction with the news of the interest of the Russian Federation to become the member of the TEM Project. The desirability of further strengthening the contacts with Ukraine with the ultimate goal of its joining the TEM Project was stressed, too.
14. Within the context of the TEM expansion, the representative of Slovenia, Mr. Žepiè, informed the session about the actual state-of-the-art of the decision-making process regarding his country's possible accession to the TEM. In this connection, the Steering Committee requested the UN ECE to send an official invitation to the Slovenian Government to join the Project and expressed the readiness and wish to welcome the Slovenian representative at its sessions.
15. The report of the Project Manager was adopted.

FOLLOW-UP OF THE 34th SESSION

16. The Project Manager, referring to the respective paragraphs of the report on the 34th session (document TEM/43), gave account of the corresponding actions and steps taken in order to comply with the decisions and conclusions of that session. All the related tasks have been successfully accomplished with the exception of the pending modifications of the TEM network in Bulgaria and Croatia and request to the Czech Government regarding the necessary extension of the assignment of the present TEM Project Manager.
17. Reflecting the proposals of the representative of Italy, the new TEM 2002 Promotion Brochure to be launched in December 2001 will contain the additional map of the TEM network as of 1991-1992.

SHORT-TERM STRATEGY FOR FURTHER INTEGRATION OF TEM IN THE NEW EUROPEAN TRANSPORT ENVIRONMENT (TEM/WP. 200)

18. The representative of the UN ECE, Mr. Adamantiadis, introduced the document, elaborated in close collaboration with the TEM PCO.
19. Following the detailed discussion, the Steering Committee approved the Strategy in general with the tasks No. A 11, A 21, A 22, A 23, A 27, B 16, B 21, B 22, B 23 and B 25 agreed upon as proposed.
20. The remaining tasks with the highest urgency will be revised as follows:
 - A 12: "Master" to be replaced by "Strategic"
 - A 13: starting month will be "10"
 - A 14: description will end "...removal of obstacles by promoting compatible new technologies"
 - A 15: description will read "selection of actions and support their implementation with involvement of TEM in finding financial means".

21. The TEM PCO will revise the TEM Programme of Work for the second half of the year 2001 accordingly and send it to the TEM National Coordinators by 30 June 2001.
22. As far as the remaining tasks were concerned, the deadline of 15 August for contingent comments to be sent to the ECE Transport Division with a copy to the TEM PCO was established. On the basis of the comments received, the revised document will be submitted to the next session of the TEM Steering Committee to be held in November 2001 in Geneva for approval.
23. The approved Strategy will then be incorporated into the TEM Programmes of Work for the years 2002 and 2003.

TEM PROJECT CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF

24. The UN ECE representative presented the Executing Agency's opinion that the TEM Project Central Office needs additional human resources. More specifically and reflecting also the TER PCO experience, the strengthening the staff by Deputy Project Manager and possibly also by Assistant was considered necessary. The respective financial arrangements will be discussed at the next session of the Committee.
25. In this connection, the desirability of overlapping the assignments of the Project Manager and his Deputy for the period of one year (preferably preceding the termination of the Project Manager's tenure) as the standard procedure was stressed by the Committee.
26. Mr. M. Adamantiadis also informed about the receipt of the letter of the Slovak Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunication, Mr. J. Macejko No.: 914/M-2001 of 28 May 2001, addressed to Mr. J. Capel Ferrer, confirming the candidature of Mr. M. Hantak for the post of the Project Manager commencing from 2002, approved by the Government on 23 May 2001 (decree No. 459/2001).
27. Taking into account the need to guarantee the smooth transition of the management of the TEM Project and the additional tasks of the TEM PCO resulting from the new TEM Strategy approved under item 5 of the agenda, the representative of the ECE considered

necessary the extension of the assignment of the present Project Manager, Mr. Pospisil for at least 9 months as the Deputy of the new Project Manager, which proposal was strongly supported also by the Director General of the Slovak Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunication, Mr. P. Barek.

28. The Steering Committee, therefore, taking into account this need and recalling its decision taken at its 34th session (document TEM/43, para 36), requested the UN ECE to officially ask the Czech Government for such an extension.
29. The results of the discussion on the matter showed that the optimum number of TEM PCO personnel, taking into account its extended tasks also in the field of data processing and mapping was about 6 people, out of them 2 computer specialists. The decision was taken to examine the possibilities of such strengthening of the TEM PCO with the understanding that the members of the Committee would consider the possibilities of contributing towards the attainment of this goal, having in mind that the contribution of the Polish Government would remain at the present level. Considering the importance of this matter and related financial implications, the Steering Committee will discuss it in depth at its next session.
30. The Steering Committee further considered beneficial the reestablishment of the Group of former Project Managers as an advisory body of the TEM PCO and to make the corresponding provisions in the TEM Programme of Work for the forthcoming years.
31. Finally, the Steering Committee noted with satisfaction the appointment of the ECE Regional Adviser for TEM, stressing the need of continuity of this position and asked therefore the UN ECE to take the respective measures in this regard.

