



Economic Cooperation Organization

ECO Activities of interest to WP 30

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE 131ST SESSION OF WP30 (JUNE 2012)

(presented at the 134th session of WP30 (Geneva, 11 - 14 June 2013))

Contents



Infrastructure Development



Capacity Building



Regional Planning and Studies

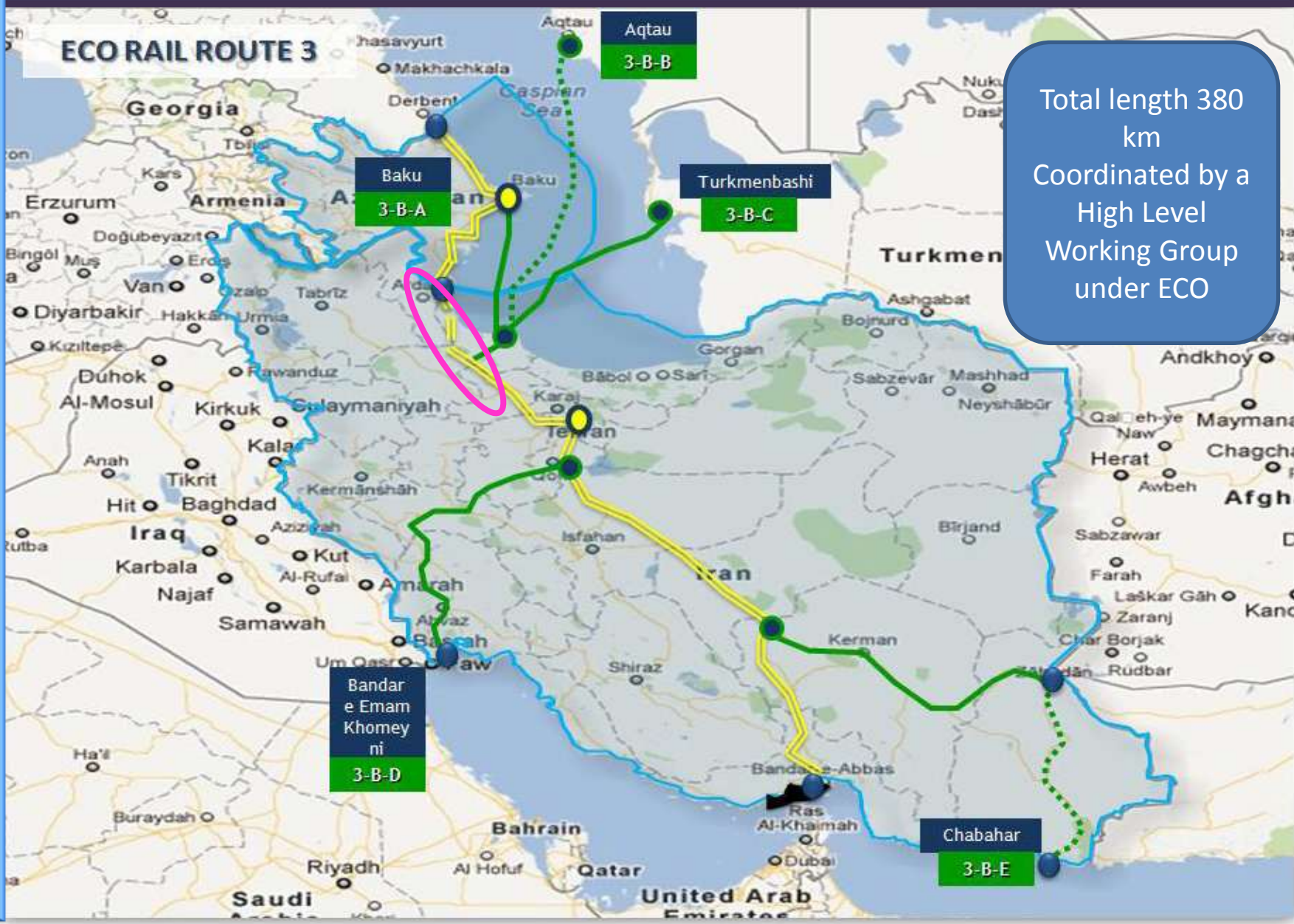


Corridor Development



Infrastructure Development

The Republic of Azerbaijan-Iran Railway Project (ECO Rail Corridor III)





