

#### Second Expert Group Meeting on Documentation, Procedures and Information Technology for Rail-Based Intermodal Transport Services in Northeast and Central Asia

Incheon, Republic of Korea, 5-6 April 2017

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Second Expert Group Meeting on Documentation, Procedures and Information Technology for Rail-Based Intermodal Transport Services in Northeast and Central Asia was organized under the project on "Development of Seamless Intermodal Transport in Northeast and Central Asia for Enhancing Euro-Asian Transport Linkages" and held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 5-6 April 2017.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, the representatives of Korea Transport Institute, Korea Railroad Research Institute, KL-Net Corporation, Korea Rail Network Authority, JSC "NC "Kazakhstan Temir Zholy", Mongolian-Russian Joint-Venture Company "Ulaanbaatar Railway", JSC "Russian Railways", "Transcontainer Asia Pacific Ltd.", as well as by resource persons representing International Rail Transport Committee (CIT) and Coordinating Council on Trans-Siberian Transportation (CCTT). The list of participants and the programme of the Meeting are attached to this document (Annex 1 and 2).

3. The UNESCAP secretariat presented the report on documentation and procedures for railbased intermodal transport in Northeast and Central Asia developed under the captioned project, including the proposed unified multimodal transport document, with incorporation of comments submitted as agreed at the previous Expert Group Meeting held in Bangkok on 30-31 August 2016.

4. The Meeting noted that development of intermodal transport can enhance cooperation of different modes of transport in order to provide efficient logistical services to the clients and thus increase attractiveness of land transport linkages between Asia and Europe.

5. Participants of the Meeting agreed on the importance of a unified multimodal transport document as a means of increasing the efficiency of intermodal transport operations with railway element among their countries. The Meeting generally agreed on the proposed unified multimodal transport document as the central recommendation of the abovementioned study report and called upon the governments of the countries participating in the project to consider the possibility for its recognition by relevant control authorities as a document accompanying goods in the course of intermodal transportation with railway element.

6. The Meeting noted that at the initial stage the proposed multimodal transport document could be implemented in the pilot mode as an optional arrangement not implying amendments to the relevant laws of the countries concerned.

7. The secretariat also presented the draft study report on information technology for railbased intermodal transport in Northeast and Central Asia developed under the same project in collaboration with the Coordinating Council on Trans-Siberian Transportation (CCTT).

8. Having reviewed the above-mentioned report, the Meeting stressed the need to enhance paperless communication among transport companies and relevant government authorities of the countries participating in the project.

9. The Meeting expressed the opinion that enhancement of information interaction among the transport undertakings of different countries involved in intermodal transport operations could be achieved both by means of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

10. The Meeting agreed that additional information on current or prospective initiatives related to development of information systems for railway and intermodal transport in the participating countries would bring added value and should be provided to the UNESCAP secretariat by 15 June 2017 for its incorporation into the draft report on information technology.

11. The finalized study reports on documentation and procedures and on information technology will be presented at the subregional meeting on intermodal transport to be organized in September 2017.

12. The Meeting thanked the representatives of the participating countries, experts and resource persons for their valuable contribution to the deliberations of the Meeting.

13. Participants of the Meeting expressed their gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation for its generous financial support and to the UNESCAP secretariat for organizing the Meeting.

14. These conclusions and recommendations were adopted on 6 April 2017 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

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