PROTOCOL of the Turkish -Latvian Joint Committee Meeting on Road Transport

The Joint Committee Meeting on Road Transport was held between the delegations of the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Latvia in Ankara on 11th -12th of November 2014 for developing of further cooperation in road transport between the two countries.

The delegations have agreed on the following agenda:

- 1) Exchange of information on trade and transport operations between Turkey and Latvia;
- 2) Transport of goods;
- 3) Other issues.

The Members of both delegations are listed in the Appendix.

1. Exchange of information on trade and transport operations between Turkey and Latvia

The delegations exchanged views and statistical information regarding the trade and current situation of road transportation between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Latvia and confirmed their pleasure that the foreign trade and accordingly the road transport operations showed increase. The delegations expressed their sincere belief that trade will further develop in the future.

The delegations presented the information related to the organization of road transport operations and the statistical data concerning the structure of the fleet being at the disposal of carriers of both countries as well as concerning the latest developments in the legal regulation of the road transport sector.

2. Transport of goods

The delegations exchanged the information about the number of permits used by hauliers of both the countries in 2013 and by November 1, 2014, which shows the increasing tendency.

Taking into consideration development of logistic chains and trade relations between Latvia and Turkey as well as the distance between the countries the Latvian delegation proposed to exchange additional 100 universal permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations in the year 2014 and to set the preliminary quota of such permits for 2015 in amount of 700 permits.

After discussions the delegations agreed to set the final quota of international goods transport permits for the year 2014 as follows:

- 700 permits for bilateral and transit goods transport operations;
- 400 permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations.

Taking into consideration development of trade relations the delegations agreed to set the preliminary quota for the year 2015 as follows:

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- 900 permits for bilateral and transit goods transport operations;
- 450 permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations.

The delegations confirmed that all the permits shall be valid until 31st January of the following year.

3. Other Issues

On the request of the Latvian side Turkish delegation informed that Turkey has joined the INTERBUS agreement and for the occasional passenger transport INTERBUS waybill is used as control document, adding that Turkey is actively contributing to the meetings of the Expert Group on OmniBUS, held under the UNECE platform.

On the request of the Turkish side, the Latvian delegation informed that the charging of goods vehicles above 3.5 tonnes for the use of main roads in Latvia is introduced and gave over the informative flyer on this issue.

The Turkish delegation noted that in Turkey road tolls for usage of highways and bridges must be paid by all vehicles using them.

The delegations exchanged the viewpoints on the latest developments within the ECMT Multilateral Quota System, and stressed the importance of the system.

Upon the question of the Latvian delegation, the Turkish delegation provided information on the recent development in Turkish Road Transport sector, especially regarding the implementation of Digital Tachograph system and on possibilities to exchange information on issued digital tachograph driver cards. The contact address concerning issued cards in Turkey is The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey, Dumlupinar Bulvari No:252 Eskişehir Yolu 9.Km Ankara, Turkey, e-mails: oznur.yilmaz@tobb.org.tr and cihan.korucu@tobb.org.tr and in Latvia – Road Transport Administration, Valnu Street 30, LV-1050, Riga, Latvia, e-mail- atd@atd.lv

The Meeting took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere and both delegations expressed their satisfaction over the results.

The Latvian delegation invited the Turkish delegation to Latvia for the next Joint Committee Meeting. The Turkish delegation accepted the invitation with pleasure. The exact date and venue of the meeting will be determined via diplomatic channels.

Done in Ankara on 12th of November 2014 in the English language in two original copies.

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