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## **TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)**

**Steering Committee**

**Sixty-third Session**

11 December 2014, Geneva, Switzerland

### **REPORT**

#### **PARTICIPATION**

1. The 63rd session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Geneva, Switzerland on 11 December 2014. The National Coordinators of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lithuania, Poland, Turkey, as well as the UNECE Transport Division representatives and an Expert from the TEM PCO, took part in the session. The list of participants is attached to this report as Annex 1.

#### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

2. The agenda of the session, as adopted, included as Annex 2 to this report.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

3. Mr. Mucahit Arman (Turkey) was elected as Chairman of the session and Mr. Nenad Nikolic (UNECE) was elected as Rapporteur.

#### **OPENING OF THE SESSION**

4. Ms. Eva Molnar, UNECE Transport Division Director, welcomed the participants and presented recent activities of the UNECE Transport Division. She presented recent outcomes of Euro-Asian Transport Links Projects (phase III) and reinstated the necessity to harmonize road signs and signals throughout TEM network. Speaking on sustainable transport development she recommended "Diesel Engines Exhaust: Myths and realities" study published by UNECE in 2014, and highlighted the activities in preparation of the Sustainable Development and Transport study. Furthermore, she pointed out that in Post-2015 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals transport is not formulated as a separate stand-alone goal and that transport community needs to do more to be recognized in strategic documents. Mr. Nikolic (UNECE Transport Division Regional Advisor) introduced himself and welcomed TEM delegates. Ms. Aleksandra Cybulska (TEM Expert, TEM PCO) welcomed participants and excused the absence of Mr. Maciejewski, the TEM Project Manager.

## REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

5. Ms. Aleksandra Cybulska presented PCO Project Manager Report 2014. She stated that in line with the TEM objectives, several topics were identified in 2014 - 2015 Work Plan:
  - Investments Financing - EU Funds, PPP, BOT
  - Road Safety Management, procedures, rules and strategies
  - Maintenance and Asset Management
  - Realization of investments – D, D&B, contract rules, relations with contractors, structure of market
  - ITS – common architecture (FRAME), ETC, interoperability
  - Environmental protection and climate changes
6. Based on the Work Plan, the following activities were realized in 2014:
  - January-February 2014 – TEM project member countries sent their demands and expectation to the TEM PCO for the new terms of cooperation, based on the preliminary proposal by the Project Manager
  - 62nd session of the TEM Steering Committee was held on 10-11 April 2014, in Warsaw, Poland. During the meeting final Work Plan 2014-2015 was accepted, together with a detailed Calendar of Activities
  - The TEM HEEP Area V 2014 annual meeting was held in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 15-18 June 2014. HEEP is an international organization which promotes exchange of information related to the highway and bridge engineering, specifically addressing the use of computers in the engineering process. TEM project represents its Area V. This year, seminar was dedicated to one of the priority topics of TEM project - Maintenance and Asset Management. Representatives of TEM and USA presented their experiences and best practices in asset management. Representatives of neighbouring counties - Latvia and Estonia were invited
  - “Good practices and new tools for Financing Transport Infrastructure” seminar was held in 8 September 2014 in Geneva. Presentation by Mr. Maciejewski, TEM Project Manager on financing the road infrastructure in Poland, is available on the UNECE website
  - Participation and presentations by the TEM Project Manager and member states’ representatives at a seminar jointly organized by the Belgium Ministry of Transport and the UNECE on Intelligent Transport Systems: "Towards a new transportation culture: technology innovations for safe, efficient and sustainable mobility"
7. Ms. Cybulska further stated that some of the activities foreseen in Work Plan for 2014 were not realized. Due to the lack of input from National Coordinators, TEM PCO was not able to prepare reports on investment and maintenance costs, as well as TEM maps, as agreed in the time schedule. Furthermore, due to the lack of internal possibilities of PCO to produce graphic materials and lengthy UNECE procedures, preparation of the newsletters and leaflets is going to be carried over into 2015.

8. In the Project Manager report for 2014 the following achievements are highlighted:
- Strong commitment of TEM members resulting in a creation of the Work Plan 2014-2015
  - Presentation of TEM objectives and activities to the European Commission DG MOVE
  - Strong participation in HEEP meeting in Vilnius and substantive meetings in the USA, with participation by Lithuania and Romania
  - Improved project planning (plan of the meetings which are dedicated to themes, thematic scope planned for the year ahead) and involvement of non-TEM experts (Estonia, Latvia) at HEEP meeting
9. However, several challenges in TEM work in 2014 were emphasised. TEM member states lack interest for organizing events (no proposals for future seminar locations, despite previously reported interest in priorities for WP); weak participation in events organized by TEM (sometimes not even national coordinators); lack of response to PCO questionnaires and data requests for maps and reports; failure to engage previously inactive members (Slovakia, Bulgaria and Armenia) and decrease in activity of previously active member states (Slovenia, Romania); weak communication with TER PCO (TEM PCO messages with proposals of cooperation sent without response), as well as the change of the UNECE Transport Division Regional Advisor – several months gap in contact between TEM PCO and UNECE.
10. Taking all stated into account, TEM Project Manager proposed a greater involvement of national coordinators in the preparation of TEM events and more frequent contact of PCO with the National Coordinators by sending frequent reminders of upcoming deadlines. Steering Committee meetings twice a year do not provide effective involvement of national coordinators in the implementation of tasks; therefore TEM PCO will contact national coordinators by phone (teleconferences) possibly every month. Furthermore, communication and cooperation with UNECE should be closer and more frequent.
11. Mr. Ajduk confirmed that he will inform TEM Project Manager on dates and possibilities for the Road Safety workshop, tentatively scheduled to be held in Croatia in April 2015. Mr. Nemeč asked TEM PCO to resend TEM questionnaires concerning information demanded from National Coordinators to prepare maps and reports. He stated that better cooperation with TER should be nurtured and that PCO should contact and invite TER Project Manager to the next TEM Steering Committee meeting. Mr. Arman commented that possibility to have TEMSAT meetings should be explored.

