



Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia

UNECE-ECO Coordination Committee on the Trans-Caspian and Almaty-Istanbul Corridors

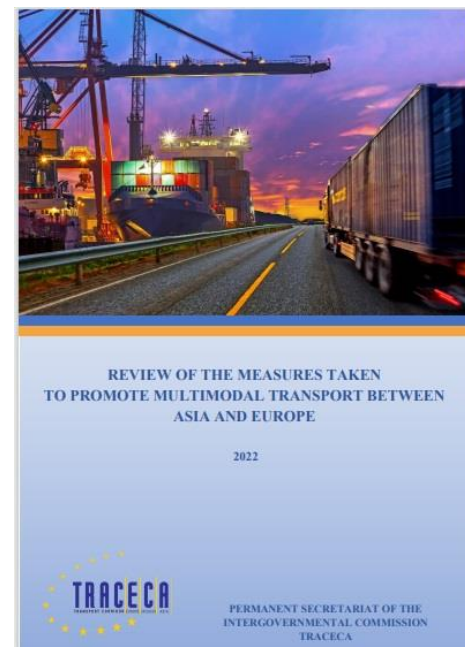


UNECE Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
Geneva, 4-6 September 2023

On multimodal transport

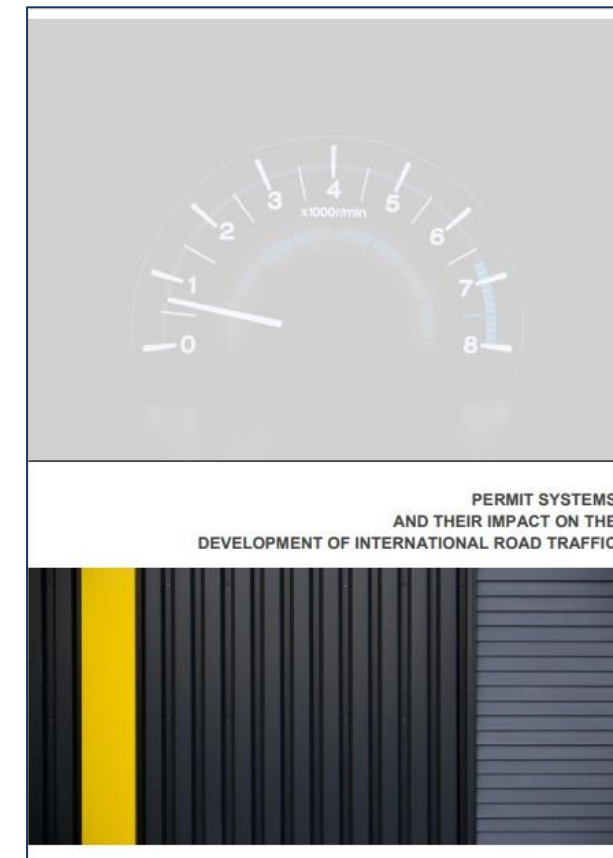
OVERVIEW “MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT LEGAL FRAMEWORK”

Has been prepared in order to provide a basic understanding of the legal systems applicable to multimodal transport and to multimodal transport operators, briefly highlight the obligations and rules governing the activities of multimodal transport operators, and analyze existing legislative framework of the TRACECA countries.

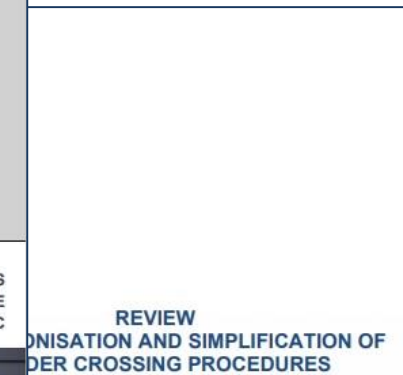


REVIEW OF THE MEASURES TAKEN TO PROMOTE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT

