

## **Second Meeting of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation**

25 – 26 March 2015  
Incheon, Republic of Korea

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The Second Meeting of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation was held at the ESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 25-26 March 2015.
2. The Meeting was attended by the participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand and Uzbekistan. The representatives from Asian Development Bank (ADB), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) secretariat, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) secretariat, International Road Transport Union (IRU), China Kunming Opening-Asia Transportation Logistics Research Institute, Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), Korea Transport Institute (KOTI) and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) also attended the Meeting. List of participants and programme are attached as Annexes I and II.
3. The participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Thailand made presentations on the current bilateral agreements on international road transport in their respective countries, relevant domestic legislation and status of their accession to international conventions.
4. The representatives of ADB, ASEAN secretariat, SCO secretariat, and IRU made presentations on the progress on the implementation of legal instruments on transport facilitation and main activities related to facilitation of international land transport.

5. The Meeting pointed out typical challenges and barriers in the implementation of many important transport facilitation measures under the existing bilateral agreements, and barriers related to practical operation of cross-border and transit road transport in the region.

6. The UNESCAP secretariat informed the Meeting on the current activities of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation and presented the outcomes of the comparative studies on the subregional agreements and the proposed model subregional agreement on the facilitation of international road transport.

7. The Meeting had an extensive discussion on the proposed model subregional agreement and: (i) in principle agreed with the proposed model agreement; (ii) recommended to use it as guideline for gradual harmonization towards a regional transport facilitation agreement or as a template to follow while negotiating subregional agreements; (iii) noted the possibility of its utilization by the secretariat for provision of technical assistance to member countries in negotiating agreements on transport facilitation; (iv) recommended the secretariat to undertake capacity building activities in member countries relevant to the proposed model agreement.

8. The Meeting supported publishing report on the summary of comparative studies on existing subregional agreements, including the proposed model subregional agreement, in 2015.

9. The Meeting was also informed on the Transport Facilitation Newsletter and on the outcome of the surveys on main barriers for transport operations disseminated by the secretariat among the members of the Regional Network

10. The Meeting reviewed proposals on the work programme of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation for 2015, future activities and work arrangements.

11. The Meeting agreed that the activities of the Regional Network in 2015 should be focused on the comparative studies on the bilateral agreements on international road transport with a view to develop a model bilateral agreement on international road transport and creation of a database of the currently available bilateral agreements.

12. The Meeting agreed on the importance of providing the secretariat with the texts of the existing bilateral agreements. Some delegations shared with the secretariat the template of bilateral agreements on international road transport utilized in their countries.

13. The Meeting discussed the issues related to the status of members of the Regional Network and requested the secretariat to issue certificates of membership to all the current members of the Regional Network.

14. The Meeting welcomed the proposal on involvement of all relevant experts and related authorities into the relevant activities of the Regional Network.

15. The Meeting requested the UNESCAP secretariat to continue providing secretarial support to the activities of the Regional Network.

16. 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.

17. The conclusions and recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation were adopted on 26 March 2015 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

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