

7th meeting of Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods

Hybrid Session – TCT Secretariat Premises, Belgrade and MS TEAMS

14th June 2022, 10:00-12:00

Agreed Conclusions

1. The Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods (TCTDG) was organized to discuss a draft proposal of “Mutual Assistance regarding smart tachograph cards in the framework of the Treaty establishing the Transport Community (TCT)” drafted by the European Commission. It also tackled further implementation of Directive 95/50/EC in the Western Balkans.
2. DG MOVE presented in detail European Commission’s Draft Discussion Paper “Mutual Assistance regarding smart tachograph cards in the framework of the Treaty establishing the Transport Community (TCT)”. The document ensures a possibility for the Regional Partners to be offered assistance from EU Member States in case of crisis of tachograph cards. The Draft Discussion Paper suggests transitional period of 6+6 months for South East European Parties for transitioning from the digital non-smart tachograph to the smart tachograph system. Similar mutual assistance exercises were organized in the past for the EU Member States. Regional Partners were invited to present the current state of play in the region, as the representatives of the Commission needed confirmation of the needs of the Regional partners to have such assistance schemes put in place.
 - North Macedonia reported that its national security policy is submitted for approval to ERCA/JRC, and once it is approved the tender for the card issuing authority can be launched. If no problems in the tendering phase arise, the whole process may be completed within 12 months. Current digital cards supplies are sufficient and will be sufficient until the end of 2022. However, after that point, it is problematic that the chip supplier will be able to provide new non-smart tachograph chips as new orders would require larger quantities. North Macedonia reiterated the importance of cooperation with Slovenian Ministry of Infrastructure which led to opening of this issue on broader level.
 - Kosovo^(*1) informed that its legislation stipulates provisions on tachographs in line with EU acquis. Kosovo underlined the problem of not being member to European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) Agreement. European Commission encouraged Kosovo to start drafting smart tachographs policy, whereas the raised problem was duly noted.
 - Albania briefly explained the competencies for issuing the digital cards of second generation since 2021. The table containing transposition of EU acquis on digital tachographs was shared with TCTDG.

(Note: Regarding the production of memory cards for digital tachographs, GDRTS has signed a Framework Agreement no. 27664 Prot. of 22.12.2021 with the Slovenian company "Cetis, Graphic and Documentation Services" d.d., for the delivery of digital tachograph cards with a term of 4 years. Changes in EU acquis/regulations for tachograph cards are foreseen in the terms of reference of this contract. Cards equipped with second generation chips are currently being issued, which are coded with the G2 symbol. In anticipation of the above changes, as soon as they enter into force in the period June-September 2023 will begin the issuance of chip cards with the code G2 V2, by the company CETIS. This adaptation is foreseen to be performed within the same conditions of the existing contract).

(*1) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 (1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

- Bosnia and Herzegovina reported that its national smart tachograph policy was approved in March 2022. The area of tachographs is regulated by state law and certain number of bylaws, whereas ministries at entity level in charge for road traffic and department for traffic Brčko district are in charge of issuing cards. Agency for Identification Documents, Registers and Data Exchange of Bosnia and Herzegovina performs personalization and technical processing of cards and keeping records of manufactured cards.
 - Serbia fully supported the initiative presented in Draft Discussion Paper and reported that Road Traffic Safety Authority (which is competent card issuing authority) is finalizing preparations for issuing version 1 of smart cards. The issuing of the cards is expected to start in the second half of 2022. TC Treaty provided for the legal basis to start the implementation of smart tachograph system and the relevant EU acquis. Serbia is aware that EU MS are transferring to generation 2 v2 as of August 2023, but intentionally started the procedure of issuing cards v1 in order not to waste time and considering that transfer from v1 to v2 will be much easier and faster than the transfer from digital to smart tachographs. As a result, Serbia is not planning to make use of the mutual assistance proposed itself. Serbia also expressed its willingness to start the implementation of G2 V2 smart cards system as soon as V1 is implemented, and, although it does not have obligations in this regard, to try to catch-up with the EU timeline on the introduction.
3. The representative of North Macedonia raised the issue of the most effective to implement choice – i.e. generation 2 v2 smart cards, as recommended by CORTE. The representative Commission confirmed that the EU Member States are currently transitioning to gen 2 v2 tachograph. However, the legal basis for issuing smart cards generation 2 v2 is contained in Regulation (EU) 2021/1228, which for the time being does not seem to be included in TCT Annex I. TCT Secretariat will explore the possibilities for adding this regulation to Annex I in order to enable for the Regional Partners the issuing of smart cards generation 2 v2 when ready.
 4. TCT Secretariat invited Regional Partners to deliver their comments to Draft Discussion Paper by 5 July.
 5. Regional Partners were invited to provide TCT Secretariat with contact points of card issuing authorities for ADR by 22 June, as previously requested in written.
 6. With regard to implementation of Directive 95/50/EC, in particular development of an application facilitating work in area of transport of dangerous goods, Regional Partners were encouraged to express and submit their needs in written. The TDG Committee agreed in principle with the development of a pilot application containing the information on digital checklists to perform roadside checks according to Directive 95/50/EC and eventually other areas of road transport for the Regional Partners. Further bilateral meetings will follow in this regard and domestic contact points will be also contacted to that aim.
 7. TCT Secretariat announced 2 events in the course of 2022: Road Inspection Workshop co-organised by Polish Embassy, Polish Road inspection and TCT Secretariat for Albania, Kosovo and North Macedonia that will take place from 29 June – 01 July 2022 in Skopje, and workshop co-organised by Romanian Ministry of transport and TCT Secretariat in Bucharest on 5-7 September 2022. More details will follow.
 8. The next TCTDG meeting will take place on 26 October in Belgrade.