The Republic of Azerbaijan-Iran Railway Project (ECO Rail Corridor III)

Infrastructure



Iran-Turkmenistan-Kazakhstan Railway Project

(ECO Rail Corridor IV)

Infrastructure





Iran-Turkmenistan-Kazakhstan Railway Project

(ECO Rail Corridor IV)

Infrastructure

The Iranian segment (90 Km) and the segment in Kazakhstan (120 km) completed and **INAUGURATED** in May 2013



Good progress in the segment of Turkmenistan (700 km). A 444 km segment from Bereket to Kazakhstan border **COMPLETED**



Capacity Building



Trainings and Workshops

- ❑ The ECO/UNECE Joint Regional Workshop on Unified Railway Law (Ankara 27 June 2012)
- ❑ The Regional Training Course on Third Party Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance (ECO White Cart), Tehran, 18-23 November 2012, in partnership with the International Green Card Council of Bureaux
- ❑ The 2nd ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Transit Transport and the TIR System, Istanbul 29 June-0st July 2012.
- ❑ Training Course on TIR for the Government staff and private sector of Afghanistan, (organized by Iran in Mashhad, June 2012).
- ❑ Training Course on TIR for the Government staff and private sector of Afghanistan (organized by Turkey in Ankara, 2012).
- ❑ Training Course on TIR for the Government staff and private sector of Pakistan, (organized by Turkey in Ankara, May 2013).
- (planned):*
- ❑ Regional Capacity Building Workshop on the UN Agreement ADR, Ankara, November 2013.
- ❑ The 3rd ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Transit Transport and the TIR System, Tehran, 6-8 October 2013.
- ❑ Capacity Building Workshop on TIR for Pakistan, Islamabad, 2013.



Accession to Conventions

Capacity Building

- ❑ Reactivation of the TIR Convention in Afghanistan to be finalized by December 2013 under the aegis of the Action Plan updated in the ECO/IRU Workshop on TIR System for Afghanistan, Herat, February 2012. inauguration Ceremony is being planned by ECO.
- ❑ Internal procedures for Pakistan's accession to the TIR Convention started by the Government of Pakistan, in line with An Action Plan signed between the Government of Pakistan, ECO, IRU.
- ❑ Pakistan's accession to COTIF in final stages, pursuant to ECO/OTIF workshop, Islamabad 2012.
- ❑ The Republic of Azerbaijan's accession to COTIF in final stages.
- ❑ Capacity building activities initiated for promoting the accession of the ECO member states to ADR.



Regional Planning and Studies

Regional Planning and Studies

ECO Rail Network Development Plan

- Defines five ECO Rail Transport Corridors
- Identifies regionally important infrastructure projects along the ECO Transport Corridors.
- Develops an Investment Plan for the priority projects.

Approved by the member states

ECO Road Network Development Plan

- Defines ?? ECO Road Transport Corridors.
- Identifies regionally important infrastructure projects along the ECO Road Transport Corridors.
- Develops an Investment Plan for the priority projects.

