

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

**Hybrid Session – TCT Secretariat’s premises and MS TEAMS**

**26<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 09:00-16:30**

**Draft Minutes**

1. The Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods (TCTDG) was welcomed by Transport Community Permanent Secretariat’s Director Matej Zakonjšek who greeted the representatives of EUROSTAT, the Commission services in Luxembourg. Highlighting the efforts to mobilize EU Member States and Regional Partners in order to understand better how data collection concerning transport of dangerous goods is performed. Mr Zakonjšek invited all the representatives of the Regional Partners to continue cross-sectoral discussions concerning their ongoing activities, and to integrate the statistical data in their ongoing enforcement activities and transport policy developments. He reiterated the idea that enforcement needs to be an integral part of transport policy and this is why the TCT Secretariat, together with partners from Poland and Romania, invested so many resources in the past year to stimulate the activities of the Inspectorates in the Regional Partners. He also announced that cooperation with the fire and rescue services of the Regional Partners is ongoing with Montenegro and Albania, and invited all the other Regional Partners to consider establishing contacts between their respective services and TCT Secretariat.
2. The agenda of the meeting was adopted after insertion of a “Tour-de- table” of the attendees.
3. DG MOVE updated the TCTDG on the activity of the European Commission concerning transport of dangerous goods. Mr Roberto Ferravante, Senior Expert TDG, Unit C.2 Road Safety, DG MOVE informed that Directive 95/50/EC, which was amended several times, had been subject to codification by putting together consolidated text with all the amendments, and it has been re-published under new number-Directive 2022/1999<sup>1</sup>. Transposition measures concerning enforcement adopted after the date of adoption of Directive 2022/1999 should make reference to this new legal act which abrogates Directive 95/50/EC.
4. TCT Secretariat asked the Commission that the references to Directive 95/50/EC in the Draft Report shared among the meeting participants of the meeting view to adoption be maintained, as all activities referred to in that document were done in relation to the previous version of the Directive.
5. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on Road freight transport of dangerous goods statistics, in particular on requirements imposed by EU Acquis on Statistics and the screening done within the accession process given by Ms Evangelia Ford-Alexandraki, DHoU in Eurostat - Sectoral and regional statistics - Transport (ESTAT.E.3).
6. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on EU Regulation n° 70/2012 on Road Freight Transport Statistics (of which road transport of dangerous goods) given by Mr Alain Gallais, SNE Transport - Manager of the Eurostat / ITF / UNECE Common Questionnaire on inland transport statistics (ESTAT.E.3).
7. TCT Secretariat informed the representatives of the RPs who are interested to attend that the deadline for hybrid participation in the next meeting of the Working Party of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) is 28 October.

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<sup>1</sup> Directive (EU) 2022/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on uniform procedures for checks on the transport of dangerous goods by road, *OJ L 274, 24.10.2022, p. 1.*

