#### AGREED MINUTES

of the 1<sup>st</sup> Latvian - Mongolian Joint Committee meeting on International Transport by Road held in Riga, 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

The Latvian - Mongolian Joint Committee on International Transport by Road has been established, consisting of the delegates duly appointed by the respective competent authorities, and held its first meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in Riga, Latvia in accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of Mongolia on International Transport by Road, signed on 12 June 2014 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

The composition of both delegations is annexed to the protocol (Annex 1).

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

- 1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport between the Republic of Latvia and Mongolia.
- 2. Transport of goods by road and establishment of the quota of international road transport permits for the year 2016 and preliminary for 2017.
- 3. Passenger transport.
- 4. Exchange of views on control of the international road transport operations in both countries.
- 5. Miscellaneous (road charges, regulating of driving and rest hours, visas for professional drivers etc.).

## 1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport between the Republic of Latvia and Mongolia

The Latvian delegation emphasized with satisfaction that the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of Mongolia on International Transport by Road (hereinafter – the Agreement) entered into force on March 12, 2015.

The delegations had detailed discussions related to matters pertaining to the implementation of the Agreement.

The delegations informed each other about trade relations between both countries and about the organization of the road transport sectors in each of them.

The Latvian delegation presented information on passenger and goods transport by road in Latvia, as well as information on international trade between Latvia and Mongolia.

The Latvian side noted that during the year 2015 in comparison with the previous year the export volume in EUR to Mongolia as well as the import volume from Mongolia decreased.

The Latvian side informed that goods imported from Mongolia are textiles and textile articles (100%), but main types of goods exported to Mongolia are machinery mechanical appliances, electrical equipment (47.2%) and prepared foodstuffs (43.7%).

The Mongolian delegation noted that trade turnover between both countries is rather low.

The Latvian delegation informed about the structure of the heavy goods vehicle fleet and noted that by the end of 2015 there were 3920 international transport companies and at their disposal there were 14709 freight vehicles.

In return the Mongolian delegation outlined recent general tendencies in their international goods transport market and fleet. The Mongolian side stressed that Latvia is the first EU country with which the Agreement on International Transport by Road was signed.

Both sides expressed hope that on the bases of the Agreement the trade turnover and the number of international goods transport operations between Latvia and Mongolia will increase in the nearest future.

# 2. Transport of goods by road and establishment of the quota of international road transport permits for the year 2016 and preliminary for 2017

The Latvian delegation informed that for international transport operations in the year 2016 three hundred (300) Latvian permits valid for bilateral and to/from third countries goods transport operations have been sent to the Ministry of Road and Transport of Mongolia by diplomatic channels.

Both delegations noted that the transit transport of goods by road is free from permits regime in accordance with Article 7 of the Agreement.

After discussions the delegations agreed to establish the quota for the year 2016 in amount of 300 permits valid for bilateral and to/from third countries goods transport operations. The Mongolian delegation confirmed that the respective

number of Mongolian permits will be sent as soon as possible via the Embassy of Mongolia in Warsaw, but not later than by 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.

The Mongolian side pointed out that their proposal regarding the quota of permits for the year 2017 will be sent to Latvian side till 15<sup>th</sup> of September, 2016. In case no information received by the indicated date the quota for the year 2016 shall be considered as preliminary for the year 2017.

The sides agreed that any demand for additional permits will be dealt within the framework of good intentions.

All permits of the current year shall be valid till 31st of January of the following year.

The exchange of permits every year should be organized by December 15 through the diplomatic channels, namely, the Mongolian side shall transmit permits for Latvia via the Embassy of Mongolia in Warsaw and the Latvian side via its Embassy in Beijing.

### 3. Passenger transport

The delegations exchanged the information on the competent authorities under Article 4 of the Agreement.

For the Latvian side the competent authority is the Latvian Road Transport Administration, Valnu Street 30, Riga, LV–1050, Latvia, email: <a href="mailto:daiga.ancane@atd.lv">daiga.ancane@atd.lv</a>, phone: +371 67686493, fax: +371 67686490.

The Mongolian delegation informed that the competent authority for regular bus services is the Ministry of Road and Transport, Chinggis Avenue 11, Sukhbaatar District, Ulaanbaatar 14251, Mongolia, email: <a href="mailto:chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn">chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn</a>, phone: +976 62 263212, fax: +976 11 312315.

With regard to permits for occasional services under Article 5 of the Agreement both sides agreed to establish in 2017 the preliminary quota for non-liberalized bilateral and transit occasional bus services in amount of 60 permits. These permits shall be exchanged applying the procedure described above in point 2 of the Agreed Minutes.

The delegations exchanged the samples of passenger waybills to be used as described in point 3 of Article 6 of the Agreement which are annexed to these Agreed Minutes as Annex 2 in case of Latvia and Annex 3 in case of Mongolia.

