

AGREED MINUTES

of the 2nd Meeting of the Joint Committee established under Article 18 of the Agreement between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Republic of Latvia Concerning the International Transport of Passengers and Goods by Road

Lisbon, 22-23 April 2004

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

1. Exchange of the information regarding trade and road transport between Latvia and Portugal.
2. Application of the bilateral Agreement on international road transport after the accession of Latvia to the E.U, including goods road transport operations to/from third countries.
3. International road transport organisation under the framework of E.U. legislation. Road transport control, social aspects.
4. Miscellaneous.

The list of participants is annexed to these Agreed Minutes (see Annex 1).

Re. 1

The delegations exchanged information on statistics of trade and road transport operations between Latvia and Portugal. It was noted that trade relations between the two countries are developing positively and the volume of goods transported has considerably increased.

Re. 2

Both the sides noted that the Agreement between the Republic of Latvia and the Portuguese Republic Concerning the International Transport of Passengers and Goods by Road is implemented successfully.

Delegations informed each other about the number of goods transport permits issued to the hauliers of both countries in the years 2003 and 2004. The Portuguese delegation informed that the most part of the road transport operations between Latvia and Portugal is performed under ECMT licences.

The two parties noted that the bilateral agreement on international road transport between the two countries will remain in force after Latvia's accession to the EU in all its aspects

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not regulated by the Community acquis and in the light of this the Parties agreed to liberalise the third country transport operations, pointing out that as from 1 May, 2004 these type of services can be performed without permits by the hauliers of both Parties.

Re.3

The Parties exchanged views on co-operation in the enlarged EU. Upon the request of the Latvian delegation, the Portuguese delegation expanded on the legislative decision making process within the EU as well as on the proposals and recently approved road transport related EU legal acts. The importance of consulting between the two countries was pointed out. It was stressed that the concept of sustainable mobility and modal split should not compromise the competitiveness and development of the road transport markets of the peripheral countries, nor the principle of economic, social and territorial cohesion enshrined in the Treaty.

The Portuguese delegation expanded on the experience of its country in the implementation of the EU road transport acquis, particularly in the areas of access to profession and market, social and fiscal aspects and control of road transport operations.

The Latvian delegation informed about the transitional periods granted to Latvia in the field of road transport under the Accession Treaty of the Republic of Latvia to the EU. Taking into consideration the derogation scenario 2+2+1 for goods cabotage operations by road the Parties agreed that within two years after accession of Latvia these type of operations will not be allowed in the territories of both the countries and after this period the parties will review this matter.

The Latvian delegation handed over the samples of Community licences and other documents to be used by the Latvian carriers as from May 1, 2004 when performing road transport operations in the Community. The Portuguese delegation is going to send the samples of the documents used by the Portuguese carriers as soon as possible.

Re.4

The delegations exchanged the information regarding the road transport market structure in both the countries.


The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere in line with the traditional relations between the road transport authorities of the two countries.

The Latvian delegation invited the Portuguese delegation for the next Joint Committee meeting in Latvia. The details of the meeting will be agreed by correspondence.

Done in Lisbon on April 23, 2004 in two originals in the English language.

For the Portuguese delegation:

For the Latvian delegation:


/Mario Noronha/


/Jūlijs Vaitužs/