

PROTOCOL
of the Latvian - Turkish
Joint Committee Meeting on Road Transport

Joint Committee Meeting on Road Transport was held between the delegations of the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Turkey in Riga on 2nd-3rd of December 2015 to further develop the cooperation in road transport between both countries.

The Delegations negotiated the transport of goods and passengers by road between their countries on the basis of the following agenda:

1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport.
2. Transport of goods by road and establishment of the final quota of international road transport permits for the year 2015 and preliminary for 2016.
3. Exchange of views regarding the further development of the ECMT multilateral quota.
4. Miscellaneous.

The composition of the two delegations is annexed to the Protocol.

1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport

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 detailed information on passenger and goods transport by road in Latvia, as well as information on international trade between Latvia and Turkey.

The Latvian delegation noted that during the year 2014 in comparison with the previous year the export and import volumes between Latvia and Turkey in EUR and tons increased.

The export of goods from Latvia to Turkey exceeds the import from Turkey to Latvia 1.5 times in EUR but in tons the export from Latvia exceeds the import of goods from Turkey 14.8 times. It means more valuable goods are imported from Turkey.



The Turkish delegation noted that statistical data about annual international trade turnover volumes are similar and show increasing tendency during the last five years.

The Latvian delegation informed about the structure of the heavy goods vehicle fleet and noted that in 2014, in comparison with the previous year, the fleet involved in international carriage of goods decreased by 1,4% and reached 14309 units. The number of Latvian companies involved in international goods transport operations decreased by 3.5% and at the end of the year there were 3949 such companies.

The Turkish delegation outlined the recent general tendencies in their international goods transport market and fleet.

The Turkish delegation informed about the volumes of transport of goods between both countries performed by Latvian and Turkish hauliers as well as by hauliers from different third countries.

Both delegations expressed hope that the trade turnover and the number of international goods transport operations between Latvia and Turkey will continue developing.

2. Transport of goods by road and establishment of the final quota of international road transport permits for the year 2015 and preliminary for 2016

After exchanging of information about the number of permits used by hauliers of both countries, the delegations agreed to set the final quota of international goods transport permits for the year 2015 as follows:

- 900 permits for bilateral and transit goods transport operations;
- 450 permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations.

Taking into consideration the development of trade between both countries as well as their geographical location the Latvian delegation proposed to increase preliminary quota of the permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations for the year 2016 up to 550 permits.

The Turkish delegation proposed to discuss the Latvian proposal during the next Joint Committee meeting. The delegations agreed to set the preliminary quota for the year 2016 as follows:

- 900 permits for bilateral and transit goods transport operations;

- 450 permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations.

It was noted that both parties have dispatched the above mentioned number of permits via the embassy of the other side.

The delegations agreed that any demand for additional permits during the course of the year will be considered within the framework of good intentions.

The delegations decided that all the permits shall be valid until 31st January of the following year.

3. Exchange of views regarding the further development of the ECMT multilateral quota

The delegations exchanged their views on the latest developments within the ECMT Multilateral Quota system. It was stressed that the existing restrictions and postponing of elimination of them constitute a problem for the functioning of the Quota. It was also underlined that the approval of the Quality Charter at the Ministerial Meeting in Leipzig in May 2015 is an important step in further development of the ECMT Multilateral Quota system.

The information on the distribution of the Quota in 2016 in Latvia and Turkey was also exchanged.

4. Miscellaneous

The Latvian delegation asked the Turkish delegation to clarify the requirement for foreign drivers to register when entering the territory of Turkey for performing international transport operations. The Turkish delegation explained that there is no such a registration system in terms of goods transport by road but in order to provide a detailed answer, additional information is required from the Latvian delegation.

At the request of the Latvian delegation the Turkish delegation informed that since the year 2008 when performing international road transport operations under bilateral permits, trucks and semi-trailers should be registered in one and the same country. This requirement does not apply to transport operations performed under ECMT licences.

The Turkish delegation proposed to return to discussions on amending of the existing bilateral Agreement concerning possible liberalization of road transport operations between the countries. The Latvian delegation pointed out that

liberalization issue between the EU and Turkey is on agenda of the European Commission. Further discussions on possible liberalization shall be based on the results of activities at the EU level. The information on this issue will be provided at the next Joint Committee meeting.

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

The Turkish delegation invited the Latvian delegation for the next Joint Committee meeting to Turkey in the year 2016. The exact dates of the meeting will be additionally agreed upon by correspondence.

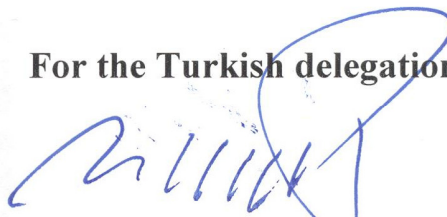
Done at Riga, on 3rd December, 2015 in two originals in the English language.

For the Latvian delegation



Ms. Annija Novikova

For the Turkish delegation



Mr. Hüseyin YILMAZ

The list of participants

The Latvian delegation:

Ms. Annija Novikova	Head of the delegation, Deputy Director of Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport
Ms. Zane Siliņa	Senior Officer Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport
Ms. Indra Gromule	Head of International Road Carriage Coordination Division, Road Transport Administration
Mr. Aivars Olants	Senior Expert, International Road Carriage Coordination Division, Road Transport Administration
Mr. Igors Jagodins	Senior Expert, International Road Carriage Coordination Division, Road Transport Administration
Mr. Valdis Trēziņš	President of the Road Carriers Association „Latvijas Auto”

The Turkish delegation:

- Mr. Hüseyin YILMAZ** Head of the delegation, Deputy General Director,
General Directorate for Road Transport
Regulation, Ministry of Transport, Maritime
Affairs and Communications
- Mr. İsmet TOPACA** Head of Department, Ministry of Transport,
Maritime Affairs and Communications
- Mr. Hakan DALÇIK** Head of Department, Directorate General of
Customs, Ministry of Customs and Trade
- Mr. Hüseyin ÇALIK** EU Expert, General Directorate for International
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- Mr. Fatih ERTAN** Assistant Expert, General Directorate for Road
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- Mr. Nuh ÜSTÜN** Assistant Foreign Trade Expert, Ministry of
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- Mr. Kerim CİCİOĞLU** Officer, General Directorate for Road Transport
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- Mr. Ufuk KARA** Interpreter