## 4. Exchange of views on control of the international road transport operations in both countries

The Latvian delegation pointed out that road transport control functions inside the country are executed by the State Police Central Public Order Police Department Traffic Safety Department Traffic Surveillance and Coordination Bureau Road Haulage Supervision Unit. (address: Stabu street 89, Riga, LV–1009, Latvia; Phone: +371 67208377; fax: +371 67274789; email: kanceleja.cpp@vp.gov.lv).

The Mongolian delegation informed that in connection with road traffic rules the control is performed by Road Traffic Police, but in connection with road transport operation regulations – Ministry of Road and Transport Chinggis Avenue 11, Sukhbaatar District, Ulaanbaatar 14251, Mongolia, email: <a href="mailto:chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn">chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn</a>, phone: +976 62 263212, fax: +976 11 312315.

The Latvian delegation informed that since Latvia joined the Schengen Agreement on 21st December, 2007 at the internal borders of Latvia with Lithuania and Estonia control authorities has been removed and, therefore, foreign drivers, when crossing the Latvian – EU internal border and performing transport operations for which the Latvian permits for international carriage of goods or occasional carriage of passengers are needed, should mark themselves in the column of a permit "date and stamp of the customs or border control authority" the place and date of border crossing. Without such records a permit is regarded as not valid.

The information on procedures of control in both countries was exchanged.

## 5. Miscellaneous (road charges, regulating of driving and rest hours, visas for professional drivers etc.).

Both delegations exchanged information on the road transport organization structure and existing systems for access to the profession in their countries.

The Latvian delegation informed that in accordance with Directive 2006/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 amending Directive 1999/62/EC on the charging of heavy goods vehicles for the use of certain infrastructures starting as from July 1, 2014 Latvia introduced road vignette for trucks with permissible total weight over 3.5 tons. The Latvian side noted that the vignette is electronic. It is possible purchasing of it by a fuel card, a credit card, by mobile phone or by internet. The carriers are able to purchase a day, a week, a month and a year vignettes. An electronic database is used for

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control of the vignette system. The vignettes is issued taking into consideration ecological standards of the vehicles, number of axles, etc.

The Mongolian delegation informed that all vehicles (national and foreign) have to pay road charge at special charging points when entering major cities.

The Mongolian side informed that all passenger and goods international transport operations by road performed in accordance with the Agreement shall be carried out along the following roads classified as international highways:

- Asian Highway Network Route AH3 (Altanbulag-Ulaanbaatar-Zamiin Uud highway);
- Asian Highway Network Route AH4 (Ulaanbaishint-Khovd-Yarantai highway).

The Latvian delegation informed that international road transport operations in Latvia can be performed using the whole Latvian road network according to national traffic regulations, but it is recommended to use the main state road network.

Upon the request of the Latvian delegation the Mongolian delegation informed that visas for Latvian professional drivers are issued by the Embassy of Mongolia in Warsaw.

The information on competent authorities under Article 13 of the Agreement was exchanged. In case of Latvia special authorizations for carriage of abnormal loads in Latvia are issued by the State joint – stock company "Latvian State Roads" (address: Gogola street 3, Riga, LV–1743; phone/fax: +371 67036412; email: <a href="mailto:maris.ankorins@lvceli.lv">maris.ankorins@lvceli.lv</a> and <a href="mailto:lvceli.lv">lvceli@lvceli.lv</a>). In case of Mongolia the competent authority issuing special authorizations for carriage of abnormal loads in the territory of Mongolia is Ministry of Road and Transport Chinggis Avenue 11, Sukhbaatar District, Ulaanbaatar 14251, Mongolia, email: <a href="mailto:chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn">chuluunbaatar@mrt.gov.mn</a>, phone: +976 62 263212, fax: +976 11 312315.

In response to a question by the Latvian delegation regarding insurance in accordance with Article 12 of the Agreement the Mongolian side informed that the Green Card System is not valid in the territory of Mongolia. Foreign carriers should obtain Mongolian national insurance at border crossing points.

The Mongolian delegation pointed out that Mongolia is a member of TIR Convention and TIR Carnets are recognized by the Mongolian customs authorities.

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Both delegations agreed that all changes in their national legislation related to international road transport between the countries must be notified in due time through the diplomatic channels.

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

The Mongolian delegation invited the Latvian delegation to Mongolia for the next Joint Committee meeting in the year 2017. The exact dates of the meeting will be additionally agreed upon by correspondence through the diplomatic channels.

Done at Riga on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 in two originals in the English language.

For the Latvian delegation:

For the Mongolian delegation:

Ms. Annija NOVIKOVA

Mr. Purevbatbaatar BILGUUN