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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Seventy-fifth session

Geneva, 26–28 February 2013

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Ministerial meeting “Making the Euro-Asian Transport Network Operational”

75th session of the Inland Transport Committee

Meeting of Ministers of Transport of countries in the Euro-Asian Region

26 February 2013 (10.00–13.00 hours)
Geneva, Palais des Nations, Salle XVII

Draft programme

The session will be moderated by Ms. Claire Doole, former BBC correspondent

- 09.00-10.00 Welcome Coffee – courtesy of OSCE and the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to OSCE
- 10.00-10.20 Opening addresses
- Mr. Sven Alkalaj**, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Secretary of the UNECE
- Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- Mr. Sergey Aristov**, State Secretary, Deputy Minister of Transport, Russian Federation
- Mr. Alexey Stukalo**, Deputy Co-ordinator/Head, Economic Activities, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), OSCE Secretariat

- 10.20-10.45 Key-note speeches enriched by true experience about travelling on cargo trains and on a truck caravan through the Euro-Asian Transport Linkages (EATL) region
- Development of Euro-Asian transport links in the context of creating Unified Railway Law – **Mr. Vladimir Yakunin**, president of JSC “Russian Railways”, president of the International Union of Railways (UIC)
- Euro-Asia rail transport connections: what you can experience when travelling with a cargo train – **Mr. Jean-Pierre Loubinoux**, Director General of the International Union of Railways (UIC)
- Euro-Asia road transport connections: from the cock-pit of the truck driver to strategic challenges - **Mr. Umberto de Pretto**, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Road Transport Union (IRU)
- 10.45-10.50 EATL results and progress towards unified railway law - **Dr. Eva Molnar**, Director of the Transport Division, UNECE
- 10.50-12.35 Policy statements and debate by **Ministers and heads of delegations**
- Euro-Asia Transport Linkages:** reflections on the EATL results and exchange of information on best practices and challenges with regard to transport investments, as well as transport and border crossing facilitation along the priority Euro-Asian inland transport routes
- Unified railway law:** reflections on the results of the work towards unified railway law and exchange of information on railway development – reforms, investments, border crossing facilitation – in the UNECE and the EATL countries
- 12.35-12.50 **Signing ceremony** of the:
- (a) Joint Statement on Future Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links
- (b) Joint Declaration on the promotion of Euro-Asian rail transport and activities towards unified railway law
- 12.50-13.00 Family photo
- 13.00-13.15 Ceremonial Opening of the Photo Exhibition “Transport in Motion” and handing over the awards for the three winning photos
- Master of Ceremony: **Mr. David Chikvaidze**, President of the UNOG Cultural Commission
- Place: Bar Serpent, in front of the conference room
- 13.15-14.30 Cocktail – courtesy of the Office of the Suisse Federal Office of Transport
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