This Review examines in more detail the experience of countries (including TRACECA countries) in stimulating multimodal transport at the state level and the results from its application with a view to implementing the provisions of the Concept for the development of container transport until 2030



Permit Systems and their impact on the development of international road traffic



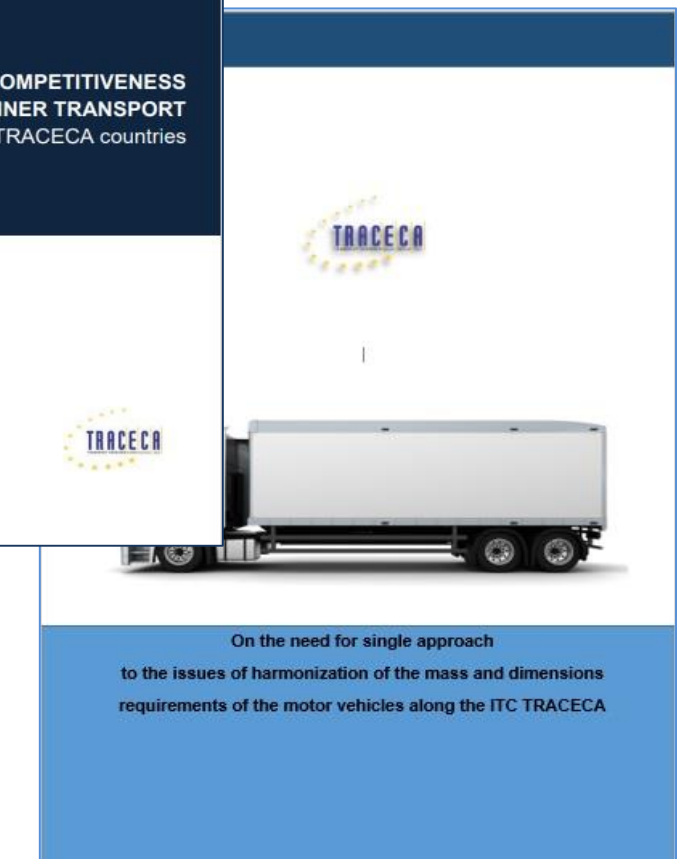
On the need for single approach to the issues of harmonization of the mass and dimensions requirements of the motor vehicles along the ITC TRACECA



Review of harmonization and simplification of border crossing procedures



On the competitiveness of container transport on TRACECA countries



On the need for single approach to the issues of harmonization of the mass and dimensions requirements of the motor vehicles along the ITC TRACECA

Proposals to Increase Competitiveness of Multimodal Transport

Exempting road carriers from taxes and fees for use of infrastructure

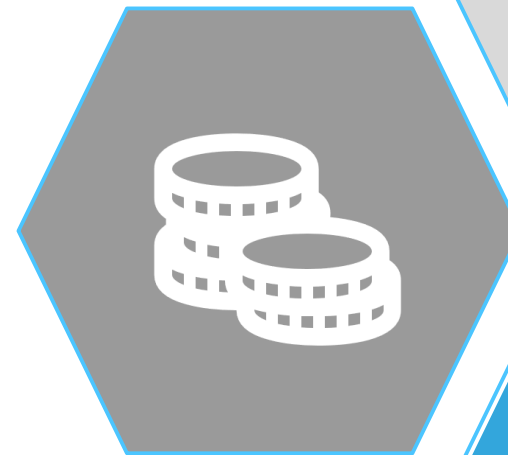


Separate support measures for new investments in infrastructure and facilities

For example, exemption from customs duties and value added tax on the import of equipment, provision of state in-kind grants in the form of land plots, buildings facilities, machinery, etc.