8. Where possible to do so, participation online in the hybrid meeting which will take place in Geneva would allow timely follow-up of technical and scientific progress.
9. Mr Grzegorz Schodowski, Senior Specialist in Statistics Centre for Transport and Communication presented road freight transport statistics data collection in Statistical Office in Poland, the content of RFTS questionnaire and procedure of submitting it and compiling statistics of delivered data. He expressed availability for further cooperation, either multilaterally via TCT Secretariat or bilaterally if contacted directly by the Regional Partner's relevant services.
10. The TCTDG welcomed the presentation on the survey for road freight transport given by Ms Tatjana Stojanovska, State Statistical Office of North Macedonia. National and EU legal statistical framework, used methodologies and classification as well as ways of data transmission to EUROSTAT were presented.
11. TCT Permanent Secretariat warmly thanked the Commission – EUROSTAT for an excellent contribution to the meeting and encouraged Regional Partners to enhance cooperation between TDG experts in the different competent authorities in the region and domestic statistics institutes. As highlighted in the interventions of the Agency of Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) of Albania, there is a need of further cooperation and coordination as not all Regional Partners started gathering data on freight transport that would include also dangerous goods.
12. Follow-up of this point on the Agenda was agreed with the participants at the meeting, including the EUROSTAT. TCT Secretariat will consider the way forward but encouraged all TDG Committee members to contact their domestic representatives as soon as possible in order to see how cooperation can be developed and established domestically. TCT Permanent Secretariat thanked EUROSTAT for their help in having extra participation from the Regional Partners in the meeting.
13. TCT Permanent Secretariat expressed regret that the representative of Montenegro could not present also their ongoing activities but promised to ensure that the presentation be done in one of the subsequent meetings of the Committee.
14. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on scope of work of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of Serbia in the field of transport of dangerous goods given by Mr Bojan Miljkovic. It highlighted a need of further cooperation with TCT Secretariat and EU Member States concerning transport of gases classified as dangerous goods. He also offered a brief introduction on what does the dangerous goods file mean for Serbia, to briefly introduce the item for the statistical offices.
15. Ms Eneida Elezi, Foreign Affairs, Albanian Railways S.A., presented the ongoing projects concerning enforcement in Albania expressing availability for further cooperation on this subject, both with the other Regional Partners and EU Member States.
16. Mr Meriljan Kurtaj, Inspection Director, presented the scope of work and competencies of State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate of Albania. The same interest – as expressed by Serbia – on further cooperation concerning Directive 2010/35/EC was expressed in this occasion.
17. TCT Secretariat promised to come back on this issue as soon as possible.
18. The International Association of Fire and Rescue Services (CTIF) presented the scope of work of this international organization gathering since the beginning of the XX century representatives of the worldwide fire departments. The organization's Hazardous Material Commission develops activities related to transport of dangerous goods as well as industrial accidents. CTIF representatives invited Regional Partners to communicate via TCT Secretariat their requests for cooperation/trainings of fire departments. TCT Secretariat encouraged the Ministries competent for fire and rescue to be more active in cooperation with CTIF and to follow closely the meetings of the HazMat Commission to have peer to peer specialized cooperation. The specific purpose of the TDG Committee will not allow repetition or multiplication of subjects or approach concerning emergency intervention with dangerous goods as CTIF activities do.
19. A presentation on handling and storage of dangerous goods in Durres port, as well as on the establishment and scope of work of the Centre of Excellence for Maritime Affairs in Albania was given

by Ms Marinela Kerçuku, Head of Professional Training and Qualifications Unit, Centre of Excellence for Maritime Affairs – Durres Port Transport.

20. Regional Partners proposed to create regional center of excellence for train drivers to ease administrative procedures of licensing in the region. The proposal shall be further discussed with TC on Railway considering that specific certification for ADR only is foreseen according to the Annexes of Directive 2008/68/EC.
21. The TCTDG welcomed presentation on work of Fire Protection and Rescue service given by Mr Arben Cara, Director of training and logistical support, Ministry of Interior of Albania. Who stated that: *the main difficulties that the field is facing come from continued use of an old park of vehicles and the absence of appropriate means of intervention for specific transport modes. For example, the Fire Protection and Rescue Service does not have at disposal any firefighting ship in case an accident happens onboard a vessel carrying dangerous goods and approaching the Albania's coastal area or ports. Moreover, the port of Dures is still used for imports of dangerous goods in Albania and its container area is very close to the old town and the city center. Absence of proper vessels for firefighting at sea poses a safety and security risk for the industrial ports of Albania, which can endanger citizen's lives and the environment.*
22. General Inspectorate of Road Transport of Poland expressed interest in further cooperation with the region and strongly encouraged Regional Partners to initiate a study visit to Poland in 2023. Albania offered to be the leader of such a project.
23. TCT Secretariat thanked the representatives of the General Inspectorate of Road Transport and congratulated them for the anniversary of 20 years of functioning for the institution.
24. TCT Secretariat reiterated that Draft Report on the TDG Guidelines with all received comments included, will be communicated with Regional Partners together with these conclusions. The documents will be proposed for adoption in written procedure by the TDG TC view to endorsement by the Regional Steering Committee during its December session.
25. TCT Secretariat encouraged all relevant stakeholders to have a closer look at accident reports delivered by dangerous goods safety advisors.
26. TCT Secretariat announced that starting with 2024, it will be collecting the data concerning volumes of dangerous goods carried by road based on the requirements of the Directive 2022/1999/EC. Regional Partners were invited to express their requests for assistance in this regard if needed.
27. TCT Secretariat announced planned events in the course of 2023:  
three technical committee meetings and workshop on enforcement in Albania (tbc with Albanian colleagues). Regional Partners were invited to come up with written contributions for TCT Secretariat's Annual Work Program 2024. Cutoff date is January 2023.
28. An additional meeting of the TCTDG might be organized in December 2022, exact venue and date to be considered.