COLLABORATION BETWEEN UN ECE TEM, EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND WERD (TEM/WP. 198)

32. The Project Manager introduced the document, summarizing the steps and actions taken to strengthen this collaboration and contacts established with the Directorate General Transport and Energy of the European Commission.

33. On the basis of the proposal of the ECE regional adviser, Mr. Adamantiadis and pursuant the detailed discussion evaluating all the options and possibilities in which the representatives of Austria, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden took part, the decision was taken to ask the UN ECE to formulate the strategy of collaboration with the European Commission, for the development of Pan-European Transport Corridors and Areas, making use of the potential and experience accumulated within the TEM Project in accordance with its Co-operation Trust Fund Agreement. Upon approval of such a strategy by both Commissions, the Steering Committee will be ready to take the respective measures and actions regarding the close TEM involvement in its implementation.

34. Within this item of the agenda, Mr. I. Schacke, Chairman of the WERD Subgroup on TERN informed the session about the possible directions of collaboration between the Subgroup and the TEM Project regarding inter alia performance indicators, harmonization of data collection and comparison of TERN, TEM, TINA and AGR networks in order to explore the possibility to arrive at only one Trans-European road network in the future. His presentation was supplemented by the information on the outcomes of the first joint meeting of the TEM experts and the WERD Subgroup members which took place in Budapest, Hungary on 20 April 2001, delivered by the Project Manager.

35. The Steering Committee took positive note of this development and endorsed the further cooperation with WERD along the lines contained in the presentation of Mr. Schacke.

TEMSTAT DATABASE AND CORRIDOR MAPPING (TEM/WP. 196)

36. The document, accompanied by the report on the TEMSTAT Data Collection and Training Meeting held on 18-20 April 2001 in Budapest, Hungary (document TEM/CO/OP/13), was introduced by the Project Manager. The results of TEMSTAT mapping activity were documented also by the draft TEM region reference map displayed at the session.

37. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the results achieved so far, understanding that the final map comprising corrections to be received from the member countries by 31 July 2001 and reflecting comments of the Slovenian representative at the session will be made available at the next Steering Committee session. Upon its approval, more copies of the map

should be made available to the National Coordinators and to the Executive Agency as the practical Project promotion tools.

TEM STATUS (TEM/WP.197)

38. The report on the status of the Project as at 1 January 2001, documenting the total length of the TEM network amounting to 23797 km, out of which 7021 km were in operation, was taken note of by the Committee with the understanding that it would be revised upon receiving the actual data from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary and Italy.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2000 (TEM/WP.198)

39. The financial report for the year 2000 was approved by the Steering Committee.

SELECTION OF PROJECT MANAGER FOR 2002-2003

40. The Steering Committee unanimously elected Mr. M. Hantak as the TEM Project Manager for the period 2002-2003.

41. Following that, Mr. Hantak thanked the Steering Committee members for their support and trust and expressed his firm intention to accomplish his tasks as the Project Manager as best as he could. On behalf the Slovak Government, Mr. P. Barek extended his thanks to the Committee for its support and decision, too.

OTHER BUSINESS

42. The Italian National Coordinator, Mr. E . Sammartino, provided the information about the intention of his Government to launch the International Transport Centre in Trieste to support the development of multimodal transport infrastructure in the region and to serve the TEM Project, of which intention the Director of the UN ECE Transport Division, Mr. J. Capel Ferrer had been already informed in writing. Mr. Sammartino also introduced the design drawings of the Centre, comprizing meeting and videoconference rooms equipped with the advanced computer, communication and satellite technology and also a guesthouse. The copies of these drawings were passed to the representative of the UN ECE and to the Project Manager. The Steering Committee expressed great appreciation to the Italian authorities for this impressive input to the Project.

43. The Italian experts provided the information about the MERCURIO project to be performed also in the framework of the INTERREG III.B CADSES II Area measure of the European Union and aimed at the development of multimodality in transport systems and equal access to infrastructures. At the same time, they offered the TEM Project and its participating countries the possibility to take part in its implementation according to the rules and procedures of the INTERREG measures.

44. The Committee expressed its high appreciation to the Chairman and the Rapporteur for the excellent accomplishment of their duties. It also extended its thanks to the Government of Italy, regional Government of the Friuli Venezia Giulia, the ANAS and to Messrs. Cempella and Sammartino in person for the kind offer to host the session in Trieste and for their generous and friendly hospitality.