Implement measures concerning stimulation of exports by reimbursing part of the expenditure on transportation costs



Cancelling the inspection of transit containers regardless of the country of departure and destination

On the basis of a risk assessment by the customs authorities



Adopt government policies, providing for separate measures to stimulate multimodal transportation



Adoption of consolidated measures to set a competitive through tariff

It would be appropriate to accept unified rates for rail transportation and to reduce the cost of maritime sections



It is proposed to adopt a comprehensive package of measures with a view to achieving a through tariff for the multimodal transportation of one 40-foot standard container (FEU) along the TRACECA corridor in the size of 3 000 US dollars



Joint Workshops on Use of the CIM/SMGS Consignment Note on TRACECA railway routes

16 JUNE 2022

Session 1: General legal and technical requirements for use of CIM/SMGS consignment note

Session 2: Experiences and best practices in implementation of CIM/SMGS consignment note

Session 3: Readiness and constraints in selected TRACECA countries to use the CIM/SMGS consignment note (and application of electronic CIM/SMGS)

Session 4: Use of the CIM / SMGS consignment note in Customs transit

Session 5: Use of the CIM / SMGS consignment note in multimodal transport

Session 6: Open discussion on ways to address identified issues on use of the CIM/SMGS consignment note at participating TRACECA countries

18-19 JANUARY 2023

Session 1: Presentation on findings from the First workshop

Session 2: General legal and technical requirements for use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note

Session 3: Best practices in implementation of CIM/SMGS consignment note and experiences in digitalization and electronic information exchange

Session 4: Discussion on potential pilot projects regarding use of the electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note on selected TRACECA railway routes

22-23 MAY 2023

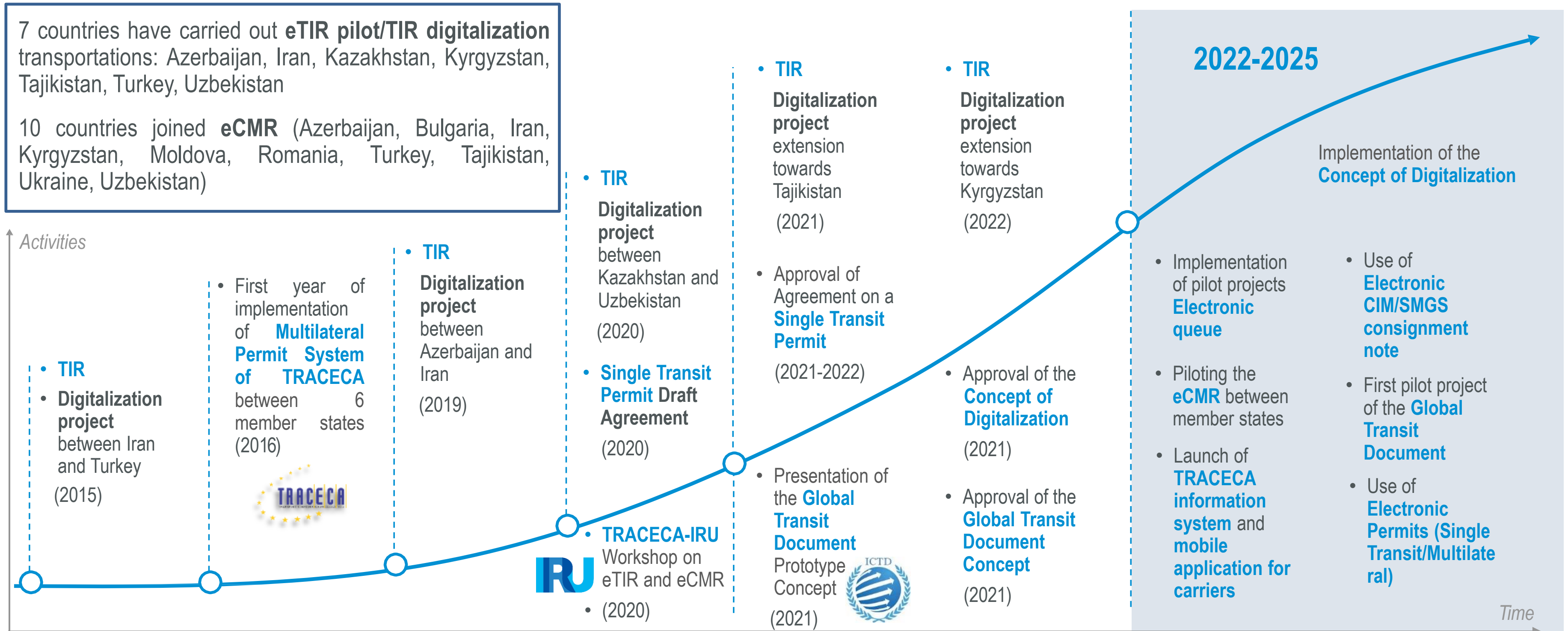
Session 2: Possible pilot implementation test project with TRACECA, e.g., on digitalization of the CIM/SMGS Consignment Note; with discussion among other on:

