



15th Regional Steering Committee meeting

15 March 2022, Belgrade and online

Draft Minutes and Conclusions

1. 15th Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting was held on 15 March 2022, in a hybrid form (physical participation and online).
2. All RSC members were present during the meeting as well as observers of the European Union Member States.
3. The meeting was chaired by the Chair of the Regional Steering Committee, Mr Gjynejt Mustafa and Co-Chair, Ms Mona Bjorklund.
4. Agenda of the 15th RSC meeting was adopted.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 5. | <p>Information from the European Commission on</p> <p>A) revision of the Trans European Transport Network Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (TEN-T Regulation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The European Commission presented the main elements of the revision of the Trans European Transport Network Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (TEN-T Regulation), as well as expected economic and climate benefits and milestones of the TEN-T completion and its relation to other relevant documents such as ITS Directive, Action Plan on Rail and the EU Urban Mobility Framework. Revising the TEN-T Regulation offers a real opportunity to make the Trans-European Transport Network fit for the future, and to align the development of the TEN-T network to the European Green Deal objectives and the climate targets of the EU Climate Law.• The European Commission thanked South East European Parties of the Transport Community (SEE) for their contribution to the ongoing work of the revision of the Indicative extension of TEN-T to Western Balkans.• The European Commission informed the Regional Partners of the next steps in the process leading to the review of the existing Indicative maps of the Western Balkans network.• European Commission will continue to liaise with the TCT Secretariat to obtain further clarifications regarding proposed changes to the Indicative extension of TEN-T to Western Balkans by the beginning of April. The general aim is to reach high-level agreement on the |
|----|---|

G.M. MS

proposed changes of the Indicative extension of TEN-T to Western Balkans in the second half of 2022 after agreement by the Council.

Conclusion: RSC welcomed information on revision of the TEN-T Regulation.

B) Communication from the European Commission on the extension of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) to neighbouring third countries

- RSC welcomed the presentation on the Communication from the European Commission on the extension of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) to neighbouring third countries. The Communication presents the scope of cooperation, general objectives of the TEN-T policy on neighbouring countries and main achievements and prospects of cooperation.

Conclusion: RSC welcomed the information on Communication from the European Commission on the extension of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) to neighbouring third countries.

6. **Information by the TCT Secretariat on the Five-year rolling work plan for the development of the indicative TEN-T extension of the comprehensive and core networks to the Western Balkans and the identification of priority projects of regional interest (Article 9 of TCT)**

- In accordance with provisions of Article 9 of the Transport Community Treaty, Transport Community Permanent Secretariat presented the first draft of the Five-year rolling work plan for the development of the indicative TEN-T extension of the comprehensive and core networks to the Western Balkans and the identification of priority projects of regional interest. The document offers insight into the strategic objectives of TEN-T network development in the region, TEN-T infrastructure development overview, TEN-T priority projects, transport policy priorities and list of mature project fiches per each mode of transport. TCT Secretariat thanked all Regional Partners for their feedback.
- The European Commission thanked the TC Secretariat for its work on the Five-year rolling work plan and informed that consultations with EU Member States in the Council is ongoing.
- Chair of RSC Committee, and representatives of Serbia, North Macedonia reiterated that the Five year rolling work plan offers a good base to further build on and continue planning priorities in the region and future projects of SEE Parties.
- Five SEE Parties submitted written comments that will be taken into consideration by the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat.

