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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM)
Steering Committee
Fifty-ninth Session, 17, 18 and 21 June 2013, Warsaw, Poland

REPORT

PARTICIPATION

1. The 59th session of the TEM Steering Committee took place in Warsaw, Poland on 17, 18 and 21 June 2013. The representatives of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Turkey as well as the representative of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the TEM and TER Project Manager and the UNECE Consultant took part in the session. The list of participants is attached to this report as its Annex 1.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

- 2. The past Chairman of the Steering Committee, Mr. K. Nemec (Austria), opened the session and passed the floor to the representative of the host country.
- 3. Mr. Lukasz Skorupski, Director of the Office of the Director General of the General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways (GDDKiA) of Poland welcomed the participants and expressed his conviction that the session would meet full success.
- 4. Mr. H. Meelich, the TEM and TER Project Manager, extended his thanks to the GDDKiA and to Mr. Skorupski in person for the kind invitation to hold the session in Poland in the new building of its headquarters in Warsaw.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The agenda of the session, as adopted, is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6. Ms. C. Amarazeanu (Romania) and Ms. S. Mastilovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) were elected as Chairperson and Rapporteur of the session, respectively.

REPORT OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

- 7. Mr. H. Meelich presented his report on the development and achievements of the Project as well as about his own activities in the reporting period from the 58th session of the TEM Steering Committee held on 5 7 November 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 8. He informed the session about the results of the close co-operation with the UNECE, the 75th session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) of which he attended in February 2013, presenting there the report on the TEM and TER activities. The TEM PCO got also involved in the UNECE Public Consultation on the future deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems, since the TEM Project has been dealing with different aspects of ITS in the road sector for many years in the past. The TEM PCO, therefore, expressed its readiness to contribute to this goal by making available its experience and experts.
- 9. The TEM has been interested, too, in the UNECE project launched in 2011, to study the impacts of inland transport on climate change. Its involvement in this project has been also included to the TEM Programme of Work for 2013 as its item 4.4.5. The TEM Project is also participating in preparations for the UNECE WP.5 session to take place in Geneva on 9 11 September this year, to deal inter alia with the infrastructure financing and climate change. Furthermore, as the follow-up of the UNECE activity on hinterland connections to the seaports, the Project Manager actively participated in the meetings of the SETA project, aimed at facilitation of connections of Austria, Hungary and Slovakia to the northern Adriatic ports.
- 10. Regarding the co-operation with the OSCE, the Project Manager met its representatives in Vienna in December last year. At this meeting, the possibilities of widening the cooperation between the TEM and TER and OSCE were examined, including inter alia confidence building, border crossing activities and co-operation in the Black Sea region, focusing especially on the Black Sea Ring Road.
- 11. The Project Manager further recalled the decision of the 58th session of the Steering Committee regarding the TEM Co-operation Trust Fund Agreement for 2013 2016, which requested the UNECE to send its draft to the TEM National Coordinators of the participating countries, asking for their comments by the end of November 2012. Since no comments have been received from the member countries until the end of May 2013, the final version of the Agreement will be sent to all National Coordinators for information by the Project Manager immediately after the session.
- 12. Concluding his report, he reminded the National Coordinators that in accordance with the decision of the fifty-sixth session of the TEM Steering Committee held in Salzburg, Austria in October 2011, at which the TEM Master Plan Revision monitoring mechanism based on 4 templates was approved, the TEM PCO sent these templates, to which the results of the implementation of the TEM Revised Master Plan in the year 2012 have to be entered, to them with the kind request to return these templates filled in by e-

mail to the Project Manager by 30 June this year at the latest. The data contained in these templates will be made use of for the elaboration of the 2013 Progress report on the results of monitoring of the TEM and TER Master Plan Revision implementation in 2012. The Project Manager's report was endorsed by the session.

TEM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2012

- 13. Under the next item of the agenda, Mrs. M.-S. Fouvez, the UNECE representative, reported on the TEM financial status as of 1 January 2013. The total unencumbered fund balance and reserve as at the above date amounted to USD 304,710.
- 14. The Steering Committee approved the financial report and extended its thanks to the Project Manager for his able management of the project budget in 2012.

STATUS OF TEM TRUST FUND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2013

- 15. Mrs. M.-S. Fouvez informed the session that up to date 3 member countries (Lithuania, Bosnia an Herzegovina and Turkey) transferred their 2013 contributions to the Fund. The total funds available at the time of the session (including the programme support costs and operating reserve) represented USD 344,701.
- 16. Using this opportunity, she expressed her thanks to the countries which had already fulfilled their 2013 obligations towards the Fund and requested the remaining member countries to follow suit at their earliest convenience. On request of the National Coordinator of Croatia, Ms. K. Cop Bajde, she promised to resend to her the UNECE letter, asking for her country's TEM Trust Fund contribution for 2013.
- 17. Using this opportunity, she briefed the Committee on the two actual UN projects related to the climate change, of interest for the TEM Project. The first one is dealing with the climate change adaptation and best practices and examples to follow. The second one ForFITS (For Future Inland Transport Systems) is the global project aimed at measurement of CO₂ inland transport emissions. In its framework, two workshops will be held in the second half of this year, one probably in Montenegro, dealing with stakeholders' awareness raising and with the training the experts collecting and analyzing the respective data.