- the digitalization of a prototype consignment note, using the international standards,
- legal aspects of the pilot project
- MoU on the pilot implementation project

Within the framework of 14th International Capacity-Building Seminar on Trade and Transport Facilitation "TRADE FACILITATION AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF MULTIMODAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE BETWEEN EUROPE AND SPECA, USING UNITED NATIONS STANDARDS"

PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES TOWARDS DIGITALIZATION

The Permanent Secretariat is currently working on initiatives aiming to introduce digital solutions on transport



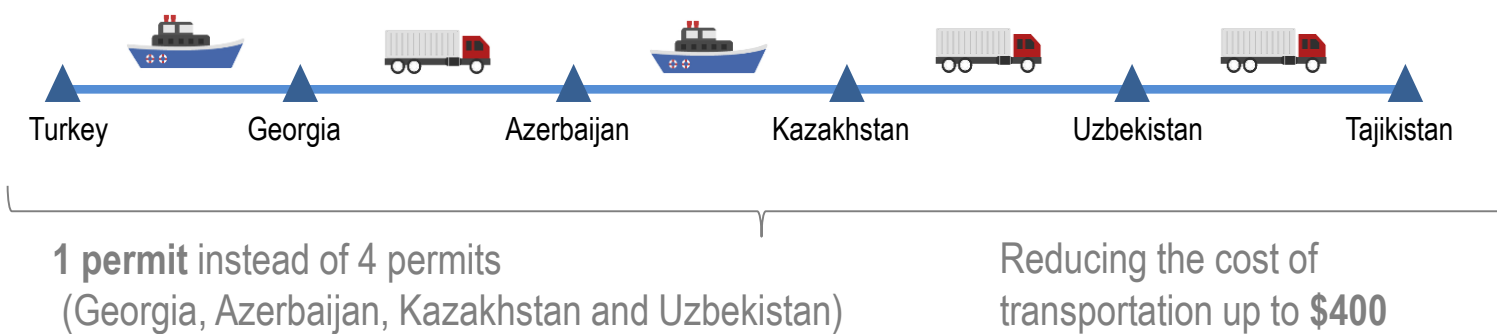
DIGITALIZATION OF TRANSPORT DOCUMENTS

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SINGLE TRANSIT PERMIT

Sample of the application of a Single Transit Permit

Example– transit transportation among the TRACECA countries



Objective

of the Agreement on a Single Transit Permit

- Reducing the number of permits for transit transportations;
- Reducing the cost of transportation;
- Simplification of the transport process between the TRACECA countries;
- Increasing the return loading when transporting cargo by ferry vessels;
- Optimization of procedures for obtaining a transit permit;
- Applications of digitalization elements;
- Exclusion of the application of paper permits;
- Growing interest of countries in acceding to TRACECA

MULTILATERAL PERMIT

- Applied since 2016
- Used in 6 countries: Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine
- Gives the right to carry out bilateral and transit transportations, as well as transportations to/from third countries



- The average percentage of use of multilateral permits among 5 countries is 97.8%, with the exception of Armenia, which did not use permit forms in 2020.

