



SPECA Workshop on Road Transport and Road Safety Statistics

Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

8-9 September 2016

CONCLUSIONS

Having in mind that:

- At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030; and that a review mechanism for the implementation of the SDG's will require a solid framework of indicators and statistical data to monitor progress, shape policies and ensure accountability of all stakeholders.
- The 20th SPECA Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossings (PWG-TBC) held in Almaty in September 2015 discussed the possibility to make better use of the transport data and information accumulated over years in the framework of SPECA PWG TBC activities, and welcomed further capacity building projects/workshops on transport statistics for the SPECA region.
- The UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) considered the possibility of establishing a workshop with the aim of improving transport statistics capacity in individual countries and facilitating the participation of member States in data collection through the Web Common Questionnaire (WebCoQ).
- In the SPECA and East Europe region, UNECE organized capacity-building workshops on transport statistics in Baku (Azerbaijan, December 2011), Almaty (Kazakhstan, April 2011) and Kiev (Ukraine, November 2012) to provide technical assistance to countries of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South Caucasus.

During two days, the Workshop Participants presented national best practice in gathering reliable and comprehensive road transport and road safety statistics, and UN secretariats presented the methodology for gathering Road Transport and Road Safety Statistics, explained the global importance of reliable transport statistics in the light of SDG's implementation and how to use the Web Common Questionnaire and presented activities for improving road safety. The Workshop Participants agreed that the capacity building workshop, under the SPECA Thematic Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity (TWG-STTC) umbrella, strengthened the capacities of SPECA and East-European countries on how to gather relevant statistics and make this information available to decision-makers, the road

transport community and the general public. The workshop participants thanked the Ministry of Motor Transport of Turkmenistan for kindly hosting this event.

Furthermore, the Workshop Participants agreed that:

- SPECA Road Transport and Road Safety Statistics workshop should be considered as a first step in improving the availability of transport statistics across the SPECA region, and support to the SPECA member countries and SPECA TWG-STTC in setting-up initial prerequisites for relevant SDG's implementation
- Knowing the importance of robust and reliable transport statistics for monitoring the SDG's and current transport statistics availability, give full support to further SPECA TWG-STTC activities related to regional cooperation in collecting and dissemination of transport statistics related to SDG's implementation,
- Valuable results of data collection activities undertaken by the Research Institute of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan (NIITK) in the framework the SPECA TWG-STTC cooperation should be explored and serve as a starting point for the assessment and further analysis of transport statistics in the SPECA region,
- A pilot study could be undertaken in a SPECA country and under the SPECA TWG-STTC umbrella to review the transport statistics gathering process, identifying the strengths as example, and weaknesses of the current process and identifying improvements that can be made, where necessary. Initially this study would focus on the gathering of road transport related statistics in order to support process of monitoring of SDG's implementation. SPECA member countries are invited to consider the possibility of piloting this study in their country.
- Based on the results of this study, SPECA member countries will consider the best options to review transport statistics in their countries.
- Further, targeted, technical assistance could be commissioned by respective bodies to facilitate the gathering of transport statistics and facilitate implementation of transport related SDG's.
- Recognizing the importance of statistics dissemination, SPECA member countries would work in the near future to input data into the Web Common Questionnaire and contact UNECE for further information and advice, where necessary.
- A follow-up meeting should be held under the SPECA TWG-STTC umbrella in 2018 in order to review progress in the implementation of the Workshop recommendations and assess any further actions going forward.