

6th meeting of Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods Hybrid Session – Hotel Aleksandar Palace, Skopje and MS TEAMS 19th May 2022 10:00-16:00

Agreed Conclusions

- 1. The Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods (TCTDG) was welcomed by Transport Community Permanent Secretariat's Deputy Director Ljuba Siljanoska who highlighted the main achievements of TCTDG under chairmanship of North Macedonia since its establishment. She reiterated that this meeting is the first in which the evolution of the program of work of the TDG Committee after the adoption of the Guidelines last year would be discussed. Therefore, it is essential to have the feedback from the Regional Partners on the two main Directives which have 2023 as deadline for implementation in the KPIs of the Guidelines, i.e. Directive 2008/68/EC on inland transport of dangerous goods and Directive 95/50/EC on uniform procedures for checks on the transport of dangerous goods by road. 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 and Regional Partners for the cooperation. The agenda of the meeting was adopted unanimously.
- 2. DG MOVE updated Regional Partners on the activity of the European Commission concerning transport of dangerous goods. DG MOVE highlighted the ongoing coordination activities of the EU Member States in order to have a position of the EU concerning the upcoming amendments of the international agreements that will enter into force on 1 January 2023. He invited all regional partners to follow-up closely the upcoming changes and encouraged that translation into local languages of the agreements be done. This is important as there are significant changes to be expected this year, e.g. for ADR AT vehicles with electric batteries will start being used. DG MOVE reiterated the importance of translating the main texts of ADR, RID and ADN to local languages.
- 3. The TCTDG welcomed the presentation on introduction on rail legislation and interfaces with TDG given by Mr. Emmanuel Ruffin, Coordinator Transport of Dangerous Goods -Railway Systems Department of ERA. The role of the TDG competent authorities and DG Safety advisors and their permanent need of communication and coordination with the other institutions under general railway legislation was highlighted. As these convergent activities -e.g. risk evaluation and assessment, safety management systems need to be organized in parallel with railway legislation, it was agreed that the same presentation be included in the Agenda of the Rail Technical Committee.
- 4. TCT Secretariat reiterated importance of exchange of experience between the EU experts and the WB6 region and called NGO sector representing the industry from the EU to volunteer and offer exchange of experience with the relevant actors in the Regional Partners.
- 5. With regard to transposition of Directive 2008/68/EC, TCT Secretariat underlined the importance of translating main texts of ADR and RID to regional languages. The TCTDG is invited to ask for support from the Regional Steering Committee view to financing of the translations of ADR, RID and ADN into regional languages, where applicable, by 2023.
- 6. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on summary of the guidelines on training, testing and tariffs of RID/ADR dangerous goods safety advisers and drivers in Albania, given by Ms Eneida Elezi, Expert on Railway Transport of Dangerous Goods from Albanian Railways. TCT Secretariat congratulated the Government of Albania for the adoption of these two important pieces of secondary legislation and invited the EU Member States to continue providing assistance for the implementation of the DGSA training provisions.
- 7. The representative of North Macedonia informed about his recent intervention in the 111th session of the Working Party on Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) concerning the change of model of ADR



- driver certificates in his country (<u>ECE-TRANS-WP15-111-GE-inf25e.docx (live.com</u>). The new model is currently published on the UNECE website and authenticity of these certificates can be checked, in case of doubts, at <u>adr@mtc.gov.mk</u>
- 8. TCT Secretariat encouraged Regional Partners who have not published their models of certificates to inform the other contracting parties of UNECE and to consider ways how to work better with card manufacturers and the card issuing authorities. Exchange of experience with EU Member States in this regard would be useful.
- 9. The TCTDG welcomed information on the outcomes of 3rd Social Forum held in Sarajevo addressing social issues in road transport given by Ms Martina Hakl, Desk officer for passenger rights and social issues. All Regional Partners were encouraged to address their questions related to harmonization of legislation on passenger rights and social issues to TCT Secretariat.
- 10. Concerning the Questionnaire on Directive 95/50/EC and the Roadmap, TCT Secretariat thanked Regional Partners who submitted their answers and reminded those who didn't to deliver it to TCT Secretariat by 1 June 2022 at the latest.
- 11. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on replies to Questionnaire on Directive 95/50/EC prepared by the Serbian Ministry of construction, transport and infrastructure, given by Mr Bojan Miljkovic, Chief of division for transport of dangerous goods.
- 12. TC Permanent Secretariat also wished to thank the delegations of Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro for their written answers to the questionnaires.
- 13. TCTDG agreed that more in depth discussion on this questionnaire and the roadmap be held on the occasion of the meeting of the national contact points to be held in the course of June 2022. It was agreed also that the answers to the Questionnaires be shared with the Romanian trainers organizing the Workshop in Bucharest.
- 14. To initiate common checks in the region for exchanges of experience, Regional Partners were invited to consider establishing a more formal cooperation either via a Memorandum of Understanding or an Annex to the Guidelines.
- 15. A principle agreement was also expressed for reciprocal recognition of checklists issued in other regional partners if Checklists in Annex I to Directive 95/50/EC are used.
- 16. TDGTC highlighted however a serious issue related to the absence of qualified inspectors and adequate equipment to perform such checks in all regional partners. RSC members should be informed about this problem.
- 17. TCPS announced that a Workshop on roadside checks for transport of dangerous goods is currently under preparation and it will be co-organised by the Romanian Ministry of Transport and TCT Secretariat in Bucharest, 5-7 September 2022. The interventions of the Romanian delegation announcing their willingness to host the first technical Workshop to be held in the EU was welcomed by the Committee. More details will follow.
- 18. Regarding the ongoing requests/applications for the EU technical assistance, TCT Secretariat encouraged Regional Partners to follow the example of Montenegro who applied for the TAIEX assistance for training of firefighters, and to use their example when drafting the applications in this area or in other area in which they are lacking experience.
- 19. The Chair of the TCTDG, Mr. J. Jancevski, reported briefly on the activities of the group in its first year of existence.
- 20. The TCTDG presidency was handed over from North Macedonia to Serbia.
- 21. The Committee thanked the Macedonian Presidency for their excellent work and congratulated the Serbian delegation on their upcoming activities.



- 22. TCT Secretariat announced another important event 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 in Skopje. This event will be dedicated to the regulation on access to occupation of the professional road transport haulier, driver's working time, tachographs, technical condition, roadworthiness, technical inspection.
- 23. The next TCTDG meeting will take place on 26 October 2022 in Belgrade.

^{*} 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.