OTHER INITIATIVES

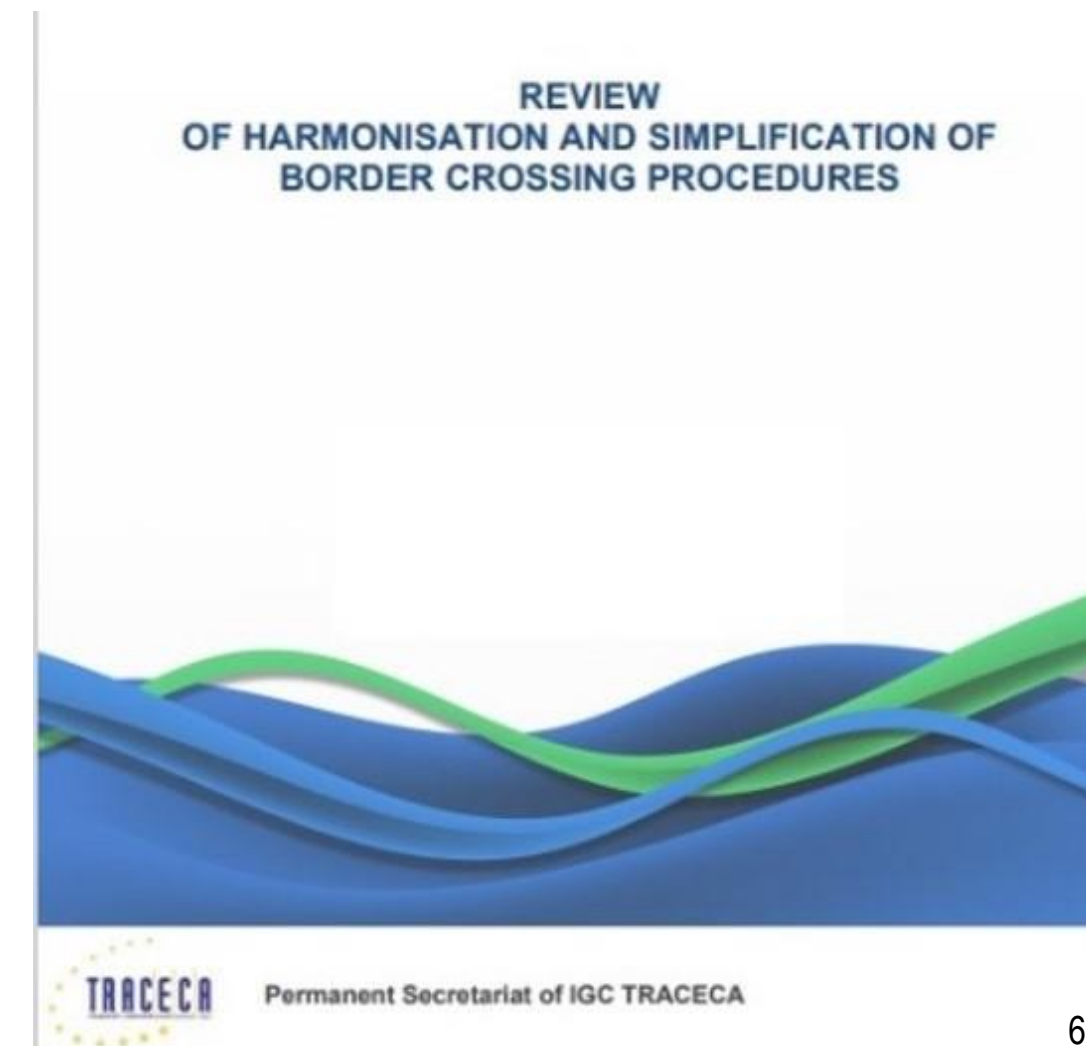
GLOBAL TRANSIT DOCUMENT

DIGITALIZATION OF MULTILATERAL PERMITS

ELECTRONIC QUEUES

ELECTRONIC CIM/SMGS

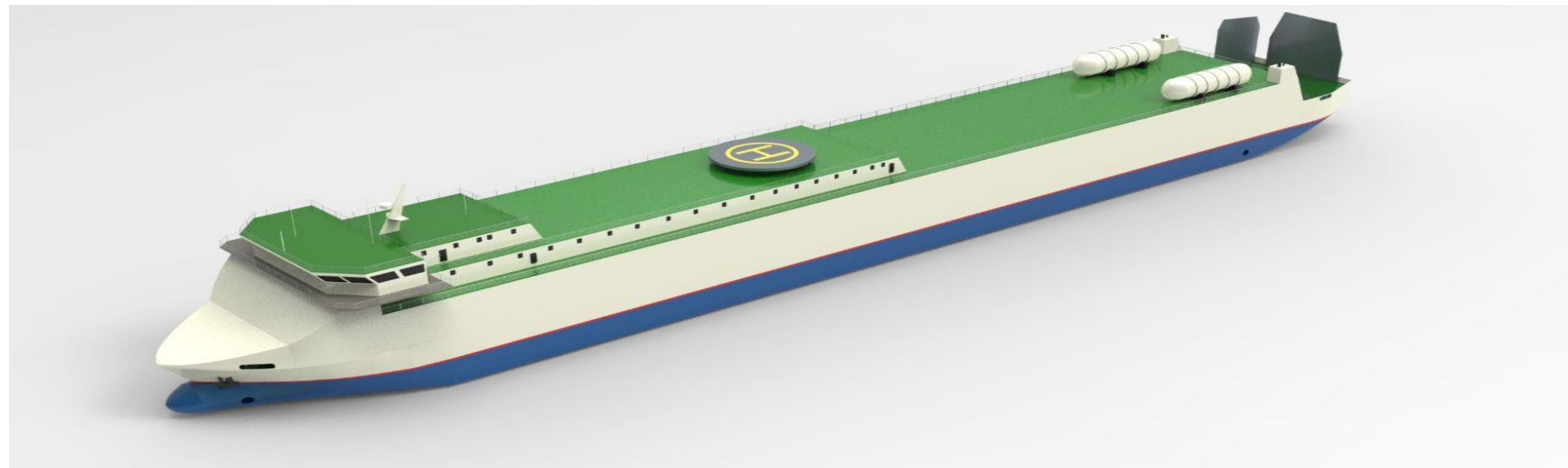
REVIEW OF HARMONISATION AND SIMPLIFICATION OF BORDER CROSSING PROCEDURES



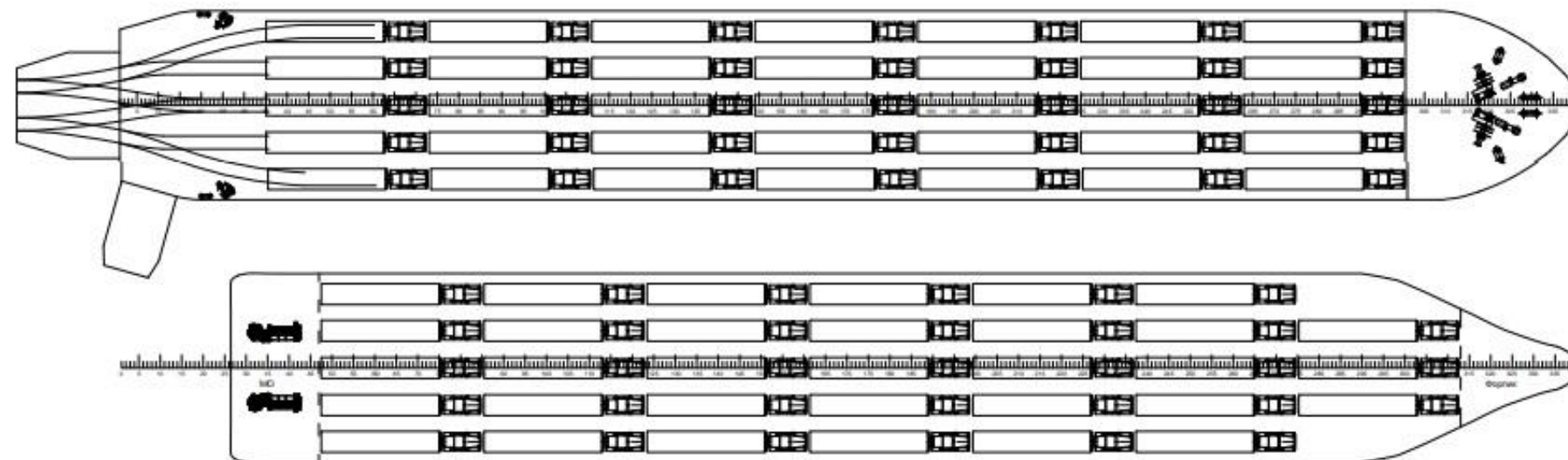
OTHER INITIATIVES

The concept of marine vessels for the Caspian Sea

The main goal is to develop maritime transport along the TRACECA corridor and reduce the cost of transportation.



The conceptual design of vessels' structures for maritime transport in the Caspian Sea



2 Virtual Workshops on customs issues along TRACECA routes



DG
TAXUD



Discussed issues:

- International Customs Transit Systems along TRACECA routes;
- Mechanisms for systematic information exchange among Customs;
- Potential organization of joint checkpoints at the borders;
- Special session for TRACECA member-states that are aspiring to access to the Convention on Common Transit,
- CAREC Advanced Transit System (CATS) and the and Information Common Exchange Pilot Project;
- Potential use of electronic queue systems at border crossings (existing experience/initiatives and TRACECA Electronic Queue System Guide).