PCO LOCATION

18. Ms. A. Cybulska, the Polish National Coordinator, informed the session that at present there is no Polish staff in the TEM PCO in Warsaw. The Minister of Transport would send the official letter to the UNECE Executive Secretary informing him about his intention to close the PCO for economic and financial reasons. She expressed her view that the best solution may represent the joint TEM and TER PCO, which would reflect well the present situation of

having one manager for both projects and the tendency to hold more TEM and TER joint meetings.

ELECTION OF THE PROJECT MANAGER

- 19. The Austrian TEM National Coordinator, Mr. K. Nemec, submitted to the Steering Committee the official proposal of his country to make available Mr. Meelich as TEM Project Manager for the period 2014 2015. Taking into account the very good financial situation of the Project, the Committee should consider paying his fee from the TEM budget, as the Project Manager's costs cannot be covered by the Austrian Government. The proposal to elect Mr. Meelich as the Project Manager for this period was supported by the delegates of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Turkey.
- 20.Mr. Meelich, whose assignment in the TER Project would terminate on 31 December this year, expressed his readiness to move to Warsaw, trying to solve the problems of the PCO location, whilst taking into account the possibility of merging the TEM and TER Central Offices. The Steering Committee may elect the Project Manager, but the details of this appointment must be approved by the UN authorities in Geneva and New York.
- 21.Ms. M.-S. Fouvez thanked Mr. Nemec for the proposal, but expressed the opinion that the election of the Project Manager at this session was premature and should take place at the next session of the Committee. In the meantime she promised to study the proposal including its respective financial and legal aspects and discuss them within the UNECE as well as with the Project Manager and Austrian and Polish National Coordinators. The final proposal, including the financial implications to be reflected in the Project's cost plan for 2014, will be submitted to the 60th session of the TEM Steering Committee to be held in Austria in October this year. In this context, she also requested the National Coordinators to study the documents related to the future of the TEM and TER Projects, examined at the 75th session of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) in February this year and in the future, set up closer relationships with the respective national representatives in the UNECE ITC and SC.1 bodies.
- 22. The Polish National Coordinator, Ms. A. Cybulska, drew the attention of the participants to the fact that for the successful continuation of the TEM, apart from the solution of the problems of the Project Manager and the PCO, also the clear and added value results, corresponding to the needs of the countries, would be needed.
- 23. The Steering Committee expressed unanimous support for the Austrian proposal to elect Mr. Meelich as TEM Project Manager for the period 2014 2015 and requested the UNECE to work in close collaboration with the Austrian and Polish National Coordinators in particular on the financial and legal implications of the scenarios to be proposed at the next session of the Committee. At the same time, the Committee took the decision to elect the Project Manager for the above period at its 60th session.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 24. The next session of the Steering Committee will be held together with the 4th Meeting of the Joint TEM and TER Rail and Road/Motorway Expert Group in Bad Gastein, Austria between 7 and 11 October 2013.
- 25. The Croatian National Coordinator, Ms. K. Cop Bajde, presented the proposal that some additional activities such as transport strategies, strategic environmental impact assessment and urban mobility should be considered by the TEM project and possibly included in its Programme of Work for the years to come. The Austrian National Coordinator, Mr. K. Nemec suggested to add to their list also the conflicts' solution item.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

- 26. The report of the session was adopted.
- 27. The Steering Committee addressed its thanks to the Polish Government and to the General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways in Warsaw for their kind decision to host the session and expressed also its gratitude to Ms. A. Cybulska, Head of the Polish organizing team as well as to the Chairperson and Rapporteur, all of whom greatly contributed to the success of the session.

Annexes: 2

AGENDA

TEM Steering Committee, Fifty-ninth Session

Monday, 17 June 2013 Afternoon Session

17:00 – 19:00 Meeting Point: Hotel IBIS/ Stare Miasto (Old Town)

- 1. Opening of the Session
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda
- 3. Election of Officers

Tuesday, 18 June 2013 Morning Session

10:00 – 12:30 Venue: GDDKiA Central Office, Warsaw, ul. Wronia 53

- 4. Report of the Project Manager
- 5. TEM Financial Report for 2012
- 6. Status of TEM Trust Fund Contributions for 2013
- 7. PCO Location and Staff Situation
- 8. Election of the Project Manager
- 9. Other Business

Tuesday, 18 June 2013 Afternoon Session 14:00 – 18:00

TECHNICAL EXCURSION

Soutern bypass of Warsaw (under construction)

Friday, 21 June 2013 Morning Session

9:00 – 12:00 Venue: GDDKiA Central Office, Warsaw, ul. Wronia 53

- 10. Adoption of the Report
- 11. Close of the Session