REPORT

PARTICIPATION

1. The fifty-fourth session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Baden, Austria on 15 and 16 November 2010. Representatives of Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Turkey participated in the session. The representative of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the TEM Project Manager and the independent consultant also took part. List of participants is attached to this report as its Annex 1.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. Mr. H. Meelich, the TEM Project Manager, opened the session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The provisional agenda of the session, presented in Annex 2 of the report, was approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4. Mr. K. Nemec (Austria) and Mr. M. Arman (Turkey) were elected Chairman and Rapporteur of the session, respectively.

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

5. In his report, the Project Manager briefed the session about TEM PCO’s as well as about his own activities in the reporting period. In this context, he drew the attention of the participants to the fact that his contract terminates at the end of next year and asked the National Coordinators present to consider the possibility to make the Deputy Project Manager available as soon as possible to maintain the continuity of the management of the Project in 2012. His report was endorsed by the session.
6. As a result of the ensuing discussion, Ms. K. Cop Bajde, the Croatian TEM National Coordinator promised to check the possibility of TEM PCO’s participation in the sessions of the Corridor X Steering Committee.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IN BULGARIA

7. Mr. C. D. Stolle, the Member of the Managing Board of the Bulgarian Road Infrastructure Agency and Ms.V. Kostadinova, Director of Directorate of the Agency, presented the report on the status and development plans of the Bulgarian road and motorway network. The report is attached to this report as its Annex 3. In this connection, they stressed the high importance of the Hemus motorway, connecting Sofia and Varna, for the development of the northern part of the country as well as for the international road transport and proposed to include the remaining parts of this connection to both the TEM and TEM Master Plan revised backbone networks.

8. The Steering Committee expressed its approval of this proposal and following the joint proposal of Bulgaria and Romania it also decided to include into the TEM network the section Constanta – Varna, which has been already forming part of the revised backbone network.

STATUS OF TEM TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2010

9. Mrs. M. S. Fouvez, the UNECE representative, reported on the financial position of the Project as well as on the status of the 2010 Trust Fund contributions, which was better compared with the respective 2009 one. She also expressed thanks to the Croatian National Coordinator for her personal contribution to solving the problem of past obligations of the country to the TEM Trust Fund and asked the countries which did not transfer their 2010 payments to the Fund yet to do so at their earliest convenience.

10. She also promised to send the requests for the 2011 Trust Fund contributions amounting to USD 10,000 to all the participating countries early next year.

TEM COST PLAN FOR 2011

11. The UNECE representative and the TEM Project Manager introduced the TEM Budget for 2011 – Local Technical Cooperation Trust Fund/Project, containing the cost plan and corresponding resource requirements, underlining the fact that more than half of these resources would be earmarked for the Group Training. The cost plan was approved by the Steering Committee.

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2011

12. The TEM Project Manager presented and explained the draft TEM Programme of Work for 2011.

13. Following his answers to the questions raised by the participants, the Committee approved the Programme proposed by the PCO as amended in accordance with the results of the discussion. The cooperation with the HEEP organization will continue.
14. Mr. P. Pospisil, the TEM consultant, presented the draft final report on the Revision of the TEM Master Plan, the text of which was sent to all the participating countries in advance in September 2010. He also introduced maps and Annexes related to it and answered the questions posed by the participants.

15. The Steering Committee took note of the draft final report and approved the following timetable of steps needed to conclude the elaboration of the document:

- The TEM Project Central Office will distribute all the related maps and newly elaborated Annexes to all participating countries as soon as possible, but by 26 November at the latest.
- The countries will communicate their comments and corrections to the draft final report, Annexes and maps by e-mail to the TEM PCO with a copy to the consultant (776066331@seznam.cz) by 15 December 2010. The comments and corrections received after this date will not be taken into account.
- The final report with all the maps and annexes will be sent by the PCO to all participating countries by e-mail on 3 January 2011 for final check in order to make sure that all the comments and corrections have been properly dealt with.
- The participating countries will inform the TEM PCO and the consultant about the results of their final check up by 11 January 2011 at the latest. Any such communication received after this date will not be taken into account.
- The final report together with all maps and Annexes will be sent to the UNECE Transport Division by the TEM PCO on 17 January 2011 at the latest for submission to the next session of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee.

16. The UNECE representative promised to send to the consultant the accident data provided by the International Transport Forum to be used in the course of finalization of the Master Plan Revision final report.

OTHER BUSINESS

17. The Croatian representative, Ms. K. Cop Bajde informed the session about the regional Ministerial Conference on transport infrastructure in the region to take place in Sarajevo on 1 December 2010 and promised to pass the invitation to attend it to the TEM National Coordinators, for which reason the TEM Project Central Office would communicate to her their e-mail addresses.

18. The Romanian representative, Ms. M. Capra presented the document “Status of Implementation of the Trans-European Motorway Project along Romanian Territory”, which is attached to the report as its Annex 4.

19. The next session of the Committee will be held in May/June 2011. Romania and Croatia expressed their readiness to host this session.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. The report on the 54th session of the Steering Committee was adopted.

Annexes: 4