

**Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossing (PWG-TBC)**

14<sup>th</sup> session  
17-18 March 2009  
Almaty, Kazakhstan

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPECA TRANSPORT DATABASES,  
SUBREGIONAL PROJECT PROPOSALS OF COMMON INTEREST TO SPECA COUNTRIES,  
AND THE SPECA GUIDE FOR ROAD WAYSIDE FACILITIES**

(Note by the Research Institute of Transport and Communications (NIITK) Almaty,  
institute of technical support on SPECA issues to the Ministry of Transport and  
Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the lead SPECA country in the field of  
transport for Items 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 of the draft Agenda)

**Introduction**

1. The development of four SPECA transport databases (on road and rail routes of international importance, border-crossing and intermodal transport infrastructure) remains a prerequisite for monitoring of situation in the transport sector in the SPECA countries. At its 13th session, the Project Working Group confirmed the need for continued support by NIITK, as the institute of technical support to the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan on SPECA PWG-TBC, in the establishment of transport databases and requested SPECA countries, UNESCAP and UNECE to provide the missing information, these databases.
2. With regard to the promoting of subregional projects of common interest to SPECA countries, the Project Working Group at its 13th session expressed its appreciation to the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the submission, on behalf of SPECA PWG-TBC, of project proposals to donors for consideration of possible funding. The Project Working Group requested the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan to continue consultations with the donors on this issue.
3. With regard to the preparation and publication of the SPECA Guide on road wayside facilities, the Project Working Group at its 13th session approved the Draft Guide to road wayside facilities (Phase I - Kazakhstan), and noted the need for assistance in identifying the financial sources for its publication. The Project Working Group also requested the SPECA countries to provide to NIITK the information on the location of wayside facilities along the international road network of SPECA on a regular basis.
4. The Project Working Group noted the need for financial and other support to the Research Institute of Transport and Communications, both from the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan and other sources, along with ongoing advisory assistance from UNESCAP.

**I. Development of the SPECA PWG-TBC transport databases**

5. Since the 13th session of the Project Working Group, the Research Institute on Transport and Communications has received the following information for the development of the four transport databases for SPECA region:
  - (a) The Kyrgyz Republic provided necessary data for the databases of road and rail routes of international importance in the SPECA region
  - (b) The Ministry of Transport and Communications of Kazakhstan shared the information on Kazakhstan collected for the Asian Highway Database and in the framework of the UNESCAP

project on "Operationalization of International Intermodal Transport Corridors in North-East and Central Asia";

(c) UNESCAP shared information on SPECA countries collected under the framework of UNESCAP projects.

(d) NIITK has collected missing information on Kazakhstan for the database on intermodal transport infrastructure

6. Using the available information, NIITK further continued the development of the databases on road and rail routes of international importance in the SPECA region, the database on border crossing and the database on intermodal transport infrastructure in the SPECA region. The databases participants will be made available to the participant of the 14th session of the Project Working Group on CD-ROMs.

7. The missing information on the SPECA Transport Databases may be sent to the Ministry of Transport and Communications of RK (Ms. Zuhra Abisheva, Section Head, Department of Transport Policy and International Cooperation, MTC RK, tel.: +7 (7172) 24 20 97, fax: +7 (7172) 24 17 63, e-mail abisheva@mtc.gov.kz) and/or represented at the 15th session of the Group).

## **II. Subregional project proposals of common interest to SPECA countries**

8. The subregional project proposal on Transport routes from Central Asia/SPECA countries to port of Bandar Abbas, approved by the 11<sup>th</sup> session of SPECA PWG-TBC, was reviewed at the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ECO Regional Planning Council held in Tehran on 12-14 January 2009, which recommended the Council of Permanent representatives of ECO to consider using the ECO feasibility study fund for the project focusing on the Bandar-Abbas – Almaty route.

9. With regard to other project proposals, there has been no change in the status since the 13th session of SPECA.

## **III SPECA Guide on road wayside facilities**

10. With regard to the SPECA Guide on road wayside facilities (Phase I - Kazakhstan), the source of funding for its publication has not been identified yet. No additional information on the location of roadside facilities along the SPECA international road network has been received by the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Kazakhstan or NIITK from SPECA member countries.

## **IV. Issues for consideration**

11. At its 14th session, the PWG-TBC may wish to:

(a) Request the SPECA countries to review and change / amend, if necessary, the databases on road and rail routes of international importance in the SPECA region; on border crossing and on intermodal transport infrastructure in the SPECA region;

(b) Request UNECE and UNESCAP to provide data and information collected under the Euro-Asian transport links, Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other projects for updating of the SPECA transport databases;

(c) Request UNESCAP and UNECE to assist the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan in determining the source of financing for the publication of the Draft Guidelines SPECA roadside facilities (Phase I - Kazakhstan);

(d) Request SPECA countries to provide information on the location of road wayside service facilities along the international road network in the SPECA countries to NIITK on a regular basis for the preparation of the Guide on road wayside facilities for SPECA countries.

(e) Include into the Agenda of the 15th session of the Group the information by NIITK on its technical support activities to the SPECA PWG-TBC, including the development of SPECA database.