



The Seventh Session of the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL EG)

(24-25 October 2011) Astrakhan, Russian Federation

Logistical Modalities

Venue	Al Pash Grand Hotel		
	Five-star business hotel located in the city of Astrakhan on the Volga river embankment close to the city's administrative and business centre.		
	Address: 69 Kuybyshev street, Astrakhan, Russian Federation, tel. +7(8512) 48-25-25, http://www.grand.alpash.ru		

Astrakhan Airport	Upon arrival/departure at the airport of Astrakhan meeting
	participants will be accompanied by the representatives from the Russian side.

Hotel rates	The hotel offers rooms with a view of the Volga river and Astrakhan. Regardless of category, every room has a telephone, satellite TV, wardrobe, safe deposit box, work and coffee tables with chairs. All rooms are equipped with individual air conditioning and heating. Room rates:		
	Room type Room rate *		rate *
		Single	Double
	Standard «Economy» with city view	3800	4700
	Standard «Economy» with the Volga river view	4100	5000
	Studio with city view	6800	7700

Studio with the Volga river view	7400	8300
* all prices are quoted	in Russian roubles (inc	cl. VAT). Breakfast and
lunch included.		

Hotel booking

Rooms are pre-booked for the meeting participants at the Grand Hotel.

Deadline for hotel reservation 14 October 2011.

Please note that in the event of hotel cancellation a penalty fee may be requested.

Hotel reservation is made on the basis of an application sent by e-mail to MukhametyanovTR@mintrans.ru (Mr. Timur Muhametyanov) and KarlovAV@mintrans.ru (Mr. Artur Karlov). **Deadline for submitting booking information is 14 October 2011.**

Participants wishing to stay at other hotels will have to arrange their own accommodation and airport transfer.

Meeting participation

Meeting of the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian transport links is open for participation for representatives of government agencies, transportation companies of all Eurasian countries, international organizations, nongovernment organizations, as well as academic experts and business representatives with experience in the field under discussion.

Participation funding

Participation in the meeting is free of charge. Participants should submit to the organizers completed registration/nomination forms for all members of the delegation. Participants who are being financed by UNECE (national focal points from Central Asian and CIS countries), should contact the UNECE Secretariat and receive all travel payments in advance.

Travel arrangements to reach Astrakhan

You can fly to Astrakhan via Moscow. There are three major airports in Moscow - Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo and Vnukovo. Given that the transfer of participants from Astrakhan airport to the Grand Hotel will be arranged for the two flight options mentioned below departing from/to Moscow from/to Sheremetyevo Airport (Terminal D). It would be more convenient for the meeting participants to use one transfer airport when planning their itinerary. Moving from one Moscow airport to another can be done through the city center, which can take anywhere from 3 to 4 hours, depending on traffic jams. An alternative option is to use aeroexpress - metro - aeroexpress (2-2.5 hours).

Transfer of the meeting participants from/to the Astrakhan airport to/from the Grand Hotel

For the meeting participants' convenience the Russian side will organize five bus transfers from/to the airport of Astrakhan to/from the Grand Hotel.

To use the transfer offered by the organizers, meeting participants should buy their air tickets in advance for the following flights from Moscow to Astrakhan and back:

Moscow - Astrakhan

1. Flight Nordavia No.SU-2083 Moscow – Astrakhan, departure from Moscow (Sheremetyevo Airport) on 23

- October 2011 at 15:45, arrival in Astrakhan at 18:10 (airplane Boeing 737, flight time 2.25).
- 2. "Sibir" airlines flight C7-1175 Moscow Astrakhan, departure from Moscow (Domodedovo airport) on 23 October 2011 at 16:45, arrival in Astrakhan at 19:00 (airplane Airbus 319, flight time 2.15).

Astrakhan - Moscow

- 1. Aeroflot flight No.SU-712 Astrakhan Moscow, departure from Astrakhan on 26 October 2011 at 07:00, arrival in Moscow (Sheremetyevo Airport) at 09:10 (Airbus A320, flight time 2.10).
- 2. Aeroflot flight No.SU-732 Astrakhan Moscow, departure from Astrakhan on 26 October 2011 at 11:55 arrival in Moscow (Sheremetyevo Airport) at 14:10 (airplane Sukhoi Superjet, flight time 2.15).
- 3. "UTair" airlines flight No.IOT-378 Astrakhan Moscow, departure from Astrakhan on 26 October 2011 at 14:15, arrival in Moscow (Vnukovo airport) at 16:30 (airplane Boeing 737-700, flight time 2.15).

Meeting schedule

The meeting will be held during the two days from 24 to 25 October 2011. The agenda and the program of the meeting are attached (Annex 1 and 2). On 24 October 2011 a technical tour will be organized to the port of Olya, presenting the transit potential of the port for ITC "North-South", and as well as a visit to the Astrakhan Kremlin. The plenary session will be held on 25 October 2011 in the Al Pash Hall (Grand Hotel).

Any written materials for the meeting must be provided to the organizers from the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation (see e-mail addresses below) and to UNECE **not later** than 14 October 2011.

