



**Regional Meeting on Harmonization of Legal Instruments and Documentation for  
Cross-border and Transit Transport by Road**

16 – 17 December 2015  
Bangkok, Thailand

**CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The Regional Meeting on Harmonization of Legal Instruments and Documentation for Cross-border and Transit Transport by Road was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 16-17 December 2015.
2. The Meeting was attended by the participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Thailand and Viet Nam. List of participants and programme are attached as Annexes I and II.
3. The participants from all represented countries made presentations on legal instruments, documentation and formalities related to cross-border and transit transport operations by road in their respective countries.
4. The UNESCAP secretariat presented the proposed draft Model Subregional Agreement on Transport Facilitation and draft Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport elaborated on the basis of comparative studies under the UNESCAP Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation as guidelines for gradual harmonization of the provisions of subregional and bilateral agreements existing in the UNESCAP region.

5. The Meeting recognized the need for the model subregional and bilateral agreements and model permits for international road transport, including methodology for issuance and distribution.

6. The Meeting also recognized the importance of exchanging timely and transparently of transport-related information, for example, by establishing logistics information systems.

7. The Meeting proposed that the UNESCAP secretariat could become a repository with regards to transit transport and traffic rules, regulations, practices and requirements.

8. Following the discussion on the proposed draft Model Subregional Agreement on Transport Facilitation, the Meeting:

(i) noted that the model covers all major issues which should be reflected in a subregional agreement, its development is timely and relevant for the UNESCAP member countries;

(ii) recognized the model as a useful tool for gradual harmonization towards a regional transport facilitation agreement or as a template to follow while negotiating subregional agreements; and

(iii) proposed to submit the recommended draft Model Subregional Agreement on Transport Facilitation for adoption at the Ministerial Conference on Transport to be held in the fourth quarter of 2016.

9. The Meeting agreed on the importance and relevance of the proposed draft Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport, and, following the extensive discussion and comments on its details, proposed that the UNESCAP secretariat further refines the presented draft.

10. In this respect, the Meeting agreed upon the following:

(i) UNESCAP member countries will provide the UNESCAP secretariat with their written comments (if any) on the draft Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport by 31 January 2016;

(ii) the UNESCAP secretariat will accommodate the comments and will distribute the second draft Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport among UNESCAP member countries by 1 March 2016;

(iii) UNESCAP member countries will provide their further comments on the second draft (if any) by 31 March 2016;

(iv) the UNESCAP secretariat will organize an additional Regional Meeting to finalize and agree on the final draft Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport tentatively in the end of May 2016;

(v) once agreed by the additional Regional Meeting, the recommended Model Bilateral Agreement on International Road Transport will be submitted for adoption at the Ministerial Conference on Transport to be held in the fourth quarter of 2016.

12. The Meeting supported the development of the regional database of bilateral agreements on international road transport and agreed on the importance of providing the UNESCAP secretariat with the texts of the existing bilateral agreements.

13. The Meeting thanked the representatives of Governments and resource persons for their valuable contribution to the deliberations of the Meeting.

14. The participants of the Meeting expressed gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation for generous financial support and the UNESCAP secretariat for organizing the Meeting.

15. The conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Meeting on Harmonization of Legal Instruments and Documentation for Cross-border and Transit Transport by Road were adopted on 17 December 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.

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