

AGREED MINUTES

of the Latvian – Hungarian Joint Committee Meeting
under the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the
Government of the Republic of Hungary on International Passenger and Goods transport
by road
held in Riga, May 23-24, 2002

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

1. Exchange of information on implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on International Passenger and Goods Transport by Road and on current situation within trade and international road carriage between Latvia and Hungary.
2. Passenger services, including implementation of the INTERBUS Agreement.
3. Transport of goods. Fixing of the goods transport permit quota.
4. Changes in the legislation concerning road transport and other business.

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

Re. 1

The delegations exchanged information on statistics reflecting the positive tendencies within development of trade and road transport operations between Latvia and Hungary.

In the period 1999 - 2001 the export from Latvia to Hungary in money terms has increased twice but the Hungarian export to Latvia by 20% and approximately 90% of all these goods have been transported by road.

Both the sides noted that the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on International Passenger and Goods Transport by Road is implemented successfully.

Re. 2

Both the delegations noted that up to the present moment neither of the parties has received an application for operating regular services. It was pointed out that both the parties will support the efforts of carriers, if any, to establish regular passenger service by bus between the countries.

The Latvian side proposed in the year 2003 to exchange 10 authorizations valid for entering the territory of the other Contracting Party by bus without passengers in order to replace a broken down or damaged passenger vehicle in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement. The sample of such Latvian authorization was provided and is annexed to these Agreed Minutes (see Annex 2). The Hungarian side promised to examine this proposal.

The delegations informed each other that their governments have signed the Agreement on the International Occasional Carriage of Passengers by Coach and Bus (INTERBUS) and as from entering into force of this Agreement the form of the passenger waybills provided by INTERBUS is going to be used as a control document in case of occasional

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services and, in case of necessity, both the sides are going to exchange views on implementation of this Agreement.

Re. 3

It was noted that since 1994 the annual goods transport permit quota has been:

- 4000 permits valid for bilateral and transit operations;
- 400 permits valid for third country, bilateral and transit operations.

Taking into consideration the fact that within four months of the current year 305 third country permits have already been issued to the Latvian carriers the Latvian side proposed in the year 2002 to exchange additional 600 permits valid for third country operations and in the year 2003 to establish the following provisional quota: 3000 permits valid for bilateral and transit operations and 1000 for third country, bilateral and transit operations.

The Hungarian side provided the information that the share of goods transport operations between both the countries performed by Latvian hauliers is considerably larger than that of the Hungarian side and therefore at present moment the above proposal cannot be supported but it was agreed to discuss this issue at the next Joint Committee meeting.

In its turn, the Hungarian delegation proposed to introduce the permits for "greener and safe" and "Euro 3 safe" lorries structuring the existing quota as follows: 60 % of the quota of bilateral and transit permits and the total quota of third country operations to allocate for "greener and safe" and "Euro 3 safe" lorries. After discussing this proposal it was agreed to structure the provisional quota of the year 2003 as follows:

- 2000 permits without levying road taxes valid for bilateral and transit operations by conventional goods vehicles;
- 2000 permits without levying road taxes valid for bilateral and transit operations by "greener and safe" and "Euro 3 safe" lorries;
- 150 permits without levying road taxes valid for third country, bilateral and transit operations by conventional goods vehicles
- 250 permits without levying road taxes valid for third country, bilateral and transit operations by "greener and safe" and "Euro 3 safe" lorries.

The compliance with "greener and safe" and "Euro 3 safe" lorry standards should be testified by providing the certificates in accordance with the requirements of ECMT Resolution CEMT/CM(2001)9/FINAL.

The permits of the current year will be valid up to January 31 of a next year. In case of necessity the parties can discuss the possibility to exchange additional number of permits.

The Hungarian side asked to provide the sample of the stamp used by the Latvian side on ECMT licences allocated to Latvia and promised to send the sample of the stamp used by the Hungarian authorities. The Latvian side provided the sample which is annexed to these Agreed Minutes (see Annex 3).

Re.4

The delegations provided information on national rules and regulations to be complied with when performing road transport operations in the territory of Latvia and Hungary as

well as the names and addresses of competent authorities for the purpose of implementation of the Agreement. The Latvian side asked to provide information on road transport related taxes and charges levied in the Hungarian territory from foreign carriers and the Hungarian side promised to send this information.

The delegations exchanged information on the process of harmonization of the national legislation with that of EU and on accession negotiations, noting that at the end of the previous year both the countries have provisionally closed Chapter 9 Transport Policy.

The delegations noted that in accordance with par 2 of Article 17 of the Agreement the Protocol on the Implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Hungary on International Passenger and Goods Transport by Road, signed at Budapest on March 9, 1993, should be modified as follows:

“1. The competent authorities for implementation of the Agreement are:

– for the Republic of Latvia:

Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia
3 Gogola Street, LV-1743, Riga, Latvia
Phone: 371 7028302
Fax: 371 7028304, 371 7217180
e-mail: autosatiksmes@sam.gov.lv

The Hungarian delegation invited the Latvian delegation to Budapest for the next Joint Committee meeting in the year 2003, the exact time of which will be agreed by correspondence.

The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

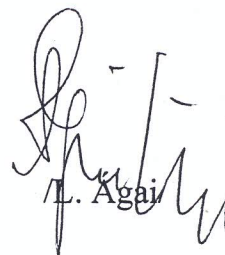
Done in Riga on May 24, 2002 in two originals in the English language.

For the Latvian delegation:



/J. Vaitužs/

For the Hungarian delegation:



L. Agai