Technical equipment for presentations can be provided upon prior request.

Registration of participants

Registration of participants will start at 9:30 am on 25 October 2011 in Al Pash Hall, Grand Hotel (Astrakhan, ul. Kuibyshev, 69).

Interpretation

During the technical tour, a visit to the Astrakhan Kremlin and the meeting a consecutive (at the meeting - simultaneous) interpretation into English and Russian will be provided.

Availability and distribution of materials

Speakers should submit their presentations in advance to the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation and the UNECE Secretariat, as well as have electronic and paper versions of their presentations with them. Where possible, the document should have an English language version, in case the material is presented in a different language.

You are requested to send your presentations to the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation to Mr. Timur Muhametyanov at MukhametyanovTR@mintrans.ru with a copy to Mr. Artur

	Karlov at KarlovAV@mintrans.ru.	
	The number of paper copies at the meeting is limited. After the meeting, documents and presentations will be posted on the www.unece.org site.	
Internet	Free internet access via Wi-Fi on the grounds of the Grand Hotel	

Registration (deadline)

Deadline for sending registration/nomination forms - 5 October 2011.

On 10 October 2011 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (MFA) will sent out in the established order email instructions on obtaining visas to the appropriate consular authorities of the Russian Federation in the countries, where the visa will be obtained, that will have been indicated (by participants) in the registration/nomination forms. Please send completed registration/nomination form (Annex 3) to the following:

1. UNECE

Anastasia Barinova anastasia.barinova@unece.org

2. Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation Timur Muhametyanov MukhametyanovTR@mintrans.ru

Artur Karlov KarlovAV@mintrans.ru

Press accreditation

Press accreditation will start at 9:30, 25 October 2011 in the Al Pash Hall, Grand Hotel (Astrakhan, ul. Kuibyshev, 69).

Visas

In order to enter the Russian Federation you require a visa. Entry without visa is possible for those countries that have agreements with the Russian Federation. The list of countries that do not require visa to enter the Russian Federation is indicated in Annex 6 (Russian only).

To obtain a visa, a foreign citizen must apply at the Russian consulate in his/her place of residence.

Please note that personal electronic instructions for issuing visas will be directed on 10 October 2011to the appropriate consular authorities of the Russian Federation mentioned in the registration/nomination form.

Annex 4: The list of countries that do not require visa to enter the Russian Federation (Russian only, please enquire with your local Russian consular authorities)

You can find location and contact information of the consular authorities of the Russian Federation around the world on the official website of the Consular Department of the MFA of Russia - http://www.kdmid.ru

Annex 5: Application form for obtaining a Russian visa

Regardless of the category of visa, the applicant must submit to the Russian consulate the following documents:

- **1. Passport.** A valid (diplomatic, service or ordinary) passport or other identity document which is recognized as such by the Russian Federation. The passport must have at least two blank pages intended for the visa and its validity as a rule, should not expire earlier than six months from the date of expiry of visa.
- **2. Filled-in visa application form** (attached).
- **3. Two photos, size 3,5 x 4,5 cm**. Photo size 3,5 x 4,5 cm (black and white or color) with a clear picture, full face without tinted glasses and without headwear (except for foreign nationals, for whom the constant wearing of headwear is a mandatory attribute of their national or religious affiliation, provided that the person is also wearing headwear on the photo in the passport).
- **4.** The visa fee is charged on the basis of reciprocity. For more information on consular fees charged for visas please visit the relevant Russian consular office abroad web site.

Visa is issued only after submission to the consulate the full set of documents. A set of documents for visa should be submitted personally by the applicant or his legal representative. After the documents are accepted and the visa fee is duly paid the applicant receives a receipt indicating the date when the visa will be ready. This same receipt must be submitted to obtain a visa.

Upon receipt of the visa the applicant must verify information mentioned in the visa: name, dates of travel, passport number, date of birth, etc. and, if necessary, promptly return the visa for corrections.

Deadlines

Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation thanks the participants for observing the deadlines.

Last day for sending registrations is 5 October 2011. Deadline for hotel reservation in Astrakhan – 14 October 2011.

In the event of late registration (after 5 October 2011), participants will have to organize their trip independently.

Lunch and coffee break

During the days of the meeting coffee breaks will be available to participants free of charge. The cost of lunch is included in the price.

