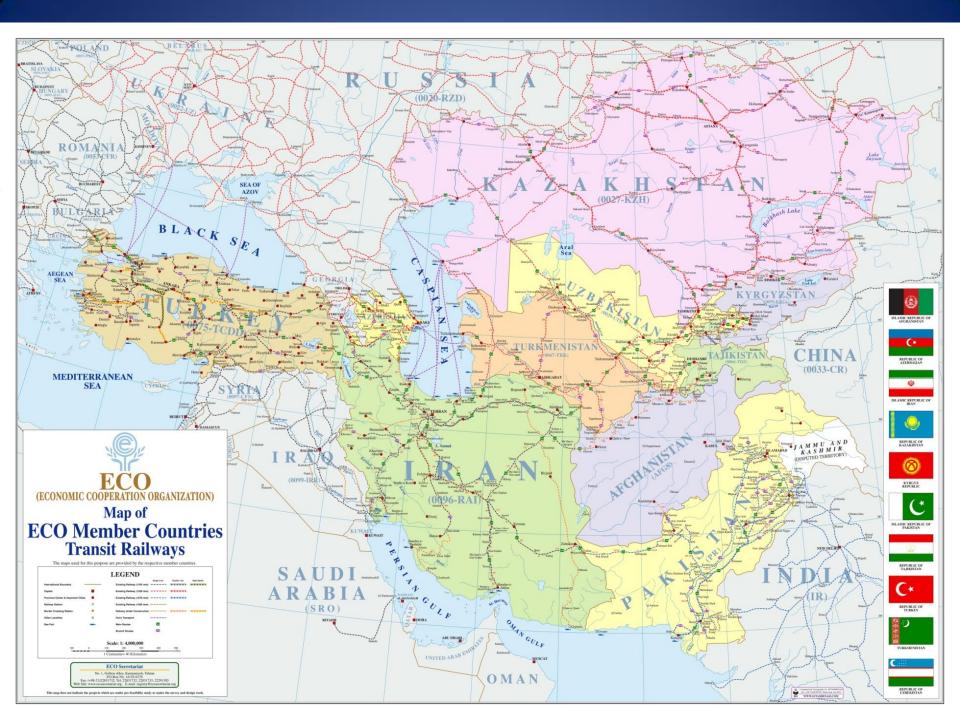


# ECO's activities for Strengthening Transport Connectivity and Facilitation of Transit in the Region

Presented by Mr. Ahsan Ali Mangi,
ECO's Deputy Secretary General,
UNECE Workshop "Road-Rail Transport Corridors along Europe and Asia",
Geneva, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015









#### General information on the ECO region

#### Area:

8 mln. Km<sup>2</sup>,

18.4 % of Asia and 5.3% of total world

#### **Population:**

Around 441 mln. (2013)

6.2% of total world population

#### **ECO**

region

# Total foreign trade of goods & services:

US\$1,100 bln.

#### **Total GDP:**

over US\$ 1,863bln.

#### Average GDP per capita:

4,435US\$ (2013)

#### Roads:

more than 800,000Km

#### Railways:

more than 55,000KM





#### **ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA)**

Facilitation of movement of goods and passengers

Ensuring the safety of goods and passengers and avoiding unnecessary delays during the transit traffic

## **TTFA**

Cooperation
and coordination
of the efforts to avoid
the incidence of
customs frauds and
tax evasion

Harmonizing necessary administrative affairs dealing with transit traffic.





#### **ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA)**

Establishment & promotion of container train services

Establishment promotion of road corridors

Undertaking studies to functionalize road & rail corridors

Organizing meetings of TTCC & technical committees to pursue implementation of provisions of TTFA

Major activities

Designing & organizing capacity building programs

Pursuance of infrastructure projects of regional importance through HLWG

Organizing test runs of trucks/container trains

Cooperation with regional & international organizations

### **ECO** container train services



#### **ECO Container Train on Istanbul-Almaty Route**



This route is the most direct and feasible transport route which can facilitate East-Asian trade with Europe through Central Asia. Total distance of route is 5626 km. The route is operational since 2002. HLWG is following up timetable, tariff and other technical matters to streamline the train services.

