EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

Note by the secretariat
Euro-Asian Transport Linkages - Phase II

Robert Nowak, Transport Division, UNECE

18 November 2008, Geneva
Transport across Central Asia: A development opportunity being missed?

Air and sea transport: avoiding borders is faster or cheaper

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, transhipment 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
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