Intermodal Transport between Europe and Asia
The role of the UNECE

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Intermodal Transport between Europe and Asia
The role of the UNECE

- Transport Infrastructure Development
- Border Crossing Facilitation
- Inter-regional Cooperation
Transport Infrastructure Development in the UNECE

- Transport Infrastructure Agreements
- Infrastructure Planning Tools
- TEM and TER Projects
- Euro-Asian Transport Links
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements (1)

• Intergovernmental Agreements
• Define the E networks
• Establish Infrastructure Parameters
• Set up a Numbering System
• Identify main E-W and N-S routes
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements (2)

• Legally binding, but no deadlines
• Contracting Parties commit themselves to implement them
• Up to date
  – Revised in the 90’s after the fall of Iron Curtain
  – Since 2000, extended to Caucasus, Central Asia
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements (3)

- AGR, for roads
- AGC, for rail lines
- AGTC, for combined/intermodal transport and related installations
- AGN, for inland waterways
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements: The AGR, of 1975

- 33 States Parties
- The E-road network, a visible reality
- Includes E roads in Caucasus and Central Asian countries
E-Road network in Caucasus and Central Asia
UNECE Transport Division
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements: The AGC, of 1983

- 24 States Parties
- The E-rail network
- Common infrastructure parameters, basis for interoperability
- Includes E rail lines in Caucasus and Central Asian countries
E-Rail network in Caucasus and Central Asia
UNECE Transport Division
UNECE Transport Infrastructure Agreements: The AGTC, of 1991

- 26 States Parties
- Legal framework for coherent development of infrastructure **and** performance standards
- Minimum infrastructure standards
- Minimum operational/performance standards
- Being extended to Caucasus, Central Asia
UNECE Transport Infrastructure
Agreements: The AGN, of 1996

• 13 States Parties
• The E-inland waterway network
E-inland waterway network
Infrastructure Planning Tools

• E-road Traffic Census every 5 years
• E-rail Traffic Census: first in 2005
• Guidelines for Transport Infrastructure Project Appraisal
  – Socio-Economic Cost Benefit Analysis, including safety, environmental, policy aspects
  – Based on EU, EBRD, EIB, WB, national best practices
E-road Traffic Census in 2000
Percentage of Heavy Goods Traffic
TEM and TER

- Sub-regional cooperation frameworks for developing E networks in E&SE Europe
- UN Trust Fund Cooperation Agreement
- Steering Committees, PCO’s
- Focusing on Corridor related activities
- TEM and TER Master Plan
TEM Network

TRANS-EUROPEAN NORTH-SOUTH MOTORWAY (TEM) NETWORK 2002

- TEM section in operation
- Approved TEM sections
- Section to be considered
- TEM Member Countries
Euro-Asian Transport Links

- AGR, AGC include Euro-Asian roads, rail
- UNECE-ESCAP: Strategic Vision / Project on Capacity Building in Developing EATL
- The Inland Transport Committee to adopt EATL as priority area
Border Crossing Facilitation (1)

Int. Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods

- Harmonization and reduction of formalities, controls
- National coordination, international cooperation of
  - Customs, Medico-Sanitary, Veterinary, Phyto-Sanitary, Compliance with technical standards,....
- Export, import and transit procedures, All modes
Border Crossing Facilitation (2)

Customs Convention on Containers

- Facilitation of temporary importation of containers in international transport
- No documentation or guarantee required
- Restriction on internal/domestic use
Border Crossing Facilitation (3)

Draft Convention on International Customs Transit Procedures for the Carriage of Goods by Rail under Cover of SMGS Consignment Notes

- SMGS Consignment acceptable as Customs document (declaration) in SMGS countries
- Facilitation of Customs control
Border Crossing Facilitation (4)

UNECE Resolution on SMGS Consignment Note

• Acceptance of SMGS Consignment Note as Customs document/declaration
• Temporary solution until entry into force of « Rail Customs Transit Convention »
Euro-Asian Cooperative Arrangements

UN Development Account Project

« Capacity Building for Developing Interregional Land and Land-cum-sea Transport Linkages »
UNDA Project on Capacity Building

Background

• Jointly implemented by the five UN Regional Commissions
• Funding under UN Development Account
• Budget: US$ 1,25 Mio (up to 2006)
• Euro-Asian transport links component: 32%
UNDA Project Euro-Asian Transport Links Component

Objectives

• Assist Member States of UNECE, ESCAP in strengthening national capacity to develop interregional transport linkages
• Promote cooperation to facilitate trade and tourism
• In close UNECE-ESCAP cooperation
UNECE–ESCAP Capacity Building Project Euro-Asian Transport Links: Countries involved

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
UNDA Project Euro-Asian Transport Links Component

• 1st Expert Group Meeting, Almaty, March 2004: Strategy for developing Euro-Asian transport links
  – Identification of main routes along the four main Euro-Asian Corridors agreed internationally
  – Addressing intermodal and border crossing aspects
  – Identification of priority projects along main routes

• 2nd Expert Group Meeting: Odessa, 3-5 November
Euro-Asian Land Transport Corridors


UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (UNECE)
Transport Division

24 November 2004
UNECE Transport Division
UNDA Project Euro-Asian Transport Links Component

To be done in 2005:

• Analysis of transport times and costs
• Strengthening implementation of main international agreements and conventions
• Strengthening national transport & trade boards
UNDA Project Euro-Asian Transport Links Component

To be done in 2006:

- Database with contact details of experts, institutions
- Creation and maintenance of Project website
- Organization of a workshop on Sharing of lessons
What’s next

- Extend the AGTC to Caucasus and Central Asia
- Implement other relevant UNECE Conventions to strengthen international harmonization, simplification of rules and procedures
- Strengthen ECMT-UNECE and ESCAP-UNECE cooperation
- Support UNDA Project on Capacity Building
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