Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia

DIGITALIZATION OF FREIGHT TRANSPORT ALONG TRACECA CORRIDOR

Partnerships and synergies in support of implementation pilot projects

XIVth International Capacity-Building Seminar on Trade and Transport Facilitation
Baku, 22-23 May 2023
TRACECA

The development of economic relations, trade and transport communication in the regions of Europe, the Black Sea, the Caucasus, the Caspian Sea and Asia – one of the main objectives

**Intergovernmental Commission**
Decision-making structure – Competent Ministries

**Permanent Secretariat**
Executive structure – Implementation and Monitoring

**Permanent Representatives (National Secretaries)** in 13 member states
National structure – Focal and Coordinating point between national competent authorities/organizations and the Permanent Secretariat

### KEY DATES

**May 1993**
Initiating of the TRACECA Programme

**September 8, 1998**
Signature of the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia corridor (MLA)

**March 10, 2000**
The First Annual Meeting (Conference) of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA on the transport corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia"

**February 21, 2001**
Official opening of the office of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA in Baku (Azerbaijan)

**June 16, 2009**
The Agreement on Development of Multimodal Transport TRACECA adopted

An official opening ceremony of the office in Baku (left-right) Minister of Foreign Affairs and representative of Swedish presidency in EU **Anna Lindh**, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan **Heydar Aliyev**, Commissioner for External Relations **Christopher Patten**, Secretary General/ High Representative of CFSP **Javier Solana**
Projects and Initiatives towards Digitalization

Permanent Secretariat is currently working on initiatives aiming to introduce digital solutions on transport activities.

- 7 TRACECA member-states carried out e-TIR pilots (Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan)
- 10 countries joined eCMR (Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Romania, Turkey, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan)
- Joint workshops on e-CIM/SMGS Consignment co-organized with OCJD, CIT and UIC (2022-2023 and potential pilot projects (2023-2025)

Activities

- eTIR
  - First project of piloting between Iran and Turkey (2015)
  - Second project of piloting between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (2020)
  - Third project of piloting between Azerbaijan and Iran (2019)
  - Fourth project of piloting between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (2021)
  - Fifth project of piloting between Iran, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (2021)
  - Fourth project of piloting between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (2021)
  - Approval of the Concept of Digitalization (2021)
  - Use of Electronic Permits (Single Transit/Multilateral)
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- Traceca-IRU Workshop on eTIR and eCMR (2020)
  - Implementation of the Concept of Digitalization

- Implementation of pilot projects Electronic queue
  - Approval of the Concept of Digitalization
  - Launch of TRACECA information system and mobile application for carriers

- Signature of Single Transit Permit Draft Agreement (2021)
  - Presentation of the Global Transit Document Prototype Concept (2021)

  - TRACECA-IRU Workshop on eTIR and eCMR (2020)

- Implementation of pilot projects Electronic queue
  - Use of Electronic Permits (Single Transit/Multilateral)
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Digitalization of CIM/SMGS Consignment Note

1 Joint Workshop
- Use of CIM/SMGS consignment note (2022)

2 Joint Workshop
- Use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note (2023)
- Use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note (2023)

3 Joint Workshop
- Use of electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note (2023)
- Use of CIM/SMGS consignment note (2023)

- Signing MoU between interested railways
- Framework for piloting electronic CIM/SMGS consignment note (2023)

Adoption of Action Plan
- Implementation of Action Plan
- Drafting international agreement
- Analyzing supporting documents for further digitalization (2023-2024)

Piloting e-CIM/SMGS (digital twin project)
- Implementation of pilot project
- Testing electronic CIM/SMGS prototype

Adoption of an International Agreement
- Preparing legal basis for e-CIM/SMGS
- Preparing at national and international level
- Deciding on tools used for information exchange
- Possible piloting for electronic supporting documents
- Conducting internal approval procedures (2024)

TRANSITION TO ELECTRONIC USE OF THE CIM/SMGS CONSIGNMENT NOTE

- (2025)
During 2020 – Analysis of conducted pilot projects on the use of eCMR at the international level

April, 2021 – Meeting and discussions on TransFollow platform owned by VIASERVICE

April, 2021 – Meeting and discussions on eCMR prototype development with DLT, piloted by SIS

May-October, 2021 – Comparative analysis of existing eCMR prototypes and tools

March-April, 2022 – External consultations with eCMR solutions providers

May, 2022 – First Meeting of Working group on eCMR pilot project between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

May, 2022 – Second Meeting of Working group on eCMR pilot project between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (demonstration of Hungarian IS)

October, November 2022 – Participation in the Group of Experts on the Operationalization of eCMR (UNECE)

2023 – Drafting the next steps on digitalization of CMR

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

Who should initiate eCMR?

Is it possible to use eTIR data set and attach / link eCMR in further implementation?

What is the functionality for customs authorities?

Which users should be able to access and amend the data?

Where data should be stored and how data will be transmitted?

How integration with existing systems should be carried out?

What is acceptable authentication?

How eCMR should be signed?

How should eCMR look like?

What kind of data set should be adopted?

Who will be in charge of roles distribution?

What about legal status of the document and how liability will be identified?

Should existing prototypes be modified or a new system created?
DIGITAL CORRIDOR CONCEPT

Digital Concept will be the main guide to digitalization of the corridor in various modes of transport

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Digitalization of Multilateral Permits System of TRACECA
- Implementation of Agreement on a Single Transit Permit of TRACECA (e-Permit)
- Implementation of e-TIR, e-CMR, e-CIM/SMGS
- Use of special roadside equipment (license plate recognition cameras, classification equipment, lasers, static scales, high-speed weigh-in-motion sensors, low-speed weigh-in-motion sensors, etc.)
- International data service platform for carriers and authorities (on TRACECA level)
- Use of fast-track lanes

KEY AREAS

- Digitalization and mutual recognition of e-documents;
- Modernization of existing IT, roadside, and server infrastructure;
- Removal of physical, legal, and administrative barriers so that goods can get from one point to another as quickly as possible;
- Creation of a unified environment and unified platform for data exchange and interoperability between different solutions
POTENTIAL TRACECA PILOT PROJECTS
with multilateral – corridor approach along selected TRACECA routes
Possibilities for funding / partnerships / synergies to be considered

Use of Systematic Exchange of Data – (e.g., SEED system) for Customs authorities along TRACECA corridor

Implementation of e-CIM/SMGS railway consignment note along selected TRACECA routes:
  a. Upgrades, adaptation or development of new IT solution(s) for cross-border electronic information exchange (e.g., railways-to-railways) for use of e-CIM/SMGS railway consignment note
  b. Implementation of regional (TRACECA) arrangement on use of e-CIM/SMGS railway consignment note as Customs transit declaration

Support for introduction of Digital Transport Corridor Concept along TRACECA corridor (including with expansion of EU4Digital Initiative)
  a. Digitalization of TRACECA road transport permits
  b. Support for development of interoperable National e-Logistics Systems among TRACECA countries
  c. Development of unified environment and unified platform on TRACECA level for data exchange and interoperability between different solutions

Enhancement of Authorized Economic Operators programmes and mutual recognition among TRACECA countries