



JOINT STATEMENT
on the results of the Co-ordination Meeting between the Heads of International Organisations and Financial Institutions on the future development of transport linkages between Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa

12 June 2013, Amman, Jordan

Heads of International Inter-Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations, International Financial and Credit Institutions, Regional Development Banks and their appointed representatives, meeting in Amman, Jordan, on 12 June 2013,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the considerable importance of strengthening inter-regional trade and transport linkages between Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa with a view to develop mutually beneficial regional trade and international tourism, and the role played by road transport in driving economic development, social stability, trade relations and international economic cooperation;

WILLING to contribute to the implementation of the UN Millennium Development Goals and Almaty Program of Action adopted on 29 August 2003 at the International Ministerial Conference of land-locked developing countries, transit developing countries and representatives of the donor community, devoted to cooperation in the area of transit carriage, as well as Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020), initiated by the UN General Assembly Resolution 64/255, and Almaty Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Fourth Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Almaty, 12 September 2012;

ASSESSING HIGHLY the results of the activities of international organisations to stimulate the development of inter-regional transport links, including the UN regional commissions for Europe (UNECE), for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), for Western Asia (UN ESCWA) and for Africa (UN ECA), United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), World Customs Organisation (WCO), Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organisation (BSEC), Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), the Intergovernmental Commission for the Europe-Caucasus-Asia Transport Corridor (TRACECA), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM), International Road Federation (IRF), Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), International Road Transport Union (IRU) and other international organisations;

MINDFUL of the significant contribution of International Financial Institutions to the development of the transport infrastructure, including the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), European Investment Bank (EIB), Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB), and other credit and donor institutions;

BASED on the successful implementation of the recommendations adopted at the First Coordination Meeting between the Heads of International Organisations and Financial Institutions on the future development of transport linkages between Europe and Asia (16 June 2011, Tbilisi, Georgia);

EMPHASISING the imperative need to be even more effective and bring greater tangible results for citizens, in particular in land-locked countries, by better coordinating efforts of International Organisations and Financial Institutions in developing inter-regional transport links, carrying out infrastructural projects, promoting institutional reforms and facilitating frontier crossing;

RESOLVED TO:

1. increase the level of cooperation and coordination with the aim to work towards a higher level of efficiency and coherence in all aspects of development of inter-regional transport links, to achieve a synergetic effect, and to avoid excessive expenditures and duplication in work;
2. cooperate more closely on development of the UN Almaty+10 Program of Action for 2014-2023 and its implementation;
3. make joint efforts to promote development of inter-regional transport linkages within the framework of international events, dedicated to the problems and prospects of the road transport sector, including the upcoming High-Level International Conference to be held in Dushanbe in September 2013;
4. focus political attention and investments on development of transport and ancillary roadside infrastructure, including border crossing points, intended to support trade and international road transport;
5. continue efforts aimed at facilitating international road transport and border crossing procedures by having Governments: accede to the key UN trade and international road transport facilitation agreements and conventions; accede to and implement the Revised Kyoto Convention and best practices highlighted in the WCO Economic Competitiveness Package and their effective application at national level; implement the best practices highlighted in the OSCE-UNECE Handbook on border crossings and the UNESCAP Regional Strategic Framework for the Facilitation of International Road Transport; support the introduction of modern navigation and satellite technologies in road transport, such as the electronic road maps; and simplify visa procedures for professional drivers;
6. promote the implementation of the key UN multilateral trade and transport facilitation instruments, such as the 1982 Harmonization Convention and the 1975 TIR Convention and its current electronic risk management tools;
7. expand existing technical assistance projects and initiatives proposed by the Governments of different countries and supported by International and Financial Institutions, including those which involve private sector and national governments to develop inter-regional trade and road transport;
8. Provide, as an effective complement to the above, special support to specific regional inter-governmental efforts and public-private projects according to the respective mandates of the organizations listed above;
9. employ more extensively the leverage of public-private partnership to carry out innovative projects for the modernisation and further development of main and ancillary roadside infrastructure by making use of the main multilateral facilitation and harmonization instruments, notably the TIR System.

The participants in the Coordinating Meeting express their gratitude to the Government of Jordan for the warm welcome and high level of organisation of the event.

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