



**4th Road Technical Committee meeting
27th January 2021, via Video Conference**

Agreed Conclusions

1. Members of the Road Technical Committee (RTC) welcomed the opening remarks by Mr. Matej Zakonjšek, Director of Transport Community Permanent Secretariat (TCPS), who emphasised their contribution in the preparation of the Road Action Plan and laid down the challenges and the activities of this Technical Committee for 2021.
2. Bosnia and Herzegovina took over the chairmanship of the Technical Committee for 2021. The chair, Mr. Mensur Hodžić highlighted the important role of this Technical Committee towards a sustainable, smart and digital development of the road network and operations in the region.
3. RTC's members acknowledged the overview of the 5 Road Shows presented by Ms. Nerejda Hoxha, TCPS Road Coordinator. The overview focused on the current state of play in the region in relation to maintenance systems, ITS deployment, climate resilience and use of alternative fuels, and regional cooperation/experience exchange.
4. RTC's members reconfirmed the Technical Assistance needs in the areas of:
 - Preparation of ITS strategies;
 - Deployment of alternative fuels and specifically building up a network of e-charging stations;
 - Guidelines to assess the vulnerability of road network from climate change and natural hazards;
 - Interoperability framework for e-tolling.
5. RTC's members acknowledged the Monitoring Mechanism, to be used for assessing the implementation of the Road Action Plan. The first Progress Report will be produced by May 2021 and it is expected to be adopted by the Ministerial Council in June 2021.
6. Bilateral meetings between Ms. Nerejda Hoxha, TCPS Road Coordinator, and each of the Regional Participants will take place during March 2021, to discuss the progress and assess the challenges. Draft Progress Report will be provided to the RTC's members for comments and interventions, before being sent to Regional Steering Committee and Ministerial Council for adoption.
7. RTC's members will submit to the Permanent Secretariat their Maintenance Plans for 2021 onwards.

8. RTC's members acknowledged the presentation of Mr. Josip Lazarevski on the implementation of the Road Assessment Management System (RAMS) in North Macedonia. The capacity building represents a key problem to be overcome, coupled with the RAMS being fully embedded in the preparation of the maintenance plans. The key message shared by all participants is that RAMS should become a permanent process.
9. RTC's members welcomed the presentation of Mr. Slobodan Basurić on the Road Weather Information System in Serbia. The system was firstly implemented through the Twinning program with the Swedish National Road Agency. Road weather information system provides data on the optimal timing to perform winter maintenance activities and it is proved to be an efficient tool to monitor the performance of maintenance Contractors.
10. RTC's members acknowledged the presentation of Mr. Radovan Nikčević, Regional Cooperation Council on the Green Agenda for Western Balkans. Mr. Nikčević introduced the goals and the main areas where most of the efforts are needed in the process of the implementation of the Green Agenda.
11. RTC's members welcomed the presentation of Mr. Gergely-Antal Sulyok, DG MOVE, on the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy adopted by EU in 2020. Mr. Sulyok presented the context, goals, and concrete objectives of the strategy, 10 flagship areas, milestones, action plan, and staff working document.
12. RTC's members welcomed the intervention of Mr. Nedim Begović, Transport Community Permanent Secretariat, on the current process of preparation of a Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy for Western Balkans. The strategy represents the Western Balkans' perspective on the dealing with sustainable and smart mobility.
13. RTC's members have been urged to deliver the response to the questionnaires on the current state of play and plans of the Regional Participants in this area by 8 February 2021.
14. The next meeting will take place on the 11th of May 2021.