Submitted for approval of member states

Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability Insurance in the ECO Region

- Analyzes the status of Third Party Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance in the ECO Member States
- provides the required documentation for Establishment of a regional scheme for Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability Insurance in the ECO Member States (the ECO White Card Scheme)**

Submitted for approval of member states

R

ECO/IRU Project for Regular Monitored Run of Trucks

Regional Studies



Started in June 2011

Inspired by successful ECO/IRU Demonstration Truck Caravan 2010



- **The project formulated concrete recommendations to improve transit operations in the region.**
- **Follow-up actions to be discussed during the ECO/IRU Conference on Transit Development and the TIR System (Tehran, November 2013).**

- Involved 150 real commercial journeys
- Data collected on conditions of road transport in the region.
- Data analyzed through NEA Institute (Netherlands) using UNESCAP Time-Distance-Cost” methodology
- The findings depicted the exact situation on various aspects of transit operations: visa, permit, fuel, speed, costs, unofficial payments, customs procedures, application of the TIR Convention, etc.. For example:
 - Waiting time in queues takes 30% of the total travel time.
 - Average speed is only 15 km/h.
 - Unjustified levies are about 28% of the total costs.



Corridor Development



Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran

Corridors



Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Corridor

Further to decision of the 8th Meeting of the ECO Transport Ministers (Ashgabat, 2011), endorsed by the ECO Summit, arrangements for establishing a road corridor between Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul was initiated by the 1st High Level Working Group of the enroute member states (Islamabad, April 2012). The Meeting took measures on:

- The routes and official border points
- TIR as the mutually agreed transit systems for the corridor
- Permit Issue.
- Vehicle weight and specification
- Modernization of the designated border crossing points
- Accession of Iran and Pakistan to ADR agreement.
- Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability Insurance.
- Facilitation of visa for drivers
- Security and Safety Issues
- Establishment of the Corridor Monitoring Mechanism
- Organizing a Test Truck Caravan



The Meeting Adopted an Action Plan for the Establishment of the Corridor through Implementing an ECO/IRU TIR Project along the corridor , whereby the TIR System would be implemented on test basis along the Corridor.

Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Corridor

- The Meeting agreed on the initial routing and border crossing points. The meeting also decided that:
- The border crossing points should remain open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- There would be no requirement for permits for transport along ITI Corridor.
- Construction of TIR Parking places would be expedited and IRU Model Highway would be utilized
- Concrete measures were taken to facilitating visas for Drivers.
- Contact would be initiated with the potential funding institutions to assist in construction of the logistic centre in Zahidan.
- Turkey would organize training course on TIR for Pakistan.
- The 3rd Meeting of the ITI Road Corridor will be held in Turkey.



The 2nd HLWG (Tehran, February 2013):

- Pakistan notified that the country is completing its internal procedure for accession to TIR Convention, and that a reaffirmation letter has been sent to ECO and IRU in this regard.
- The Meeting reiterated that while Pakistan is on its way to join the TIR Convention, it could benefit from the TIR procedures through specific framework to be put in place under the ITI Pilot project.
- IRU informed that the contractual documentation was provided to all partners. Iranian and Pakistani authorities supported the documentation. The national associations ICCIMA and PNC-ICC signed them. The Turkish TOBB also supported the documents. The Turkish Customs was considering them.
- Since.
- The Meeting also asked the ECO Secretariat to contact the UNECE's competent organ for their support for launching the pilot TIR project along the ITI Corridor.

The Heads of Customs Administrations of the Governments of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, together with the ECO Deputy Secretary General signed a Joint Statement on their strong will to implement this Project. The Joint Statement was signed on 29-30 November 2012, on the sidelines of the Fifth International Forum on the Role of Customs Administrations on Promoting and Facilitating Trade among Silk Road Countries

Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Corridor

- The Meeting agreed on the initial routing and border crossing points. The meeting also decided that:
- The border crossing points should remain open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- There would be no requirement for permits for transport along ITI Corridor.
- Construction of TIR Parking places would be expedited and IRU Model Highway would be utilized
- Concrete measures were taken to facilitating visas for Drivers.
- Contact would be initiated with the potential funding institutions to assist in construction of the logistic centre in Zahidan.
- Turkey would organize training course on TIR for Pakistan.
- The 3rd Meeting of the ITI Road Corridor will be held in Turkey.



Thank You