

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Informal document SC.2 No. 14 (2008)

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Rail Transport

Sixty-second session
Geneva, 18-20 November 2008
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

17 November 2008

ENGLISH ONLY

EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

Note by the secretariat

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

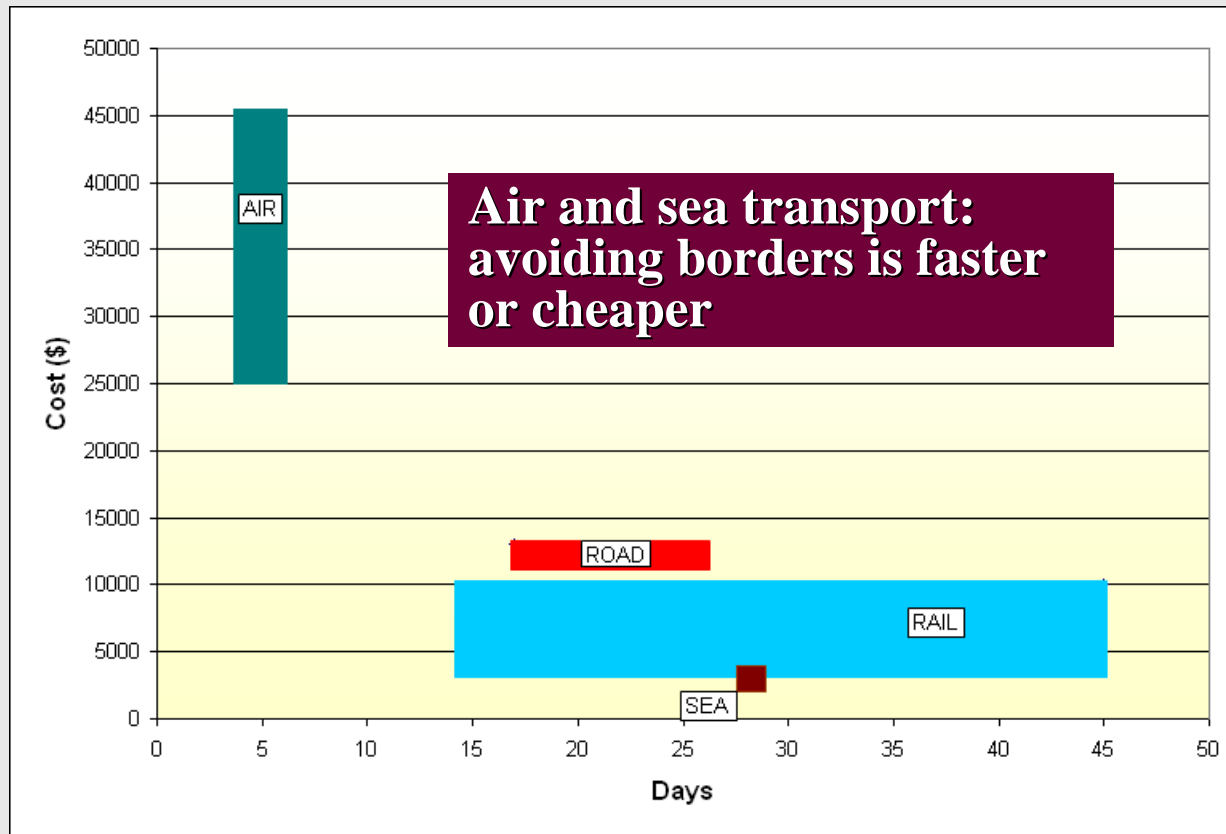


Euro-Asian Transport Linkages - Phase II

Robert Nowak, Transport Division, UNECE

18 November 2008, Geneva

Transport across Central Asia: A development opportunity being missed?



Freight costs and scheduled transit times, China to Western Europe, (40 foot container or equivalent)

Source: Land Transport Options between Europe and Asia: Commercial Feasibility Study, US Chamber of Commerce, July 2006.

