

Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
and
the Organization for Cooperation of Railways (OSJD)

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and the Committee of the Organization for Cooperation of Railways (OSJD).

- Considering that both the ECO and OSJD have in their composition the common member states as well as the formal and institutionalized relationships with the relevant UN agencies and other regional organizations, and
- Convinced that mutual benefits to both the ECO and OSJD would arise from close cooperation between them in the attainment of their objectives as set forth in the Treaty of Izmir and in the OSJD Charter

hereby agree to promote cooperation in the field of railway transport as follows:

1. **Exchange of Information**

- (i) Each party shall keep the other regularly informed on programmes and activities of mutual interest as well as exchange of "ECO Bulletin" and "OSJD Bulletin" and appropriate documents that address the matters of common interest.
- (ii) In conformity with the rules and policies of each Organization, the information in sub-paragraph (i) above will include aspects of technical and operational matters, including the following:-
 - (a) plans for the development and/or up-gradation of national, regional and inter-regional railway linkages as well as improvement of regular transport services including mutual assistance to overcome the bottlenecks in the field of railway transport;
 - (b) development of technical parameters and standards of railways and rolling-stocks as well as the relevant infrastructure of the stations for use in regional and inter-regional railways carriages with the aim of improving the efficiency of utilization of existing railway network and its infrastructure facilities.

2. **Consultation and Cooperation**

- (i) Where necessary, the parties shall consult and cooperate with each other through working meetings and other means, on the matters referred to in §1 above, and on subjects of mutual interest dealt with at their own and international meetings and conferences.

- (ii) In this context, both ECO and OSJD may, in cooperation with their members and various international transport organizations concerned, identify projects pertaining to railway transport facilitation issues and removal of physical and non-physical barriers along the "East-West" and "North-South" transport corridors with a regional impact within/outside the ECO and OSJD region and propose them to the UN-ESCAP and UN-ECE for consideration and discussion on the ways and means of implementing these projects.
- (iii) Subject to decisions that may be taken by their respective decision-making bodies concerning the participation in their meetings, ECO Secretariat and OSJD Committee shall invite each other to attend their relevant meetings on reciprocal basis.
- (iv) ECO and OSJD may jointly organize training seminars and workshops at country/regional levels on different aspects of the railway transport as well as provide advisory services on specific requests of the Member States.

3. **General provisions**

- (i) This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to the approval of the appropriate decision-making bodies of the two contracting parties and shall enter into force immediately upon signature by the Secretary General of ECO and the Chairman of OSJD Committee.
- (ii) This Memorandum of Understanding can be modified by mutual written consent.
- (iii) The Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either party upon six months prior written notice to the other.

In witness whereof, the Secretary General of ECO and the Chairman of OSJD Committee have signed this MoU in duplicate both in English and Russian languages.

Signed at Warsaw on 17 September, 2001.

Dr. Abdolrahim Gavahi
Secretary General of ECO

Tadeusz Szozda
Chairman of OSJD Committee