



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics****Sixty-fourth session**

Geneva, 20–22 October 2021

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

European Agreement on Important International**Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations:****Amendment proposal****Proposal for amending the annexes I and II of the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations****Submitted by Georgia****I. Background/explanation**

1. Railway infrastructure on the territory of Georgia, including the new Kars-Akhalkalaki railway line, which has been put into operation in a test mode, is to serve as an important railway transit line between Europe and Asia. In addition, several other railway projects have been implemented on the territory of Georgia recently, which have significantly improved Georgia's railway infrastructure.
2. Accordingly, the inclusion of the line Kars-Akhalkalaki in the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) as well as other railway lines development will allow European and Asian carriers (freight forwarders) to take into consideration additional routing opportunities when organizing freight transportation between Europe and Asia or vice-versa.
3. In particular the line C-E 692 Kars-Tbilisi and C-E 60 Tbilisi-Baku railway is considered to be an integral part of the New Silk Road, the main purpose of which is to connect China and Central Asian countries with Turkey and the European countries. The starting point of the project is in Baku.
4. Based on all the above-mentioned, we consider it expedient to differentiate the C-E 692 between Tbilisi-Kars via Akhalkalaki from the line Tbilisi-Kars via Sadakhlo and Armenia.
5. We also wish to note that the crossing point Gantiadi remains closed due to earlier convention ban.

II. Proposed amendment

Annex I

Railway lines of importance for international combined transport:

(33) Turkey

To update the existing line as follows:

C-E 692 Cetinkaya – Erzurum – Kars– Dogu Kapi (– Akhuryan)

To include the following line:

C-E 690 Kars (– *Akhalkalaki*)

Countries concerned: Armenia, Georgia

(35) Armenia

To include the following line:

C-E 692 (Sadakhlo-) Ayrum-Gyumri-Akhuryan (-Dogu Kapi)

Countries concerned: Georgia, Turkey

(37) Georgia

To include the following lines:

C-E 60 $\frac{\text{Batumi}}{\text{Poti}}$ – Tbilisi – Gardabani (– *Beyuk-Kyasik*)

C-E 690 (Kars –) *Akhalkalaki* – Tbilisi

C-E 692 (Aurum –) Sadakhlo – Tbilisi

Countries concerned: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey

C-E 99 (*Veseloe* –) *Gantiadi* – Poti

Countries concerned: Russian Federation

Annex II

Installations important for international combined transport:

A. Terminals of importance for international combined transport

To add the following four terminal(s) under Georgia:

Poti

Batumi

Tbilisi – Junction

Akhalkalaki

B. Border crossing points of importance for international combined transport

To modify the following border crossing point(s):

Gardabani (JSC Georgian Railway) - Beyuk –Kyasik (Azerbaijan Railways CJSC)

Sadakhlo (JSC Georgian Railway) – Aurum (CJSC South Caucasus Railway)

Gantiadi (JSC Georgian Railway) – Veseloe (RZD)

To add the following border crossing point(s):

Poti Port (JSC Georgian Railway) – Chornomorsk Sea Port (UZ)

Batumi Port (JSC Georgian Railway) – Chornomorsk Sea Port (UZ)

Poti Port (JSC Georgian Railway) – Port of Varna (BDZ)

Batumi Port (JSC Georgian Railway) – Port of Varna (BDZ)

Poti Port (JSC Georgian Railway) – Port Kavkaz (RZD)

To replace the border crossing point *Kars (TCDD) – Akhalkalaki (GR)* with *Kartsakhi (JSC Georgian Railway) – Canbaz (TCDD)*

A. Gauge interchange stations of importance for international combined transport

To add the following gauge interchange station(s):

Stations between railway systems with different rail gauges	Countries concerned	Interchange technique applied	
		Change of wagon axles/bogies	Transshipment of loading units by crane/other handling equipment
Akhalkalaki***	Georgia – Republic of Turkey	X	X

B. Ferry links/ports forming part of the international combined transport network

To add the following ferry link(s)/port(s):

Poti – Chornomorsk (Georgia – Ukraine)

Batumi – Chornomorsk (Georgia – Ukraine)

Poti – Kavkaz (Georgia – Russian Federation)