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Monitoring of the developments in pan-European transport networks:

Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects

Information on the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) project development

Submitted by the TEM Project Manager****

I. Objectives of the Project

1. The aim of the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) project is to provide assistance to the integration process of transport infrastructure systems in Europe, to improve national techniques and understanding of construction, management, operation and maintenance of motorways of the participating countries.
2. One of the main goals of TEM project is to facilitate co-operation between East-West road managers and experts. This cooperation can bring palpable results by indicating the gaps and potential solutions based on information provided by different countries. Taking into account the expectations of national governments regarding international activities, only effective actions of the TEM project will be accepted by participating countries. The biggest challenge in 2016 is therefore preparation of new strategy of the project.

* This document was submitted late due to delayed inputs from other sources.

** The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

II. TEM development 2016

3. During the sixty-four session of the TEM Steering Committee held on 16 December, 2015 in Vienna, Mr Andrzej Maciejewski, Deputy General Director of the Polish National Agency for Roads (GDDKiA), was re-elected TEM Project Manager for the period 2016–2017. He proposed a TEM programme of work 2016 which was accepted by the Steering Committee.
4. According to the main objectives of the project, listed above, in 2016 TEM activities should cover the following topics:
 - (a) Financing the infrastructural projects to include: socio-economic evaluation and financial feasibility;
 - (b) Road Safety Management, procedures, rules and strategies report;
 - (c) Operational strategy for TEM project for 2016-2020;
 - (d) Building Information modelling;
 - (e) Road Maintenance and Asset Management – procedures, rules and strategies.
5. The selected themes are the key priorities for all TEM participating countries. Therefore, TEM countries should exchange experiences, knowledge and know-how in order to eliminate common mistakes or probable obstacles in identified domains.

III. Activities 2016

6. On the basis of this Programme of Work, the following tasks were included in the TEM 2016 Work Plan:
 - (a) Strengthening capacities of the TEM participating countries by exchanges of knowledge and best practices in the following areas: Financing the infrastructural projects, Road Safety Management, Operational strategy for TEM, Building Information modelling, Road Maintenance and Asset Management.
 - (b) Increase attractiveness of TEM project, both for the TEM participating and neighbouring countries, through an improved Programme of Work and better communication on project outputs.
 - (c) Prepare high quality deliverables on topics related to the development of the TEM network with active participation of representatives of the TEM participating countries.
 - (d) Efficient involvement of TEM in the development of Euro-Asian Transport Linkages and cooperation with international and European transport organizations (Conference of European Directors of Roads (CEDR), World Road Association (PIARC), Intelligent Transport Systems and Services for Europe (ERTICO)).
 - (e) Efficient administrative backstopping of TEM project through improved Work Plan and result-oriented cost plan for 2016 and finalization of pending administrative issues.
7. There is a need for a further discussion on TEM data collection and dissemination. TEM Steering Committee will discuss necessary information, preparation of TEM maps and its web presentation.
8. Presentation of two reports related to Road Safety and Strategy based on information collected Member Countries.

9. The following activities already took place in 2016:

(a) The sixty-sixth session of the TEM Steering Committee was held on April 7, 2016 in Warsaw. Mr. Andrzej Maciejewski, TEM Project Manager, presented the report about preparation of the two reports (Road Safety and Strategy);

(b) Based on the adopted work plan, a seminar on Building Information Modeling took place on April 8, 2016 in Warsaw. More than 20 experts from TEM member countries and European Union shared their experiences and debated the best practices and strategies to increase the Building Information Modeling;

(c) The International Highways Engineers Exchange Programme (iHEEP) Area V is a forum for annual exchange of knowledge and know-how between Highway Engineers of North America and Europe. iHEEP is a US initiative and TEM Project is their European counterpart. Cooperation with iHEEP started in 1993, and this year the twenty-third TEM iHEEP Area V 2015 Annual Meeting was held in Istanbul, Turkey on 30 of May-2 of June. This year seminar was dedicated to one of the priority topics of the TEM Project – financing of the road infrastructure projects. Representatives of TEM participating countries and Department of Transport of four United States of America states shared their experiences and best practices on financing of road construction, rehabilitation and maintenance.

IV. Challenges 2015

10. TEM Project needs more visibility and recognition as well as tangible results. Promotion of TEM activities as one the main TEM PCO tasks will facilitate collaboration with other stakeholders and could bring new participating countries. At the same time it gives reliability to existing partners.

11. In 2016, TEM Project Manager will work on two reports, of which TEM strategy report will be the most important one regarding the future actions and shape of TEM activities.

12. Furthermore, resolving pending administrative issues related to the TEM Project Manager contract is needed to enable more efficient functioning of the TEM PCO.

V. Conclusions

13. All activities, carried out during the reporting period, were in line with the Programme of Work accepted by the Steering Committee in 2016.

14. According to the TEM Trust Fund Agreement, TEM Project address priority topics for participating countries which leads to a more rapid integration of the motorway networks between Eastern and Western European countries. At the same time, TEM Project stipulates a better harmonization of road legislation and creation of the common motorway standards in order to ensure a higher quality of service along major corridors in the participating counties (e.g. road safety, EIA, ITS and financing).