

**“OSCE-UNECE Handbook
on Best Practices at Border Crossings:
A trade and transport facilitation perspective”**

**Presentation by
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**OSCE-UNECE Group of Experts meeting on Euro-Asian Transport Links
Almaty, 7 July 2011**



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Outline of the presentation

- OSCE transport mandate and activities
- Handbook: history, purpose/scope, planned follow-up, outline of chapters

OSCE transport mandate



Ministerial Council Decision on Future Transport Dialogue in the OSCE (2006)

- **Building partnerships** between countries and relevant organizations
- Assisting **Landlocked Developing Countries** to address their unique transit transportation challenges
- Supporting relevant **international legal instruments**
- Promoting **good governance** and **public private partnerships**
- **Dissemination** and **implementation** of **best practices** and **standards**
- **Providing political support** to **EATL, TEM-TER** projects



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Examples of OSCE involvement

- **Regional & national capacity-building/awareness raising activities** on the UNECE Harmonization Convention, WCO SAFE Framework of Standards and Revised Kyoto Convention: Moscow, Belgrade (2006), Almaty, Tbilisi, Kyiv (2007), Astana, Balkanabat, Ashgabat, Tashkent (2009), Skopje (2011)
- EATL, TEM & TER Meetings: Tashkent, Turkmenbashy (2010), Almaty (2011)
- Conference on Transit Transportation through Central Asia Dushanbe, October 2007

OSCE/UNECE Handbook of Best Practices at Borders (under preparation)

Handbook on Best Practices at Border Crossings



GOAL:

- To support OSCE countries in their efforts to make their border crossing practices more efficient, taking into account **trade and transport facilitation** as well as **security aspects**
- To become a **reference document** for national policy makers and **senior customs, border guard and transport officials** when drafting and implementing their border and transit transport facilitation policies

Handbook on Best Practices at Border Crossings

GOAL (more in particular):

- To support drafting of border management and transit policies
- Better balancing security with trade facilitation
- Highlight concrete and practical examples from across the region
- Foster further dialogue on these issues among OSCE participating States / UNECE members



Handbook on Best Practices at Border Crossings



RATIONALE & SCOPE:

- Main focus will be on **policy processes** preceding the occurrence of a ‘best practice’ at the border
- **EU-CIS as well as intra-CIS borders:** Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia but also beyond
- Focus on **inland border crossings** (road and railways) as well **sea ports**

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PREPARATIONS:

- Inception, project idea September 2008, consolidation of OSCE efforts in the field of transport, border crossing facilitation
- Two sub-regional “**stakeholders meetings**” involving the Customs/Border Guard and transport authorities were held in October 2008 in Minsk and Bishkek
- Border assessment visits were held: Brest-Koroszcyn and Ak-Jol/Korday borders

Brest-Koroszcyn assessment visit



Brest-Koroszcyn cargo border crossing



Ak-Jol-Korday border crossing



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PREPARATIONS:

- In co-ordination with UNECE agreement was reached on the **Table of Contents/substantial scope**
- A team of **international experts** was recruited
- **Identification of best practices, policy analysis, research and drafting process started in the course of 2009.** Currently in the final stage: lay-out, design, printing, translation into Russian

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ROAD AHEAD:

- High-level **launch, awareness raising and promotional activities** are foreseen in the autumn/winter of 2011
- A **regional in-depth training seminar** (technical level) is foreseen at the **OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe**
- Upon request, **national tailor-made seminars** can be organized on specific aspects of the publication

Handbook on Best Practices at Border Crossings

Table of Content:

- **Chapter 1:** “Trade and Customs International Legal Framework”
- **Chapter 2:** “Domestic Co-ordination to International Co-operation”
- **Chapter 3:** “Striking a balance between security and trade facilitation, private industry partnerships”
- **Chapter 4:** “Processing of freight: control, clearance and transit policies”

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Table of Content:

- **Chapter 5:** Risk Management and Selectivity
- **Chapter 6:** Border Crossing Point Design Options
- **Chapter 7:** Information technology and equipment
- **Chapter 8:** Human Resources Management
- **Chapter 9:** Public financial management
- **Chapter 10:** Performance indicators and benchmarking
- ***Annex 1-2:*** Definitions and role of IOs/IFIs

osce.org/eea - a great resource

The screenshot shows the homepage of the OSCE Secretariat - Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. The browser address bar shows <http://www.osce.org/eea/>. The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, Resources, Press centre, Contacts, and Sitemap. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Homepage:** Includes a search bar and a list of navigation links: About, Overview, History, Co-ordinator, Mandate, Press information, Contacts, and Activities. The Activities section is further divided into Economic activities, Environmental activities, Economic and Environmental Forum, Migration, Transport, Energy security dialogue, Combating money laundering, and Good governance and fighting corruption.
- About:** A paragraph states: "As part of its comprehensive approach to security, the OSCE is concerned with economic and environmental matters, recognizing that co-operation in these areas can contribute to peace, prosperity and stability."
- Press releases:** A featured press release titled "OSCE-supported seminar focuses on challenges faced by female migrant workers" is dated 14 September 2010. It describes a seminar in Astana, Astana, 14 September 2010 - Raising awareness of the challenges faced by female migrant workers in the OSCE region and the need for more appropriate policy responses, is the focus of an OSCE-supported training seminar which started in Astana today... Below this is a link for "More press releases".
- Features:** A section titled "Features" is partially visible at the bottom.
- Media:** A photograph of Goran Svilanovic, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, speaking at a conference. The background of the photo includes the Aarhus Convention logo and text: "AARHUSKONFERENCIJA ZA IMPLEMENTACIJU KONVENCIJE O PROMETU LJUDIMA I KONVENCIJE O PROMETU LJUDIMA".
- Publications:** A list of publications is shown, including "Aarhus Centres Guidelines", "Guide on Gender-Sensitive Labour Migration Policies", "Gender and Labour Migration Trainer's Manual", and "Activity report of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, June 2008 - May 2009".

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, the active window "Secretariat - Office of th...", a local intranet icon, a zoom level of 100%, and the system clock showing 17:53.

Thank you for your attention!

Questions, suggestions, feed-back?

- OSCE Secretariat/OCEEA – Project Management:

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