China-Europe trade flows: 99 per cent maritime-based

EATL Phase I: 2003-07

- **A UN global project to develop interregional transport linkages, implemented by five UN regional commissions**
- **EATL implemented by ECE and ESCAP over 2003-2007**
- **Objectives:**
 - Identify Euro-Asian inland transport links**
 - Prioritize EATL investment projects**
 - Investigate non-physical obstacles**
 - Support capacity building at national level**
- **Participants: 18 Euro-Asian countries (AF, BG, CIS, CN, IR, RO, TR)**

EATL Phase I: Achievements

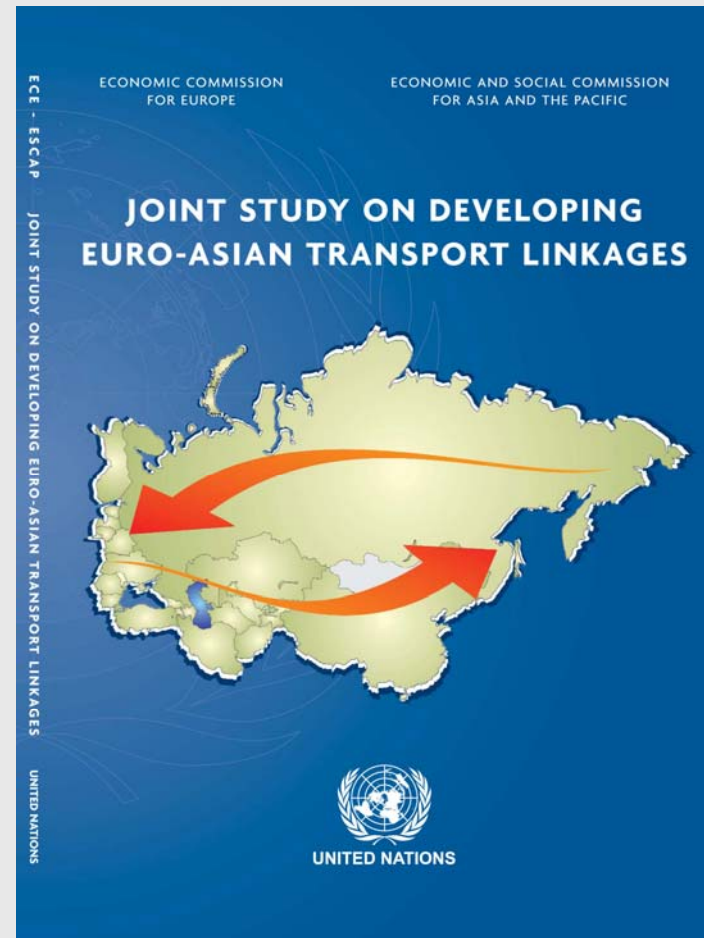
- **Selection of main Euro-Asian road, rail and inland water routes, transshipment points, ports**
- **Creation of a GIS database**
- **Technical assessment of routes**
- **Prioritization of projects**
- **Analysis of physical and non-physical obstacles**
- **Four expert group meetings and five capacity building national workshops**

EATL follow-up

- **Setting up a co-ordination and monitoring mechanism**
- **Further development of the GIS database**
- **Economic analysis of EATL routes**
- **Improving border-crossing operations**
- **Promoting harmonization of transport legislation and administrative procedures**
- **Technical assistance**

ECE - ESCAP summary report (English, Russian)

To address inadequate infrastructure, internationally un-harmonized transport rules and costly, time-consuming border crossing procedures



EATL Ministerial Meeting

70th session of the Inland Transport Committee, February 2008



- **Joint Statement on Future Development of EATL**
- **Endorsement, support, continuation, follow-up**

EATL Phase II

- **Group of Experts to monitor and co-ordinate EATL developments**
- **Established in 2008 at the UNECE**
- **Some funding obtained - contribution by the Russian government**
- **First meeting of EG in September 2008**
- **Next meeting in Shanghai, China, April 2009**

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



UNITED NATIONS

www.unece.org