#### The ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty Route

Unit: US\$

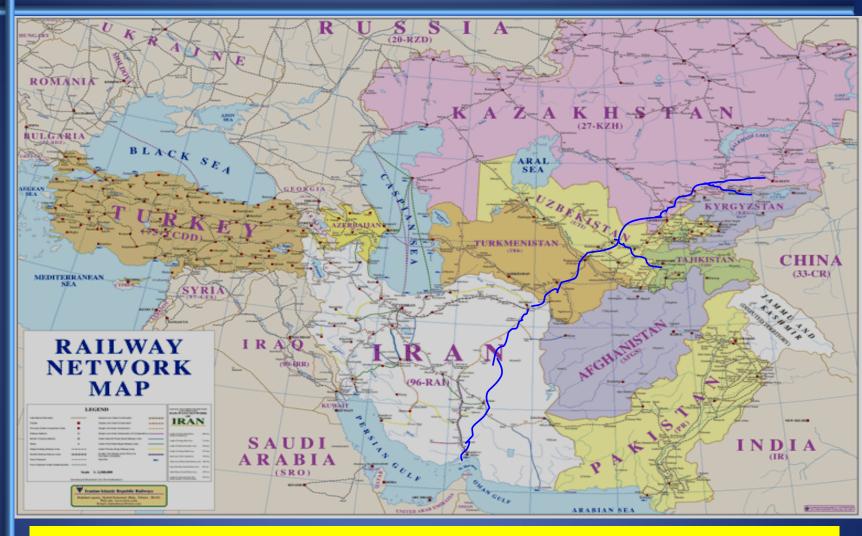
	Total distance (km)	Tariff for load	ed container	Tariff for empty container		
Country		For 20 ft	For 40 ft	For 20 ft	For 40 ft	
Turkey (Kosekoy- Kapikoy)	1850	648	974	464	579	
Iran	1619	462	770	278	462	
Turkmenistan*	469	882	1599.04			
Uzbekistan**	732	608	1048			
Kazakhstan**	956	397.14	660.85	213.7	355.62	
Total	5626	2997.14	5051.89			

<sup>•</sup>This freight tariff includes all extra charges and return operation of empty containers for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

<sup>\*\*</sup> These freight tariffs were provided in year 2014.



#### **ECO Container Train on Bandar Abbas-Almaty Route**



The first demonstration run of the ECO Container Train on Bandar Abbas-Almaty Route (3710 km) was organized on 17 October 2011 from Bandar Abbas.

HLWG is following up timetable, tariff and other technical matters to streamline the train services. Measures are ongoing to mobilize cargos.

#### The ECO Container Train on Bandar Abbas-Almaty Route

Country	Total distance	Tariff for load	ded container	Tariff for empty container		
	(km)	For 20 ft	For 40 ft	For 20 ft	For 40 ft	
Iran	1553	747 Swiss Frank	1093 Swiss Frank	374 Swiss Frank	546 Swiss Frank	
Turkmenistan*	469	882 US\$	1599.04 US\$			
Uzbekistan**	732	608 US\$	1048 US\$			
Kazakhstan**	956	397.14 US\$	660.85 US\$	213.7 US\$	355.62 US\$	

<sup>•</sup>This freight tariff includes all extra charges and return operation of empty containers for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015.

<sup>\*\*</sup> These freight tariffs were provided in year 2014.



#### ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul route



The ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Route (6543 km) has begun its scheduled and regular operation since August 2010. HLWG agreed on timetable, tariffs, transshipment fees and other technicalities of the train. As of end 2014 the running time is around 14 days. Measures are ongoing to resume the train services.





#### **ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul route**

**Unit: Euro** 

		Tariff for loaded container				Tariff for empty container				
Country	Total distance (km)	For 20 ft		For 40 ft		For 20 ft		For 40 ft		
	(KIII)	Per km	Total	Per km	Total	Per km	Total	Per km	Total	
Iran	2603	0.22	572	0.28	728.8	0.11	286.3	0.14	364.4	
Pakistan	1990	0.22	437.8	0.27	537.3	0.11	218.9	0.16	318.4	
Turkey	1850*	0.22	407	0.28	518	0.11	204	0.14	259	
Total	6443		1416.8		1784.1		709.2		941.8	

\* Total distance between Kapikoy to Kosekoy

# Railway infrastructure projects to establish new corridors



#### Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran Railway Project

The railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran (about 900 km)

was inaugurated on

on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 and completed North-South Corridor al the way through the enroute countries all the way to Bandar Abbas and Persian Gulf.

The Project is considered as a major step towards seamless transit transport connectivity, enhanced transit trade, economic growth and better access for all countries



The Project is coordinated by ECO through **Tripartite Coordination Committee** (**TCC**). A trilateral meeting of the enroute countries was held on the sidelines of 12<sup>th</sup> Heads of ECO Railway Authorities (Tehran, May 2015) to discuss revision of tariffs to attract cargo for the new route.