G. 14. MS

	<p>Conclusion: RSC discussed the current draft of the 1st edition of the Five-year rolling work plan for the development of the indicative TEN-T extension of the comprehensive and core networks to the Western Balkans and the identification of priority projects of regional interest. RSC members are invited to submit any additional comments by 18 March to the TCT Secretariat in writing. TCT Secretariat will share a new version of the document by 22 March. Written procedure should start in April to have the document ready for the Ministerial Council of Transport Community on 27 April 2022.</p>
7.	<p>Presentation by the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat of Annual Operational Report for the year 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Community Permanent Secretariat presented Annual Operational Report for the year 2021. The report outlines key actions and achievements in the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 in each mode of transport, as well as administrative and financial aspects of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat's work. • The European Commission thanked the TC Secretariat for its efforts and underlined the importance of the adoption and implementation of transport-related EU acquis. <p>Conclusion: RSC welcomed Transport Community Permanent Secretariat's Annual Operational Report for 2021.</p>
8.	<p>Information from Transport Community Permanent Secretariat on Ministerial Council of Transport Community, 27 April 2022 in Pristina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Community Permanent Secretariat informed RSC about preparations for the forthcoming 5th Ministerial Council of Transport Community which will take place on 27 April 2022 in Pristina. The materials for the meeting were shared with RSC: Agenda, Concept paper, Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030 and the draft conclusions. • Representative of North Macedonia proposed to also discuss border-crossing cooperation and extension of Green Lanes between EU Member States and the SEE Parties. Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina supported the suggestion. The European Commission took note of this suggestion and will revert with its position on the aforementioned in due course. <p>Conclusion: RSC acknowledged presented information regarding the Ministerial Council. RSC took note of the suggestion raised by delegations regarding the topic of extension of Green Lanes. TCT Secretariat will revert to the RSC in due course in this regard.</p>
9.	<p>Information on preparation for the Roads of the Future Summit, June 2022 in Tirana</p>

Handwritten signature: G. M. MS



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Transport Community Permanent Secretariat presented the Concept note of the planned Western Balkans Roads of the Future Summit, which will be organised jointly by Transport Community Permanent Secretariat, EIB and EBRD and hosted by Albania. The Summit will take place in Tirana on 7 June 2022. The Summit will consist of several panels aiming at sharing experience and knowledge on the need for safer, greener, and digital transition of the road sector including the role of youth and social/gender inclusion to achieve it. It is proposed to comprise a Plenary session (political level: Ministers of SEE Parties and EU Commissioners) followed by three or more technical sessions. • Transport Community Permanent Secretariat presented information regarding Dedication to Sustainable, Smart and Safe Roads of the Western Balkans. The document reflects the dedication of Transport Ministers of the SEE Parties of the Transport Community, meeting at the Road Summit, to reconfirm their commitment to build together safer, smart and sustainable roads. • Transport Community Permanent Secretariat presented information regarding signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Road Authorities/Public Enterprises on cooperation for safe, smart and sustainable development of the Indicative TEN-T extension of road network of SEE Parties of Transport Community, which will take place during the Road Summit. <p>Conclusion: RSC welcomed the organisation of the Road Summit in Tirana in June 2022. SEE Parties of TCT reviewed documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dedication to Sustainable, Smart and Safe Roads of the Western Balkans and</i> • <i>Memorandum of Understanding between Road Authorities of Southeast European Parties.</i>
--	--

AOB

A.	<p>Information from TCT Secretariat on Annual TEN-T Compliance Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSC acknowledged information regarding preparation of the Annual Report on the implementation of the TEN-T networks in the Western Balkans, including the methodology of the 2022 TEN-T Annual Report and estimated delivery timeline, presented by TCT Secretariat. The final document is envisaged to be delivered to RSC for endorsement in October 2022.
B.	<p>Information from TCT Secretariat on Second TCT Action Plans Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSC acknowledged information regarding preparation of the Annual Action Plans Progress Report with a tentative delivery timeline presented by TCT Secretariat. The final document is envisaged to be delivered to RSC for endorsement in October 2022.

G.N.
MS



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The European Commission took note of the preparation of the Progress Report and is looking forward to a detailed overview of implementation of from the EU Acquis listed in Annex I TCT.
C.	<p>Information from Transport Community Permanent Secretariat about the public procurement procedures followed by the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RSC acknowledged information about the public procurement procedures conducted by the TCT Secretariat in the course of 2021.• The RSC Chair encouraged the TCT Secretariat to share information on published prior information notices and open tenders in the future. TCT Secretariat will share information about the planned procurements (prior information notices) to SEE Parties (Communication advisors of Ministries in charge of transport) for wider dissemination.


Chair of the Regional Steering Committee
Mr Gjynejt Mustafa


Co - Chair of the Regional Steering Committee
Ms Mona Bjorklund