REPORT

PARTICIPATION

1. The fifty-sixth session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Salzburg, Austria on 25 - 29 October 2011. Representatives of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia 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. Mr. K. Nemec, the Austrian TEM National Coordinator, welcomed its participants and expressed his conviction that the session would meet full success.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4. Mr. K. Nemec (Austria) and Ms. C. Amarazeanu (Romania) 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. He especially underlined the successful finalization of the TEM and TER Master Plan Revision, closer contacts established with the Ukrainian authorities as a follow-up of the 55th session of the TEM Steering Committee held in Suceava, Romania, the IHEEP (International Highway Engineering Exchange Program) 2011 Conference which took place in Winnipeg, Canada and the Conference on Development of Special Transport Infrastructures – Ferries/Seaports held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 20 September 2011. His report was endorsed by the session.

6. The TEMSTAT 2011 maps of all participating countries and of the whole TEM region, elaborated in accordance with the conclusions of the TEMSTAT meeting in Warsaw in April 2011, were distributed to the representatives of member countries and of the UNECE to be also uploaded to the UNECE TEM website.
STATUS OF TEM TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2011

7. Mrs. M. S. Fouvez, the UNECE representative, reported on the financial position of the Project as well as on the status of the 2011 Trust Fund contributions, amounting at present to USD 89,915. At the same time, she asked the remaining 6 member countries which have not transferred their 2011 payments to the Fund yet to do so at their earliest convenience.

8. She also promised to send the requests for the 2012 Trust Fund contributions amounting to USD 7,500 + USD 2,500 as approved by the Steering Committee to all the participating countries early next year.

TEM AND TER MASTER PLAN REVISION FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES AND MONITORING SYSTEM

9. The Project Manager informed the Steering Committee about the successful termination of the Revision of the TEM and TER Master Plan and extended his thanks to the UNECE and participating countries for their close collaboration and valuable inputs to its elaboration.

10. Mr. P. Pospisil, the TEM and TER consultant, presented the main outcomes and conclusions of Volumes I (Main text) and II (Annexes) of the Final Report of the Revision of the TEM and TER Master Plan. The participating countries were requested to communicate to the TEM PCO (with the copy to the UNECE and the consultant) their comments to both Volumes of the revised Master Plan Final report as soon as possible, but by 20 November 2011 at the latest.

11. The hard copies of Volumes I and II of the Final report of the Revision of the TEM and TER Master Plan were distributed to the members of the Steering Committee.

12. The Steering Committee took note of the TEM and TER Master Plan Revision Follow-up Action Plan as well as of the results of the 1st TEM and TER Joint Rail and Road/Motorway Follow-up Expert Group Meeting held on 26 October 2011, which approved in general the TEM Master Plan Revision monitoring mechanism based on 4 templates, which would be submitted filled in to the TEM PCO by 31 May of each year.

13. The Committee decided that the results of the monitoring activities would be submitted once a year for the consideration of the TEM Steering Committee.

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2012

14. The TEM Project Manager presented and explained the draft TEM Programme of Work for 2012.

15. The representative of the UNECE drew the attention of the participants to the activities of the SC.1 and SC.2 dealing with the railroad crossings and transport safety as well as to the SPECA (joint program of the UNECE and UNESCAP aimed at assistance to the countries of Central Asia), the involvement of the TEM in which would be greatly appreciated.

16. Following the assurance of the Project Manager, that a special seminar on road infrastructure safety was included into the Programme of Work for the next year, the Committee approved the Programme proposed by the PCO.

TEM COST PLAN FOR 2012

17. The UNECE representative and the TEM Project Manager introduced the TEM Budget for 2012 – 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.

ELECTION OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

18. Based on the kind offer of the Government of Austria, the Steering Committee elected unanimously Mr. Helmut Meelich as the TEM Project Manager for the period 1 January 2012 – 31 December 2013.

OTHER BUSINESS

19. Mr. A. Schokel, the representative of the ALPINE Bau GmbH company, informed the session about its activities and achievements in the implementation of the PPP projects with the special respect to their structure and financing.

20. Ms. C. Amarazeanu (Romania) reported on the outcomes of the 2011 International HEEP Conference which took place in September 2011 in Winnipeg, Canada and in which representatives of 4 TEM member countries took part.

21. The 57th session of the TEM Steering Committee would be held probably in March 2012 in Turkey jointly with the seminar on road infrastructure safety. The 2012 TEMSTAT meeting will take place in Warsaw in April 2012. The HEEP Area V Annual meeting would be held probably in May next year and the participating countries were requested to consider the possibility of its hosting and to inform the TEM PCO accordingly at their earliest convenience.

22. Mr. Z. Cyndrowski (Poland) informed the session that in the framework of the Polish EU Presidency, the Traffic Safety Congress will be held in Torun on 6 – 8 December this year. He also proposed that all the TEMSTAT 1 and 2 data be made available to the general public. In this connexion, Mr. P. Pospisil suggested to make use of the UNECE TEM website for this purpose. The Committee approved these proposals in general and requested the next TEMSTAT meeting to recommend the best procedure how to achieve this goal as soon as possible.

23. The Steering Committee also took note of the intention of the Polish side to terminate the activity of the TEM PCO in Warsaw with the understanding that the Polish Government has to submit such an intention to the UNECE via diplomatic channels.

24. On 28 October, in the framework of the presentation of the transport policy of the Austrian Ministry of Transport and of the intermodal innovations of the Austrian Federal Railways, the technical visit to the intermodal node in Wels took place.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

25. The report on the 56th session of the Steering Committee was adopted.

26. The participants expressed their gratitude to the Austrian Government and to the Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology as well as to the County & Town of Salzburg for hosting the session and to the organizing team led by the Project Manager for its outstanding organization.

Annexes: 2