#### STATUS OF TEM TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2014

12. Currently 11 countries actively contribute to the TEM Trust Fund. Slovakian contribution is lacking for the last 3 years (from 2012). Contribution by eight countries is received for 2014 - total of 74, 975 USD, and four are still missing. Reminder letters were sent out to Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Romania. Steering Committee agreed on the contribution for year 2015 in the amount of 10,000 USD (7,500+2,500=10,000 USD).
13. Mr. Skorupski asked for the information on TEM annual spending in 2014 and was informed that Annual financial report for 2014 will be provided in the next SC meeting according to the usual practice. He further asked clarification on the procedures for the member states which do not contribute to TEM Trust Fund for more than two years.

14. Mr. Nemeč confirmed that Austrian contribution for 2014 will be paid in due time in the amount of 7,500 USD.

#### TEM PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2015

15. Ms. Cybulska, on behalf of TEM PCO, presented draft TEM Programme of work for 2015 (Annex 3), including a timetable. Activities presented in the Programme reflect activities stated in the adopted Programme of work 2014-2015 with postponement of some activities.

16. Steering Committee discussed and adopted proposed Programme of Work for 2015.

17. Proposed dates and activities:

- TEM Steering Committee Meetings:
  - 64<sup>th</sup> SC Meeting to be held in April 2015, in Geneva,
  - 65<sup>th</sup> SC meeting tentatively scheduled for October-November 2015, in Vienna, Austria
  
- Workshops:
  - Road Safety workshop tentatively scheduled for April 2015, in Croatia – to be confirmed by mid-January. Proposed topic: Best practices in implementation of EU Directive on Road Safety Infrastructure Management (road safety audit and road safety inspection),
  - HEEP workshop tentatively scheduled for May-June 2015, in Turkey. PCO to contact Turkey in January for confirmation,
  - Environmental Impact Assessment workshop to be held in Vienna, Austria back-to-back with 65<sup>th</sup> SC meeting (to be confirmed in January).

18. It has been decided that TEM PCO will contact member states to finalise locations, dates, and timing by the end of January 2015.

#### TEM COST PLAN 2015

19. Ms. Cybulska, on behalf of PCO, presented TEM Cost Plan 2015 (Annex 4). Cost Plan is prepared according to the new UNECE template and reflects activities and costs foreseen in 2015. Steering Committee adopted TEM Cost Plan for 2015 without objections.

#### PROPOSAL OF PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS REPORT ON TEM

20. Ms. Cybulska, presented draft project proposal for the analysis of how ministries/road administrations present their work results (PwC to prepare analysis and report). Pilot project could be implemented in two TEM member states. The draft proposal will be disseminated to the TEM member states by end of January, feedback is welcome.

#### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 62<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

21. Steering Committee adopted report from 62<sup>nd</sup> SC session held in April 2014.

## OTHER BUSINESS

22. Mr. Nikolic inquired the status of the finalization of Mr. Maciejewski's contract (2014/2015) by the Polish side. Ms. Cybulska confirmed that administrative procedure is ongoing and that Polish Road Administration is waiting for the Ministry of Transport's proxy to sign the contract. Procedure to be finalized in due time.
23. Next 64<sup>th</sup> TEM Steering Committee is scheduled to take place in April 2015, in Geneva.
24. Importance of timely confirmation of dates and locations of the forthcoming TEM meetings and workshops is stressed. Member states are encouraged to volunteer to host these events.

## ADOPTION OF THE REPORT/CONCLUSIONS

25. Draft Conclusions of the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting were disseminated to National Coordinators and adopted with minor changes. On the basis of the conclusions Steering Committee Report will be prepared and disseminated in January 2015.

Annex 1.  
List of participants

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Annex 2

**TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)**  
**Steering Committee**  
**Sixty-third Session**  
11 December 2014, Geneva, Switzerland

**Agenda**

**Venue:** Palais de Nations, Room IX

Starting 10:00 AM

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Election of Officers
4. Report of the Project Manager
5. Status of TEM Trust Fund Contributions for 2014
6. TEM Programme of Work for 2015
7. TEM Cost Plan for 2015
8. Proposal of PwC report on TEM
9. Other Business
10. Adoption of the Report