DRAFT AGREEMENT ON VISA-FREE TRAVEL OF PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS

Professional drivers have the right to enter and short-term stay (not exceeding 15 calendar days) in the territory or transit through the territory of the Parties of the Agreement.



Simplification of Border Crossing Procedures

Virtual Workshops on customs issues along TRACECA routes (12 July, 2023)

2 Virtual Workshops on customs issues along TRACECA routes (2022)



DG
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Session 1: Digitalization of International Customs Transit Systems

Session 2: Potential for making TRACECA Agreement on Mutual Recognition of the Authorized Economic Operators (AEO)

Session 3: Recommendations on minimum requirements for the equipment of checkpoints

Conclusions and next steps

- o The workshop welcomed and supported discussion on digitalization of international Customs transit systems, mutual recognition of AEO programmes and recommendation on minimum requirements for equipment of checkpoints;
- o Specific Session 1, Session 2 and Session 3 conclusions are listed above in this Aid Memoire under each corresponding part;
- o Suggested topics for next Customs issues workshop to be organized in November 2023 include:
 - a) Implementation of eTIR System along TRACECA corridor
 - b) use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note as Customs transit declaration (existing practices for electronic interactions between Customs and railways and potentials for further digitalization;
 - c) systematic information exchange mechanisms between Customs authorities: potential use of SEED system along TRACECA corridor

Next workshop will be organized in November 2023.

DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINER TRANSPORT

In 2030, the maximum estimated volume will be 760 thousand TEU containers or 9 thousand container trains

Concept for the development of container transport in the TRACECA corridor countries up to 2030

This document describes the trends in trade relations between the countries of the TRACECA corridor, the forecast of foreign trade of the countries of Europe and Asia for the last 20 years (75 countries were selected), “bottlenecks” and recommendations for their elimination.

To achieve these indicators, the activities of the Permanent Secretariat is focusing on removing technical barriers and determining competitive tariffs for container transport along the TRACECA routes.

