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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 PROGRAMME

1st Day: Tuesday, 21 November 2006

0900	Registration	
OPENING OF THE MEETING		
0930	Welcome addresses <u>Agenda Item 1: Summary of progress to date</u>	Representative of Government of Greece ECE - ESCAP ECE
EXPERT GROUP MEETING - PART ONE		
DEVELOPING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES ALONG EURO-ASIAN ROUTES		
1000	<u>Agenda Item 2: Review of the work done on developing a Euro-Asian transport network</u> a. Overview of European transport networks b. Overview of Asian transport networks c. Recap of selected Euro-Asian transport routes using maps and associated data d. Comments and views of countries	ECE ESCAP ECE – ESCAP National Focal Points
1100	Coffee break	
1130	<u>Agenda Item 3: Review of the GIS work done and consideration for its use and further development</u> a. Demonstration of the final product of the GIS work, strengths and weaknesses b. Consideration of its use and future development c. Comments and views of countries	ECE and Mr. R. Galbenu National Focal Points
1215	<u>Agenda Item 4: Identification of priority projects to improve transport operations along selected Euro-Asian routes</u> a. Results of the evaluation and prioritization of projects, strengths and weaknesses b. Comments and views of countries	Prof. D. Tsamboulas National Focal Points
1300	Lunch break	

DEVELOPING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES ALONG EURO-ASIAN ROUTES (continued)		
1400	Agenda Item 5: Country presentations on progress on connecting route infrastructure along the selected routes	National Focal Points Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Kazakhstan,
1530	<i>Coffee break</i>	
1600	Agenda Item 5: (continued) Country presentations on progress on connecting route infrastructure along the selected routes	Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
1730	<i>End of Day One Meeting</i>	
2000	<i>Gala Dinner kindly hosted by Superfast Ferries (in Hotel Capsis)</i>	

2nd Day: Wednesday, 22 November 2006

DEVELOPING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES ALONG EURO-ASIAN ROUTES (continued)		
0930	Agenda Item 6: Complementary Activities of other Organizations (with a particular focus on priority investment areas of IFIs)	EC-ECMT-OSCE - TRACECA-WB- EBRD-ADB-OSJD- IRU-other
1100	<i>Coffee break</i>	
TRANSPORT FACILITATION ALONG SELECTED EURO-ASIAN ROUTES		
1130	Agenda Item 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	ESCAP and National Focal Points of participating countries
1300	<i>Lunch break</i>	
TRANSPORT FACILITATION ALONG SELECTED EURO-ASIAN ROUTES (continued)		
1400	Agenda Item 7: Non-physical obstacles to transit transport along the selected routes as well as measures to remove them (continued) d. Country Presentations on non-physical obstacles, focusing on most significant barriers to the smooth movement of goods	National Focal Points

1530	<i>Coffee break</i>	
1600	Agenda Item 8: Legal arrangements for the smooth movement of goods internationally, comments and views of countries	ECE-ESCAP and National Focal Points
1730	<i>End of Day Two Meeting</i>	
2000	<i>Dinner kindly hosted by Thessaloniki Port Authority</i>	

3^d Day: Thursday, 23 November 2006

ECE-ESCAP IN-HOUSE STUDY ON DEVELOPING EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS		
0900	Agenda Item 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 views of countries	ECE-ESCAP National Focal Points
EXPERT GROUP MEETING - PART TWO		
1000	Item 10: Presentations 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	ECE ESCAP
1115	<i>Coffee break</i>	
SHARING BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED		
1130	Item 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	ECE and ESCAP ESCWA Discussion
1230	<i>End of Day Three Meeting</i>	
1230	<i>Lunch break</i>	
1315	<i>Guided visit to the archaeological site of Vergina (the ancient Capital of Macedonia) and the Royal Tomb of Philip II, father of Alexander The Great, kindly hosted by the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Greece</i> http://alexander.macedonia.culture.gr/2/21/211/21117a/e211qa04.html	
1530	<i>Technical visit to "Kastania" construction site of EGNATIA Motorway kindly organized by EGNATIA ODOS SA</i>	
1730	<i>Return to Hotel</i>	
2000	<i>Dinner kindly hosted by EGNATIA ODOS SA</i>	

4th Day: Friday, 24 November 2006

WAYS TO PROCEED IN FUTURE		
0930	<u>Item 12:</u> 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)	ECE and ESCAP Mr. R. Kellermann, Chairman of the WP.5, Member of the Bureau of the ITC National Focal Points ECE and ESCAP
1100	<i>Coffee break</i>	
1130 -1300	<i>Presentation of Thessaloniki Port and visit to the Port</i>	
1300	<u>Item 13:</u> Adoption of summary decisions	
1400	<i>End of the Expert Group Meeting</i>	
