



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

 Group of Experts on
Euro-Asian Transport Links
EATL - Phase II

6th session in partnership with the Government of Kazakhstan and the OSCE Centre in Astana
Almaty, Kazakhstan, 5-7 July 2011



EATL Project Future Plans July 2011

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Issues for consideration

1. Conclusions and strategic objectives set clearly indicate that there is considerable merit in continuing the work in a new Phase III;
2. Ensuring political commitment and obtaining strong impetus seems essential;
3. Organizing a EATL Meeting of Minister of Transport that would endorse the work of Phase II – wider disseminate results – give political support
4. A country should host and support it;
5. Partial funding for the continuation in a new Phase III has been ensured from the Government of the Russian Federation;
6. OSCE, BSEC, ECO cooperation and contribution is expected to continue since additional funding would be required;
7. Ways and means for closer links and interaction with TEM and TER Projects should be identified and promoted;
8. UNESCAP more active participation is highly desirable



Future Plans

Expected Accomplishment	Main Activity	Detailed description of actions	2011	2012	2013 (tentative)
<p>1. Continued support of an appropriate mechanism for coordination and monitoring of the development of the Euro-Asian transport links among countries, transport related international governmental and non governmental organizations (continuous task from EATL Phase II)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Armenia, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Finland, FYROM, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Romania, Russian Federation, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>UNESCAP, EC, OSCE, BSEC, ECO, IsDB, ITF, BSEC, IRF, TRACECA, CAREC, EurAsec, OASEA, OHRL, WB, EBRD, EIB, ADB, UIC, IRU, ICC, FIATA, UIRR, IRF, Europlatforms, OSZhD, SCO, WCO, WTO</p>	<p>1.1 Organize meetings of the Expert Group (EGM) and other interregional meetings and workshops with the participation of NFPs and other parties concerned.</p>	<p>Co-organize meetings of experts and workshops with other parties as UNESCAP, OSCE, ECO, BSEC, TEM-TER, , IsDB (one or two per year)</p>	✓	✓	✓
	<p>1.2 Explore synergies and coordinate concerted actions with other initiatives and projects that are implemented by international regional and subregional organizations and bodies concerned. Promote and share best practices of national governments .and international organizations in the area of international transport and border crossing facilitation.</p>	<p>Identify areas and promote concerted actions with other parties concerned, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNESCAP, OSCE, BSEC, ECO, IsDB, EurAsec, CAREC, , TRACECA, SCO, with regard to regional integration transport activities - TEM, TER and EU TEN-T with regard to transport corridor and networks - Subject to available funding study the feasibility for revised road, rail and intermodal transport network agreements (AGR, AGC, AGTC, AH, TAR) 	✓	✓	✓



Future Plans

Expected Accomplishment	Main Activity	Detailed description of actions	2011	2012	2013 (tentative)
<p>2. Continue coordinated planning and development of efficient, safe and secure land and land-cum-sea Euro-Asian transport links; constantly updating prioritized infrastructure projects along main Euro-Asian transport routes (continuous task from EATL Phase II)</p>	<p>2.1 Subject to available funding conduct/consolidate studies to identify and analyze economically viable inland transport options; examine non-physical obstacles and recommend ways to improve them; collect, analyse and update statistics on transport flows.</p>	<p>(i) Subject to available funding study, analyze and compare existing transport needs of actual cargo flows (points of production and points of origin of specific trade companies along the EATL routes) with the possibility of using rail and combined transport solutions along these routes.</p>	✓	✓	✓



Future Plans

Expected Accomplishment	Main Activity	Detailed description of actions	2011	2012	2013 (tentative)
<p>3. Continue strengthening national capacities to facilitate international transport and transit including border crossing; share experience and best practice along the Euro-Asian transport routes.</p>	<p>3.1 Continue organizing sub-regional/regional/interregional workshops to promote project's objectives, improve the capacity of stakeholders to effectively implement international conventions, and the Almaty Plan of Action Plan, exploring possibilities to holding them back to back with other related meetings (, UNESCAP, SPECA, TEMTER, BSEC, TRACECA, etc.)</p>	<p>(i) Identify and recommend the most relevant international transport facilitation conventions to which respective countries should accede in order to facilitate interregional transport of passengers and goods, (ii) Introduce indicators of project success e.g. harmonization Convention accepted by all EATL countries by 2011 (iii) Contribute to their implementation monitoring .</p>	✓	✓	✓
	<p>3.2 Continue providing advisory services to EATL participating countries with transition economies on border crossing facilitation and operationalization of EATL priority routes.</p>	<p>Continue advisory missions to EATL countries with transition economies combined with other events and activities when possible for follow-up of national actions in promoting project's objective, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assistance in formulation of national transport facilitation action plans – when possible as part of transport and trade plans, - support of establishment of national transport and trade facilitation committees, - promote the implementation of the OSCE-UNECE Handbook on border crossing performance measurement methodology and support pilot applications, - capacity building on investment planning, investment project appraisal methodologies (see UNECE methodologies). 	✓	✓	✓



