**11th Coordinating Webinar Meeting, Tuesday, 4th August 2020**

**Agenda Items relating to project implementation:**

Agenda Item (3): **“Presentations relating to progress in ongoing projects and other events/activities”**

Progress in ongoing projects of Directorates/Sections has been considered, among other matters, relating to the core activity areas of the Organization.

Among ongoing projects considered there have been:

**KTAI & ITI Roads Test Run** project has been noted as one of the notable achievements of ECO in the activity area of Transport during the preceding 2-3 months. There have been positive feedbacks from project involved countries on the progress of this project.

RECOMMENDATION: If the ECO could continue such positive practice, particularly at the turbulent time much influenced by COVID-19 restrictions, this test run will facilitate actual implementation of the “**ECO Practical Guidelines on Cross Border Facilitation Measures under conditions of COVID-19”** in the Transport activity area of ECO.

**KTI Railway** project has received encouraging official correspondences from selected Member States indicating that the project-developed common Corridor Management Mechanism (CMM) is a positive step towards commercializing of KTI Railway corridor. The intention has been conveyed to the Secretariat for a more active communication among relevant authorities of Railways, Customs and Cross Border other authorities.

RECOMMENDATION: Establishment of the CMM now enables the initiation of new projects on ECO’s other transport corridors ̶ for greater inter-operability among parties involved.

**Istanbul-Almaty & Bandar Abbas-Almaty Railway** project has been seen as completed in due time.

RECOMMENDATION: The project may usher diverse modalities under a new project implementation such as testing the possibility of applying on this railway route the provisions of the “Unified Railway Law”.

**ITI Railway** project has observed some modifications. Monitoring of progress on this project is being fulfilled in virtual mode.

RECOMMENDATION: To the above-referred effect, there are two things to focus on: (1) ongoing reconstruction of rail segment, notably, Zahedan-Taftan and the related border facilitation and, (2) dispatch of the container train from Islamabad to Istanbul.

*Acronyms used in the content*:

KTAI: Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran.

ITI: Islamabad-Tehran- Istanbul