Social activity

24 October 2011 from 16.00 to 17.00 visit to the Astrakhan Kremlin.

Contacts Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation Ms. Elena Glukhova, Head of International Organizations, transport policy and regional cooperation section of International Cooperation Department

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ANNEX 1



Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the UNECE Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links

(24–25 October 2011)

Astrakhan, Russian Federation

- 1. Technical visit to the Olya port.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda.
- 3. Matters arising from the twenty-fourth session of the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5).
- 4. Recent developments related to the Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) Phase II:
 - (a) Information related to the Russian Federation;
 - (b) Information related to other EATL countries;
 - (c) Information related to other international organizations;
 - (d) Trans-Eurasia-Logistics Rail Service connecting China and Germany through Kazakhstan Russian Federation Belarus Poland.
- 5. Study on non-physical obstacles to transport.
- 6. Adoption of the final version of the report of the Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links on implementing Phase II of the EATL Project.
- 7. The way ahead:
 - (a) Developing EATL routes:
 - (i) North-South rail-sea route (Russian Federation, Iran, India);
 - (ii) Other related projects, plans and initiatives;
 - (b) Consideration of issues concerning the development of EATL Phase III Project in 2012–2015;
 - (c) Consideration of issues concerning the meeting of EATL countries Ministers:
 - (d) Strengthening cooperation and interaction with UNECE TEM and TER Projects, UNESCAP, OSCE, ECO and other international governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- 8. OSCE-UNECE Handbook on best practices in border crossing.
- 9. Other business.
- 10. Date and place of next meeting.

ANNEX 2



Programme

Seventh session of the UNECE Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links

(24-25 October 2011) Astrakhan, Russian Federation

23 October 2011

(Sunday)

Astrakhan, Russian Federation

During the day - Arrival of the participants at the hotel in Astrakhan and check-in (Grand Hotel)

24 October 2011

(Monday)

Astrakhan, Russian Federation

- Breakfast in the hotel

9.00 - Departure for the technical visit

Technical visit and presentation of the port of Olya, Astrakhan region,

Russian Federation

11.00 - Arrival at the port

11.00 – 12.00 - Presentation of the Olya port

12.00 - 14.00 Arrival in Astrakhan

14.00 – 15.30 - Lunch

15.30 - Transfer to the Astrakhan Kremlin

16.00 – 18.00 - Tour of the Astrakhan Kremlin

25 October 2011 (Tuesday) Astrakhan, Russian Federation

	- Breakfast in the hotel
9.30	- Registration
10.00	- Start of the plenary meeting
10.00	- Adoption of the agenda
10.10	- Welcome address on behalf of the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation
10.30	- Adoption of the report of the sixth session of the Group of Experts (5-7 July 2011, Almaty, Kazakhstan)
11.00	- EATL Project - recent developments
12.30	- Coffee/tea break
13.00-14.00	EATL Project - recent developments (cont'd)
14.00-15.30	- Lunch
15.30-16.00	- General report on implementing Phase II of the EATL Project
16.00-16.30	- Coffee/tea break
16.30-17.00	- Discussion (cont'd)
17.00-17.30	The way ahead and other business
17.30-18.00	- Closing of the meeting

19.00 - Formal reception

ANNEX 3







Seventh session of the UNECE Group of Experts on Euro-Asian Transport Links

(24-25 October 2011) Astrakhan, Russian Federation

NOMINATION FORM / РЕГИСТРАЦИОННАЯ ФОРМА

(Please type or print)

Заполненные регистрационные формы просим направить/Please send the filled-in forms to Тимуру Мухаметьянову/Тітиг Muhametyanov - MukhametyanovTR@mintrans.ru (факс/fax + 7 495 626 96 01) с копией/with a copy to Карлову Артуру/Artur Karlov, email: KarlovAV@mintrans.ru и/and Анастасии Бариновой/Anastasia Barinova, anastasia.barinova@unece.org (факс/fax + 41 22 917 00 39)

1			
Фамилия	Имя	Отчество	
Family name	First Name	Other name	
2. Представляемая организация Organization represented/country	•		
3. Должность / Title of present of	official position:		
	b/Business address, tel., fax		
4. Позиция в делегации / Positi	on in Delegation		
Pуководитель / Head	C		
Член / Member			
Пругое / Other			

5. Личные данные/Personal data Гражданство/Citizenship:	, дата рождения/	Date of Birth:
Mесто рождения/Place of birth _	•	
Дата рождения (день, месяц, год)/Date of birth (day, month, year)	Место рождения/ Place of birth	Пол /Sex
Адрес электронной почты/e-mail		
6. Номер документа, удостоверяющего личность/ID number		
Дата выдачи/Date of issue		елен до (день, 1)/Valid until th, year)
7. Место получения визы (страна Российской Федерации)/Place wh consular office of the Russian Feder	ere you will receive your visa (co	ountry, city, where there is a
8. Письменный доклад/ written pr Название/Title:	esentation: Да/Yes □ Heт/No [
9. Прибытие в дата/date: Астрахань/Arrival in Astrakhan	время/hour:	номер авиарейса/flight number:
Вылет из Астрахани дата/date: /Departure from Astrakhan	время/hour:	номер авиарейса/flight number:
10. Гостиница в Астрахани/ Hotel Я остановлюсь в гостинице/I will		□ No □
11. Я остановлюсь в другой гости staying at another hotel (please indi		звание и адрес)/I will be
12. Финансирование поездки / fin	nancial support for travel	
□ государство-отправитель / by С □ ЕЭК ООН / by UNECE □ иное / other	Government	
13. Телефон контактного лица пр	ои ЧП (telephone contact in an en	mergency)
Подпись / Participar	nt's signature	Дата / Date
Имя и подпись удостоверя / Name and signature of cer		Дата / Date