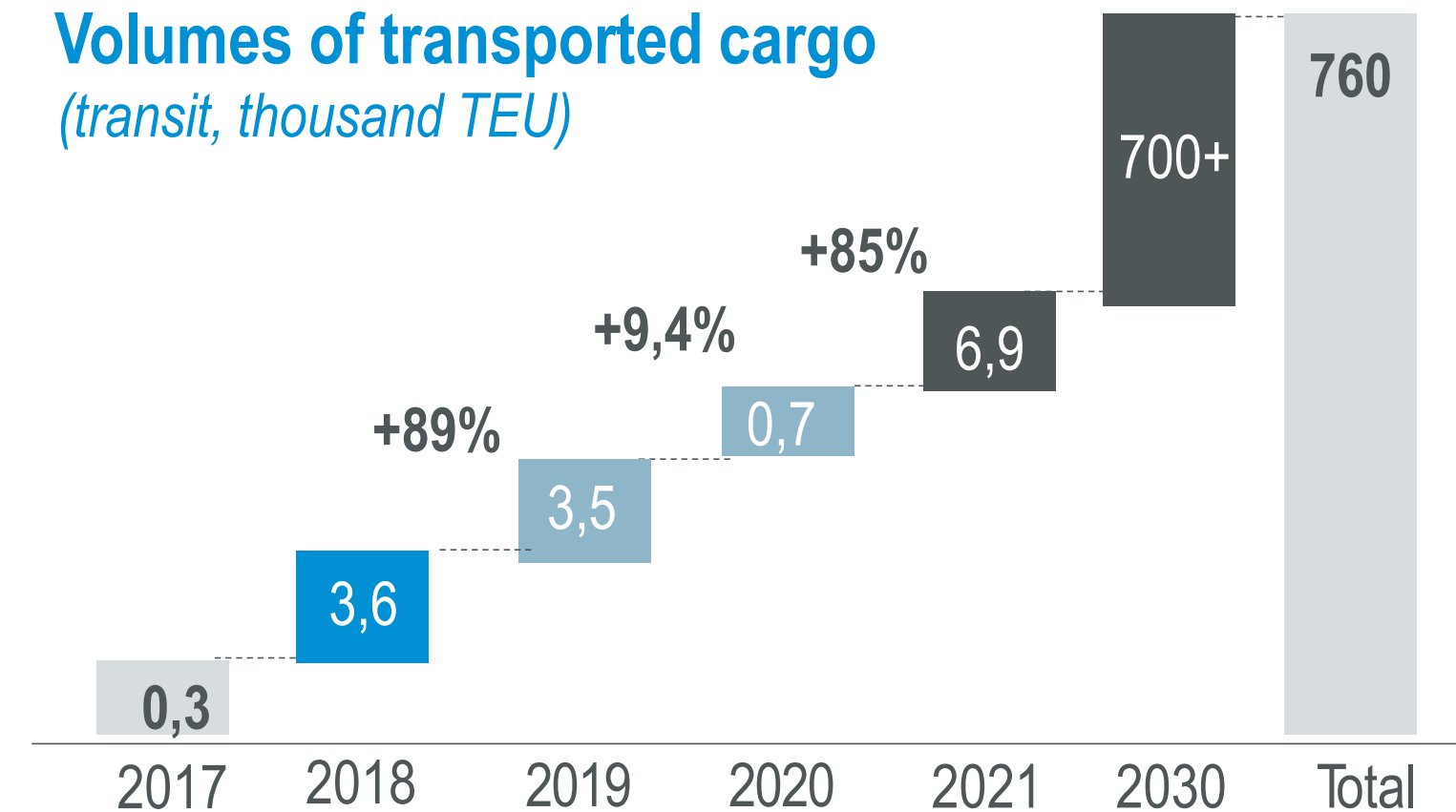
Cooperation with UIC

Involvement in Study on Silk Road Middle and Southern Corridors/TRACECA routes (conducted by UIC and Roland Berger) - identification of bottlenecks and needs for action

Development of common approaches to use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note along the corridor



Volumes of transported cargo (transit, thousand TEU)



TARIFFS

It is proposed to take measures to reduce tariffs in neighboring countries and to carry out the process of their determination and make them more transparent. This requires cooperation from governments and modern structures at the state level.



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