Strategic Vision of the Development of Transport between Europe and Asia: Perspectives from Asia

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The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
UNESCAP Transport and Tourism Division’s Areas of Focus

**Infrastructure:**
- Coordinated development of regional transport networks
- Intermodal transport

**Facilitation:**
- Removal of physical and non-physical barriers to international transport, through intergovernmental agreements and cooperation

**Other Transport Policy Issues:**
- Maritime forecasting model and port planning
- Public-private partnerships in transport investment
Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network

- Drew on experience of the UNECE’s European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR), 1975

- Agreement sets out:
  - AH network route alignment
  - Design standards
  - Signage
  - Negotiating procedures

- 26 countries signed in April 2004, with 3 definitive signatures (Agreement comes into force following accession by 8 countries)
Runs completed:
Tianjin Port – Ulaanbaatar: **3 days, 3 hours**
Lianyungang Port – Almaty: **7 days, 6.5 hours**
Belarus – Ulaanbaatar: **8 days, 15 hours**
Vostochny – Malacewicze: **12 days, 11 hours**

*Further runs planned for 2005*
Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network

- Draws on:
  - European Agreements, including AGC and AGTC (Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations)
  - OSJD Agreement on Organizational and Operational Aspects of Combined Transport Services between Europe and Asia (1997)

- Set routes and intermodal linkages
- Establish design standards
- Establish Working Group on TAR
Facilitation

- Shanghai Cooperation Agreement
  - China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan,
- Road Transport Facilitation/Access
- Main Agreement
- Eight protocols
- Open to neighbouring countries
Developing Euro-Asian Transport Linkages
UNECE/UNESCAP Joint Project

- International road, rail, water and intermodal links
- Main focus on improving land transport between Asia and Europe through Central Asia, Caucasus, Russian Federation, Iran, Turkey and eastern Europe
- 17 countries
- 2nd EGM scheduled for November 2004 in Odessa, Ukraine; Objectives are to:
  - Agree corridors/links
  - Identify priority investment requirements
  - Reduce delays and costs at border crossings
  - Promote collaboration with other organizations
Building Blocks for Euro-Asian Transport

- Asian Highway
- Trans-Asian Railway
- Facilitation
- Almaty Programme of Action

Integrated approach to Efficiency

- Government Leadership
- Trade/Transport Facilitation Committees
- Route specific task force/clusters
Thank you

For more information, please visit
http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/index.asp