

First Meeting of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation 10-11 February 2014, Phuket, Thailand

UNESCAP Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts for Transport Facilitation: background, current status, proposals for the working programme for 2014, possible future activities and working arrangements



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Background: Regional Strategic Framework for Facilitation of International Road Transport

- Existence of non-physical barriers can significantly impede transit transport adversely affecting connectivity of countries to regional and global markets
- Developed by UNESCAP and based on a comprehensive study on non-physical barriers
- Adopted by the Ministerial Conference on Transport held at Bangkok in March 2012
- Identifies main challenges to international road transport and provides long term targets to provide coherence and process to achieve them
- Provides seven modalities to support facilitation of international road transport



Background: Regional Strategic Framework for Facilitation of International Road Transport

- One of the modalities under RSF is building effective legal regime through:
 - Establishment of a regional network of legal experts on transport facilitation;
 - Accession to selected international; facilitation conventions;
 - Subregional agreements;
 - Bilateral agreements.



Background:

ESCAP Project on the Establishment of the Regional Network of Legal and Technical Experts on Transport Facilitation

- Financed by the Government of the Russian Federation
- Includes stiudies on:
 - Comparisons of subregional facilitation agreements
 - Relationship between international facilitation conventions and subregional facilitation agreements
- Meetings to launch the network and to share knowledge and outcomes of the studies



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Objectives:

- Exchange information
- Coordinate with each other
- Pinpoint areas of legal conflict between different subregional agreements and their implications
- Suggest solutions to legal conflicts where a country is party to two or more agreements
- Suggest ways to connect countries located in different subregions that are party to different agreements
- Share experiences
- Promote international facilitation conventions and the formulation and implementation of subregional facilitation agreements;
- Assist in the development and improvement of bilateral agreements on international road transport



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> Activities:

- Exchange of information through electronic communication;
- Seminars;
- Training;
- Expert meetings;
- Group and individual studies.



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status:

lication from 28 countries received as bruary 2014;

und of studies on comparative analysis egional agreements on transport ion completed in 2013;

eeting is to discuss further activities ys of their implementation



