



## **5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods**

**Hybrid Session – Hotel Mona, Belgrade and MS TEAMS**

**27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 10:00-13:00**

### **Agreed Conclusions**

1. The Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods (TCTDG) was welcomed by Transport Community Permanent Secretariat's Director Matej Zakonjšek who congratulated all Regional Partners on the progress achieved in defining the needs for the transport of dangerous goods and welcomed the Guidelines on transport of dangerous goods that set the work plan in this area for next years. The Chair of the Committee, Mr. J. Jancevski, Acting Head of Unit for Transport of Dangerous Goods at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in the Republic of North Macedonia, thanked TC PS for the efforts to coordinate Regional Partners while preparing the Guidelines. The agenda of the meeting was adopted unanimously.
2. TC Permanent Secretariat informed participants that the Guidelines will be presented for endorsement at the next Regional Steering Committee which will take place on 16 December 2021. With regard to the reports on domestic consultation on Guidelines, the participants were urged to submit their replies to questions sent by TC Permanent Secretariat by 27 November 2021.
3. TC Permanent Secretariat thanked Montenegro, Kosovo and the rail member of the Albanian delegation for their reports on the consultations held.
4. North Macedonia expressed the need for further clarifications on complying with safety standards set out in RID. Further meetings in this regard shall be organized.
5. DG MOVE reiterated the importance of safety in transport of dangerous goods, as well as of increasing rail freight transport operations in the Western Balkans, and highlighted the importance of Guidelines in this regard. He also highlighted the fact that rail is being promoted as it is the green and sustainable solution for mobility in the context of the European Year of Railways, but is in a fierce competition with road transport of dangerous goods. He invited the Regional Partners to consider further the balance between modes.
6. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID), given by Mr Jochen Conrad, Head of the RID Department, OTIF. Mr Conrad reiterated the notification obligations set out in RID, and invited Regional Partners to communicate to the Secretariat of OTIF the addresses of the authorities and bodies designated by them which are competent in accordance with national law to implement RID. He invited Regional Partners to attend regularly the RID/ADR/ADN meetings in order to keep pace with the technical and scientific progress.
7. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on ERA support to IPA beneficiaries on Railway Safety and on transport of dangerous goods by rail within EU, given by Mr Emmanuel Ruffin, ERA TDG Coordinator. The constant correlation and cooperation between general railway safety and transport of dangerous goods experts was highlighted in the ERA intervention that also indicated the intersections between the different legislation. Follow up in cooperation with the Rail Committee needs to be ensured in the future.
8. DG NEAR presented information to Regional Partners on how to apply for TAIEX and Twinning assistance, as well as on key information needed in application. A "mock" application form and an Application Guide were provided and shall be shared with participants, to clarify the content that needs to be developed.
9. The National contact points dealing with TAIEX in each beneficiary country should be contacted by the applicants who would need advice and guidance on the procedures to be followed for a TAIEX application.



10. TC Permanent Secretariat welcomed presentation on incidents with fumigated cargo, given by Mr Henk Langenberg, Head of Dangerous Goods Division of Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management in Netherlands.
11. The incidents illustrate the need to cooperate across sectors, including with stakeholders trading general goods, in order to properly implement the existing provisions applicable for general goods when treated with phosphine. The TDG Committee Members were encouraged to share the information on fumigation rules with their counterparts dealing with consigners using fumigation when transporting their general goods.
12. The TCTDG welcomed the presentation on issues encountered in implementation of TDG legislation in Albania, given by Ms Eneida Elezi, Expert on Railway Transport of Dangerous Goods from Albanian Railways.
13. TC Permanent Secretariat welcomed the information received and highlighted that indeed the ongoing activities are illustrative for the need of cooperation across sectors, from legislative adaptations needed for data collection from different stakeholders to more punctual cooperation on transport of dangerous goods between authorities and the rail transport industry. TC Permanent Secretariat encouraged Albania to continue and enhance activities related to transport of dangerous goods by road also.
14. TC Permanent Secretariat informed that in 2022, 2 meetings of TCTDG will be held, and one conference dedicated to enforcement in transport of dangerous goods by road will be organized.