

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 18th-19th of June 2013 to further develop the cooperation in road transport between the two 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 between Latvia and Turkey.
2. Implementation of the International Road Transport Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey.
3. Goods transport and establishment of final quota of international road transport permits for the year 2013 and preliminary for 2014.
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 between Latvia and Turkey

The delegations exchanged information on the statistical data regarding the development of trade and international goods transport by road between Latvia and Turkey.

The Latvian side noted that during the year 2012 in comparison with the previous year the export volume in EUR to Turkey decreased by 46,9 % and the import volume from Turkey increased – by 31,2%.

The Turkish delegation noted that the statistical data is similar and informed that import from Latvia to Turkey exceeds export to Latvia and this tendency remains also in the first quarter of the year 2013.

The Turkish delegation informed about number of freight road transport operations between Latvia and Turkey and noted tendency of increase from Latvia to Turkey as well as from Turkey to Latvia.



The Latvian side informed about the structure of the heavy goods vehicle fleet and noted that in 2012 in comparison with the previous year the fleet involved in international carriage of goods has increased by 10,1% and reached 13688 units. The number of Latvian companies involved in international goods transport operations decreased by 3,0 % and was 4098.

The delegations expressed their hope that trade road transport relations between Latvia and Turkey is going to developing the future.

2. Implementation of the International Road Transport Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey

Both sides noted that the International Road Transport Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey in force is implemented without any problems

With regard to draft amendments to “International Road Transport Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey” agreed upon at the previous Latvian – Turkish Joint Committee meeting on International Road Transport Issues it was noted that the Latvian side has sent its opinion that it is not necessary to amend article 5 of the Agreement. The Latvian delegation provided the information on the current state of play concerning amending of the Agreement, stressing the importance of the idea of further liberalization of road haulage operations. Taking into consideration that Turkey has submitted to the UNECE “The Draft convention aligning bilateral agreements on international road transport with the mandatory rules of multilateral instruments governing international road transit” and this draft concerns the bilateral agreements of all EU Member States with third countries and therefore this matters falls under the EU exclusive competence at present Latvia is not able to continue discussions on liberalization issue. The negotiations on this matter can be continued after Latvia has received a final position from the European Commission. The Latvian side is going to inform the Turkish side about the developments in the above described matter.

3. Goods transport and establishment of final quota of international road transport permits for the year 2013 and preliminary for 2014.

After exchange of information about the number of permits used by hauliers of both the countries in the year 2013 first five months which shows the increasing



tendency, the delegations agreed to set the final quota of international goods transport permits for the year 2013.

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

Taking into consideration development of trade relations the Latvian delegation proposed to increase preliminary quota of the permits for unloaded entry, bilateral, transit and third country transport operations for the year 2014 up to 450 permits.

After having discussed the Latvian proposal the delegations agreed to set the preliminary quota for the year 2014 as follows:

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

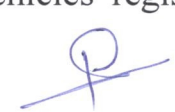
The Delegations agreed that any demand for additional permits during the course of the year will be evaluated and dealt within the framework of good intentions.

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

4. Miscellaneous.

Both delegations exchanged information on licensing systems and issuing permits in their countries.

The Latvian side informed that according to the European Union Road Transport Package provisions in Latvia the Community licenses are issued for the period of up to 10 years, but the validity of the certified copies of Community licenses is one year. A certified copy contains the registration number of the particular vehicle. A transport manager is allowed to manage the transport activities in not more than two of related undertakings with a total fleet of no more than 50 vehicles. The necessity of periodic training for transport managers is not specified. The Latvian delegation explained that the certified copies of the Community licenses are issued only for vehicles registered in Latvia.



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 Latvia was planning to introduce road vignette for trucks with permissible total weight over 3.5 tons as from 01.01.2014. Taking into account the economical situation at present the date of introduction of the road vignette is being discussed at the government. It is expected that introduction will be postponed.

The Turkish delegation noted that in Turkey road charges from foreign hauliers are collected on reciprocity basis. Road tolls for usage of highways and bridges must be paid by all.

Both delegations stressed the significance of the ECMT Multilateral Quota permits for their carriers.

The delegations exchanged the information on the latest development within the ECMT Multilateral Quota System. The Latvian side noted that it is important to develop ECMT Multilateral Quota System and to eliminate territorial restrictions.

The Latvian side stressed that meeting regarding ECMT Multilateral Quota for the year 2014 should be organized in September this year at the same time the Latvian delegation proposed to apply to ECMT secretariat to organize meeting as soon as possible.

On the request of the Latvian side Turkish delegation informed that Turkey has joined to the INTERBUS agreement and for the occasional passenger transport INTERBUS waybill is used as control document.

The delegations exchanged views on the necessity of harmonized international multilateral legal instrument on organizing regular passenger transport by buses and coaches.

The Latvian delegation informed that as from 30 September 2011 the competent authority for regular bus permits is the Latvian Road Transport Administration, Valnu Street 30, Riga, LV – 1050, Latvia, email: daiga.ancane@atd.lv, phone: +37167686493, fax: +37167686481.

The delegations exchanged information on competent institutions issuing special permits for transportation dangerous, oversize and overload cargos.

The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

Both delegations emphasized the usefulness of the meeting.

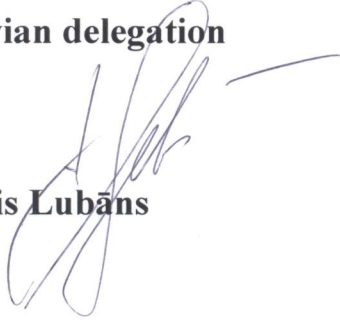


The Turkish delegation invited the Latvian delegation to visit Turkey for the next Joint Committee meeting in 2014. The exact dates and place of the meeting will be additionally agreed upon through correspondence.

Done at Riga on 19th June, 2013, in two originals in the English language.

For the Latvian delegation

Mr. Andris Lubāns



For the Turkish delegation

Mr. Ahmet Güner



The list of participants

The Latvian delegation:

Mr. Andris Lubāns	Director of Land Transport Department, Ministry of Transport, Head of Delegation
Ms. Annija Novikova	Senior Officer, Land Transport Department, Ministry of Transport
Mr. Andulis Židkovs	Member of the Board, Road Transport Administration
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. Alvis Keziks	Senior Expert, International Road Carriage Coordination Division, Road Transport Administration
Mr. Valdis Trēziņš	President of Latvian Association of International Road Carriers „Latvijas Auto”

The Turkish delegation:

Mr. Ahmet Güner	Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, General Directorate for Road Transport Department Deputy Director General, Head of the delegation
Mr. O. Hakan Özdemir	Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, General Directorate for Road Transport Department, Head of Section
Mr. Ufuk Can Akin	Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, General Directorate for Road Transport Department, Expert
Ms. Nurdeniz Sönmez Gaydalar	Ministry of Customs and Trade, General Directorate for Customs, Expert
Mr. Ufuk Kara	Interpreter