

## 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Steering Committee Meeting

8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Venue: Online via Teams

### Conclusions

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 9<sup>th</sup> RSC Meeting was held virtually, via Teams.
- All RSC Members were present during the meeting as well as additional representatives of DG NEAR and DG MOVE, and the EU Member States (Germany and Greece).

#### Adoption of the agenda – Agenda adopted without comments

##### A. Policy

#### COMMUNICATION ON ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PLAN FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS

##### Conclusions:

- Gratitude was expressed to the European Commission for presentation of Communication on Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans with all accompanying documents. Furthermore, it was acknowledged that proposed policy actions are in line with Transport Community Treaty.
- **Action Point:** A meeting will be organized between the TCT Secretariat and the Commission (DG MOVE / DG NEAR) to agree on the follow-up steps in implementation of the Communication and accompanying documents.

#### ACTION PLANS

- I. Endorsement of Action plan for Roads
- II. Endorsement of Action plan for Rail
- III. Endorsement of Action plan for Road Safety
- IV. Endorsement of Action plan for Transport Facilitations (BCP/CCP)

##### Conclusions:

- No additional comments were given on the Road and Road Safety APs. Content of the Action Plans is therefore agreed with minor editorial changes in the texts.
- Kosovo\* presented comments on one specific point in the Rail and Transport Facilitation APs. Comment will be sent in written as per agreed deadline. Content of the Action Plans for Rail and Transport Facilitation is therefore agreed on *all other* actions with minor editorial changes in the texts.
- Agreed steps:
  - By Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October EOD – RSC Members should provide comments on the APs as mentioned above.
  - By Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October EOD – updated versions of APs will be circulated by the Secretariat.
  - A Written Procedure will be launched with a deadline for endorsement until 19<sup>th</sup> October in view of adoption on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Council to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

## MEETINGS

### I. Ministerial Council

**Conclusion:** Agenda adopted. Draft Ministerial Conclusion will be circulated together with the Action Plans.

### II. Social Forum

**Conclusion:** Bilateral discussions between the Director of TCT and each RSC Member will be organized to agree on invitations for the Social Forum. Small change to the agenda of the Social Forum was agreed as proposed by the Chair of the RSC.

### III. TCT Contact Group

**Conclusions:** Establishment of an informal Contact group agreed. The Contact Group should meet online every 2-3 weeks. Nominations to be communicated by Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 EOD by RSC members. On behalf of the EC, HoU Mr Harvey Rouse already nominated Mr Seamus Howard from DG MOVE during the meeting today.

### IV. Informal Ministerial Meeting

**Conclusions:** RSC supported the proposal to organise a regular Informal Meeting on a yearly basis and agreed that the first Informal Ministerial Meeting is to be organised after the Covid-19 pandemic.

## B. Administration

## BUDGET AND FINANCE

### I. Information regarding the process of financial report for the year 2019

**Conclusions:** Information adopted.

### II. 2020 Budget – Report on contributions received

**Conclusions:** Revised report (indicating the currency) on 2020 Budget adopted.

### III. First discussion about the proposal for the draft Budget 2021

**Conclusions:**

- The draft Budget for 2021 was presented to the RSC. In course of November it will be presented to the Council and EC will update the RSC and the Secretariat on the Council Meeting outcomes. Next RSC Meeting will be held before the end of the year 2020 in order to adopt the proposed Budget.
- The Budget Committee should be formed as soon as possible. Kosovo and Albania are invited to send their nominations according to the deadline (9<sup>th</sup> October 2020).
- The budget breakdown of all budget lines will be communicated in more detail to the Budget Committee in view of adoption at the RSC.