Update on transport facilitation issues
(June-September 2020)

22.09.2020,
6th (video) meeting of the
Technical Committee on Transport Facilitation
New Secretariat’s set up-strengthened policy priorities

- New management of the PS of Transport Community and filled staff member positions
- Defined six priorities for period 2020-2025; transport facilitation is one of them- aiming at minimizing waiting times at borders (internal WB6 and external WB6-EUMS)
- Reinforced regional engagement- missions to all WB6 capitals, high level meetings; planned missions to EUMS capitals
- Shift from short-term solutions aimed at addressing the pandemic situation, to more long-term options for resolving structural bottlenecks
- Preparation for Ministerial Council- 26.10.2020- to endorse the Action Plans prepared on the level of Technical committees
- Preparation for WB6 Summit- 10.11.2020- to obtain political commitment for concluding joint BCP agreements, and financial envelope for BCP interventions
Activities of PS TC in the area of transport facilitation (June-September)

• Consolidation of all available information regarding BCPs- on-going and planned projects, in order further project needs are assessed and project fiches are defined; feedback from TCTF members needed; potential sources for financing analyzed/presented

• Communication/clarification with RPs and EUMS on bilateral agreements which have been initiated by one or both parties; reminders sent ; counterparts in EUMS identified

• Participation to a bilateral meeting between ALB and MNE for establishing joint rods and rail agreements- a good example of bilateral cooperation and inclusive approach

• Explanatory notes for the Project on eQMS communicated to beneficiaries, meeting with HU under preparation

• Continuing monitoring the waiting times at the green corridors’ BCPs – weekly updates sent to EC and published by PSTC; waiting for DG MOVE/GSA official action on further usage of Galileo app.

• Coordination with CEFTA and RCC on MAP for Regional Economic Area- continuation of the green lanes initiative and focus on agreements for joint controls

• Participation to on-line round table with WB6 business community representatives organized by WB6 CIF

• Coordination meeting with World Bank for financial support to BCPs
Overall conclusions:

- Situation continued to remain stable across internal borders during summer months;
- The inbounds times show a slight increase within the 60-80 min range while the outbounds times show a sharp decrease in the range between 40-50 min range while there is an increase on the 30-40 min range;
- Since September, daily monitoring is replaced by weekly monitoring
Overall conclusions:

- Waiting times at EU/WB6 borders have largely stabilized during the summer;

- The impact of the pandemic-related restrictions in certain Border Crossing Points across Western Balkans is now clear;

- The need for rapid and coordinated action to tackle the long-lasting problems at certain Border Crossing Points is again highlighted.
Map of road BCP proposals for investments

Legend
- Core Network
- Comprehensive Network
- Within Western Balkan
- Between Western Balkan and EU MS