

Agreed Minutes of the Czech – Latvian Joint Committee Meeting on International Road Transport Issues Prague, November 11-12, 2008

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

- 1) Exchange of information regarding the development of road transport between the Czech Republic and the Latvia;
- 2) Transport of goods;
- 3) Transport of passengers;
- 4) Miscellaneous

The list of participants is enclosed with these Agreed Minutes.

Re. 1

The delegations exchanged information on development of trade and road transport operations between the Czech Republic and Latvia.

Both delegations mentioned the global economic crisis and expressed hopes that the impact of the crisis will not be overly adverse to carriers.

Re. 2

The delegations informed each other about the use of permits for goods transport to/from third countries for the years 2007 and 2008. After analyzing the situation, both delegations agreed that the quantity of permits is sufficient and there is no need for additional exchange.

It was also agreed to preserve the current quota as preliminary for the year 2009. This means the quota for goods transport to/from third countries, numbers:

- 350 (three hundred fifty) permits for goods transport to/from third countries.

The Latvian party will preliminarily send 100 permits valid for goods transport to/from third countries for the Czech carriers for the year 2009. If needed, the Czech party is authorized to ask for the necessary amount up to the agreed quota. Czech delegation proposed a mutual liberalisation of goods transport to/from third countries, this matter is going to be discussed at the following session.

As the cabotage operations were mutually liberalized since 1.5.2008, both delegations exchanged views regarding the enactment of cabotage and its functionality, which fulfills the general effort to eliminate discrimination in the international road transport. The Latvian delegation informed that in Latvia all cabotage operators are allowed to stay in the country for no more than 6 months. As soon as the EU definition of temporary character of cabotage is given and in force, it will be fully exercised in the area of Latvia. Generally the official position of both delegations enforces full and limitless liberalisation of cabotage.

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Re 3.

The delegations discussed the functioning of regular passenger lines between both countries. It was mentioned that between both countries one regular line Riga – Prague and three transit lines exist and stressed that on field of passenger transport there are no important problems to be solved.

The delegations discussed the contradiction that arose between the CVR Convention and the Commission's intention to regulate the rights of passengers in international bus and coach transport. As both countries have signed the CVR Convention, which forbids signing another treaty with a different regulation of the same topics, both delegations agreed to harmonize and coordinate their possible cancellation of membership in the CVR Convention.

Re 4.

The Latvian party informed that currently there are no restrictions of the freight transport operations during the weekends and holidays.

The Czech delegation informed that the Czech Republic is going to extend the actual driving restrictions, but no final proposal has been passed as yet.

Both delegations exchanged information on the system of payments in the road traffic. In the Czech Republic the current system combines time-based payments for vehicles of less than 12 tons, vehicles above this limit pay according to their ecological impact and number of axles. In the future, the Czech Republic considers extending payment obligation for vehicles weighing over 3,5 tons as well.

The Latvian delegation informed about imposing the duty of payments on the main roads, but only for vehicles weighing over 12 tons (not including buses).

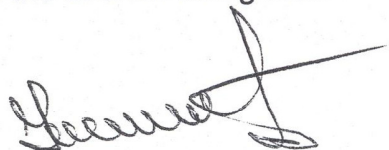
The Czech delegation informed about legal regulation of bail and delegations also informed each other about digital tachograph system Tachonet.

The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere; both delegations emphasized the usefulness of the meeting.

The Latvian delegation proposed to organize the next Joint Committee Meeting in Riga, the exact date will be specified.

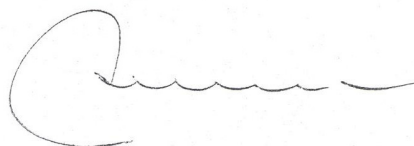
Done at Prague on 12th November, 2008 in 2 originals in English.

On behalf of the Latvian delegation



Mr. Jūlijs Vaitužs

On behalf of the Czech delegation



Mr. Ladislav Němec

ANNEX

The list of participants

The Latvian delegation

Mr. Jūlijs Vaitužs

Deputy Director of Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport

Mr. Aivars Olants

Head of Foreign Relations and European Affairs Division, Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport

Mr. Andris Lubāns

Chairman of the Board, Road Transport Administration

The Czech delegation

Mr. Ladislav Němec

Director of Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport

Ms. Pavla Vodová

Deputy Director of Road Transport Department and Head of Division for International Passenger Transport and Professional State Supervision

Ms. Kamila Šrolerová

Division of International Passenger Transport and administrative proceedings, Ministry of Transport

Mr. Jan Vystrčil

Division of Freight Transport and State Supervision, Ministry of Transport

Mrs. Jaroslava Černá

The Association of Road Transport Operators ČESMAD BOHEMIA

Interpreter

Mr. Petr Levý

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