#### The Republic of Azerbaijan-Iran Railway Project



The Qazvin-Rasht- Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) Railway Project has three parts. Two parts, namely Qazvin-Rasht and Rasht-Astara s with a total length of about 369 km are located in Iran, and one part (less than 10 km) is located in the Republic of Azerbaijan. Two field visits were organized in 2013 by Iran Railways in collaboration with ECO to be familiarized with the ongoing construction works in the Iranian segments.



#### Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran (KTAI) Rail Project



The Project of construction of railway from China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan-Afghanistan -Iran (KTAI) is coordinated by ECO. The total length of the (Kashghar-Herat) route is around 2155 km. The total length of Sangan (Iran)-Herat Railway line is 191 km out of which 76 kilometers lying in Iranian territory has already been constructed.

The feasibility study in Tajik segment is completed. 60% progress has been achieved in construction of the sub-segment between Chah-e-Sorkh (border with Iran) to Rozanak area of Herat province. The feasibility study for the sub-segment between Faryab and Mazare-Sharif is due to be completed soon. The remaining sub-segments of Afghanistan still require conducting feasibility studies and construction. Kyrgyz Republic is taking measures to undertake a feasibility study on its territory.

## **Road corridors**



#### Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Road Corridor

Further to the decisions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECO Transport Ministers (Ashgabat, 2011), arrangements for establishing a road corridor between Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul was initiated. The Corridor is being coordinated by the ECO High Level Working Group

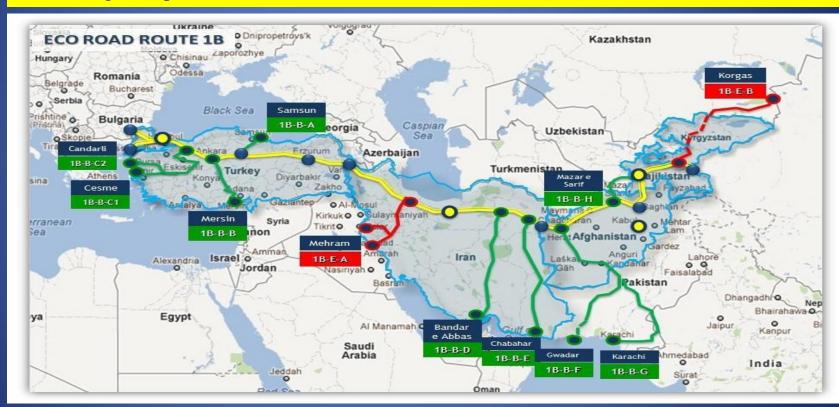


The HLWG adopted an Action Plan for the Establishment of the Corridor, agreed that TIR System will be applied along the Corridor,; approved the routes and border crossing points; decided that a field study will be conducted with involvement of International Consultant and national consultants.



#### Kyrgyz-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran Road Corridor

Further to the decisions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECO Transport Ministers (Ashgabat, 2011), arrangements for establishing a road corridor between Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran was initiated. The Corridor is being coordinated by the ECO High Level Working Group.



The HLWG adopted an Action Plan for the Establishment of the Corridor, agreed that TIR System will be applied along the Corridor,; approved the routes and border crossing points; decided that a field study to be conducted with involvement of International Consultant and national consultants.

3rd HLWG on KTAI (Tehran, October 2014) approved the TOR to start the field study.

## Regional Studies/Regional Plans





#### **ECO/IDB Joint Project on implementation of TTFA**

Technical Assistance
Agreement (Grant) was
signed between ECO and
IDB in 2009 to prepare
a Regional Program for the
implementation of TTFA.

#### **Project budget:**

US\$ 515,000,00

# JOINT PROJECT

#### **Scope of the Project:**

- a) providing consultancy services to produce analytical reports, priority investment plans;
  - b) organizing training workshops
  - c) establishing Project Management Unit (PMU).

Studies have been undertaken to cover road, rail & insurance provisions of TTFA

#### ECO/IDB Joint Project on implementation of TTFA





Corridor managements studies on road and rail components of TTFA has culminated in preparation of ECO Road Network Development and ECO Railway Network Development Plan.

The study on insurance component of TTFA has resulted with preparation of a comprehensive report on the situation with motor vehicle third party liability.