Future Plans

(Continued)

Expected Accomplishment	Main Activity	Detailed description of actions	2011	2012	2013 (tentative)
	<p>3.3 Subject to available funding support initiatives and develop new ones in cooperation with other partners along the identified EATL routes, including development of demonstration runs of block trains etc.</p>	<p>(i) Subject to available funding promote cooperation in support of ongoing or new initiatives and projects, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North South rail – sea route (Russia Federation, Iran, India) - ECO rail routes / demonstration trains (i) Istanbul - Teheran – Almaty, (ii) Almaty – Bandar Abbas, (iii) Islamabad – Tehran – Istanbul - BSEC Ring Highway; - Analysis/corridor performance; - DB pilot rail route China-Germany; - TRACECA; Other <p>(ii) Analyze results in collaboration with respective countries and partners and disseminate/publish findings.</p>	✓	✓	✓



Future Plans

Expected Accomplishment	Main Activity	Detailed description of actions	2011	2012	2013 (tentative)
4. Further developed and updated web based Geographic Information System (GIS) database and application (continuous task)	4.1. Further update and improve the existing GIS database, including technical specifications of the transport infrastructure and related facilities (border crossing, priority projects and their implementation status, investment plans) based on country contributions.	Subject to available funding and quality of information update and improve the web based GIS database application.	✓	✓	✓
5. Project results are disseminated	5.1 Reporting and disseminating project results, recommendations and long-term strategies based on lessons learned.	Ensure political commitment, support, and disseminate information through the organization under UNECE auspices of a Ministerial conference to promote results, share best practices and experience, and ensure sustainability of the work.		✓	



Proposed decisions

1. Request WP.5, and through it, the ITC to **approve the extension of the EATL Group of Experts for 2 more years** with possibility of further extension in order to allow the group to **continue its work in a new EATL Phase III**;
2. **Thank the Government of the Russian Federation for funding the EATL** work throughout the whole Phase II of the project and for its readiness to continue funding it beyond 2010.
3. **Seek political support** and commitment from participating governments for the continuation of the EATL work in a new Phase III **through the organization of a meeting of Ministers of Transport of EATL countries**, and invite UNECE secretariat **to organize it in 2012 in one EATL member country** that would be ready to host and support it.
4. **Thank OSCE for its generous support** and co-funding some of the activities of the project in the course of the last two years, and **invite it to consider continuing and further strengthening its support in future**, in close cooperation with UNECE secretariat.



Proposed decisions (cont'd)

5. **Invite the Steering Committees of the TEM and TER Projects** and UNECE secretariat to explore practical ways **ensuring operational interaction of the TEM and TER Projects with EATL** for developing joint activities, elaborating studies and organizing joint events and initiatives aimed at promoting common objectives, for the benefit of the projects and their member counties.
6. **Invite governments, international governmental and non-governmental organization, IFIs, businesses and donors to consider co-funding future project activities.**
7. **Invite UNESCAP secretariat to take an active role in future work of the Expert Group in close cooperation with UNECE secretariat.**



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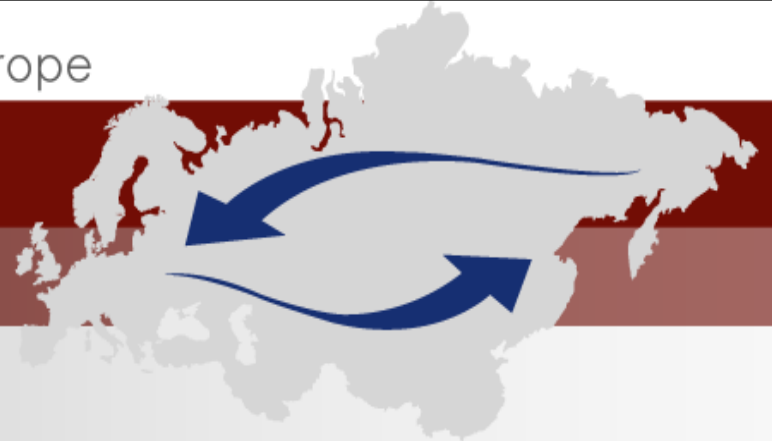


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EATL Phase III?