



Decisions of the tenth session of SPECA Governing Council

**21th Session of SPECA Thematic Working Group on
Sustainable Transport , Transit and Connectivity**

7-8 September 2016 –Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

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- The SPECA Governing Council on its tenth session in November 2015 decided to change the title from “Project Working Group on Transport and Border Crossing” to the “Thematic Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity” (TWG-STTC).
- New objectives added in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda adopted by the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- SPECA Working Groups can provide an important platform for supporting progress towards many of the SDGs through the exchange of best practice, capacity-building, joint development and implementation of regional projects and the sharing of experience on the use of new financial mechanisms and partnerships.

Way forward

- The TWG will facilitate policy discussions on strategic issues on strengthening regional cooperation and integration through enhanced transport connectivity with special focus on sustainable development goals.
- More specifically, the TWG is expected to:
 - continue to oversee the implementation of transport-related activities and initiatives at national and subregional level, including development of road and railway networks, dry ports as well as facilitate intermodal transport in SPECA countries;
 - support the establishment and operation of national coordinating mechanisms for transport facilitation.
 - facilitate the implementation of ESCAP agreements in transport such as the intergovernmental agreements on Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and Dry Ports.
 - Assist in identification and elimination of major bottlenecks along international transport routes in SPECA region and beyond.
 - Facilitate the development of the SPECA TWG special database on transport and border crossing activities for the SPECA countries as well as collection of transport statistics.
 - Promote public-private partnerships in the SPECA region.
 - Work towards improving road safety to reduce road traffic fatalities and casualties in the SPECA region.

Way forward (cont'd)

- Support the efforts of the participating countries to implement 2030 development agenda by enhancing the sustainability of transport and its contribution to SDGs;
- Ensure more focus on strengthening regional cooperation to contribute to achieving SDGs;
- Serve as a forum to discuss strategic issues, exchange of experiences, lessons learned and good practice, as well as for national and subregional efforts in transport sector related to increasing sustainability of transport and achieving SDGs;
- Develop and implement projects aimed at achieving relevant SDGs and targets and contribute to 2030 development agenda;

Thank you!