#### **ECO/IRU Project for Regular Monitored Run of Trucks**





#### **ECO/IRU Project for Regular Monitoring of Trucks**

#### **Results of the Project**

- □ 139 trips
- 1,276 days spent en route
- 449,354 km covered
- 2,823 tonnes of cargo carried
- 352 km/day speed average en route 14,6 km/hrs
- 214 days spent waiting/in queues
- 443,519 USD total transport costs
- 99,808 USD paid for unjustified levies

40% of transport time = border crossings32% of transport costs = border crossing procedures

23% of transport costs = unofficial levies

#### **Recommendations:**

- Implement UN trade & road transport facilitation tools
- Increase cooperation between transit states
- Introduce multilateral transport permit system
- Improve customs procedures
- Provide multi-entry and transit visas for drivers
- Modernize truck fleet and develop TIR parking areas
- Implement electronic tools to exchange data







#### New program on customs provisions of TTFA

#### **Objectives of the Project**

Identification of border crossing points of regional importance and specify list of prioritized projects for modernization of selected border crossing points

Analysis of the current operational customs procedures and systems in the member states, including identification and analysis of differences and conflicting requirements of TTFA

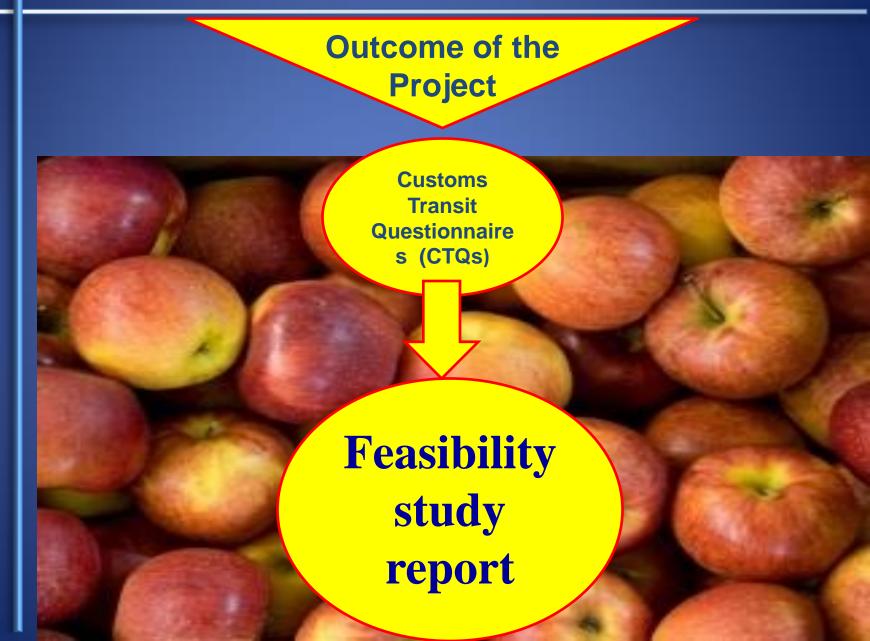
Defining effective solutions for the implementation of the customs provisions of TTFA Authorise national Issuing & Guaranteeing Association

Suggestion of success stories or models for guiding the efforts of the member states for development of selected border crossing points





#### New program on customs provisions of TTFA



## **Capacity -building programs**





#### **Trainings and Workshops**

Trainings/workshops/conferences, held in
2012-2014:
☐ The ECO/UNECE Workshop on Unified Railway Law (Ankara, June 2012)
☐ The Regional Training Course on Third Party Motor Vehicle Liability
Insurance (ECO White Cart), Tehran, November 2012, in partnership with the
International Green Card Council of Bureaux
☐ The 2 <sup>nd</sup> ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Transit Transport and the TIR
System, Istanbul June- July 2012.
☐ Training Course on TIR Convention for Afghanistan, (Mashhad, June 2012)
☐ Training Course on TIR Convention for Afghanistan (Ankara, 2012).
☐ Training Course on TIR Convention for Pakistan (Ankara, May 2013).
Islamabad, 18-22 August 2014.
☐ The Regional Workshop on Third Party Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance,
Istanbul, 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2014.
☐ The 3 <sup>rd</sup> ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Transit Transport and the TIR
System, Tehran, 26 October 2014.
Capacity building programmes held and planned for 2015:
☐ National capacity building workshops on CMR, ADR and TIR, August 2015

Regional Capacity Building Workshop on ADR, Ankara, 2014.

# Thank You