

**UNECE – UNESCAP**

*UN Development Account Capacity Building Project on
Interregional Transport Linkages*

4th Expert Group Meeting on Developing Euro-Asian Transport Linkages

21 – 24 November 2006, Thessaloniki, Greece

DRAFT AGENDA

Opening of the Meeting, welcome addresses

1. Summary of progress to date

EXPERT GROUP MEETING - PART ONE**DEVELOPING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES ALONG EURO-ASIAN ROUTES**

2. Review of the work done on developing a Euro-Asian transport network
 - a. Overview of European transport networks
 - b. Overview of Asian networks
 - c. Recap of selected Euro-Asian transport routes using maps and associated data
 - d. Comments and views of countries
3. Review of the GIS work done and consideration for its use and further development
 - a. Demonstration of the final product of the GIS work, strengths and weaknesses
 - b. Consideration of the its use and future development
 - c. Comments and view of countries
4. Identification of priority projects to improve transport operations along selected Euro-Asian routes
 - a. Results of the evaluation and prioritization of projects, strengths and weaknesses
 - b. Comments and views of countries
5. Country presentations on progress on connecting route infrastructure along the selected routes
6. Complementary Activities of other Organizations (with a particular focus on priority investment areas of IFIs)

TRANSPORT FACILITATION ALONG SELECTED EURO-ASIAN ROUTES

7. Non-physical obstacles to transit transport along the selected routes as well as measures to remove them

- a. Application of the UNESCAP cost/time-distance methodology along Euro-Asian transport routes
 - b. Comments and views of countries
 - c. Results of questionnaire on transport facilitation
 - d. Country Presentations on non-physical obstacles, focusing on most significant barriers to the smooth movement of goods
8. Legal arrangements for the smooth movement of goods internationally, comments and views of countries

ECE-ESCAP IN-HOUSE STUDY ON DEVELOPING EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS

9. Draft ECE-ESCAP in-house study on developing Euro-Asian transport links
- a. Presentation of conclusions and recommendations of the study
 - b. Comments and view of countries

EXPERT GROUP MEETING - PART TWO

SHARING BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

10. Presentation of best practices on developing transport infrastructure and facilitation of international transport in Europe and Asia
- a. Best practices in Europe
 - b. Best practices in Asia
11. Lessons learned from the implementation of the UNDA project on interregional transport linkages
- a. Lessons learned from the implementation of the Euro-Asian transport links project component
 - b. Lessons learned from the implementation of other project components
 - c. Best use of the results and experience from the implementation of the Euro-Asian transport links project

WAYS TO PROCEED IN FUTURE

12. Next steps on developing Euro-Asian transport links
- a. Establishment of a suitable mechanism for ensuring efficient coordination and monitoring of activities related to Euro-Asian links on the basis of the Expert Group established under the project
 - b. Continuation of the project in a new Phase II (2007 – 2010)
13. Adoption of summary decisions
