

Protocol
of the Slovenian-Latvian Joint Committee meeting on
International Road transport Issues
(LJUBLJANA, 29-30 JUNE 2011)

The composition of delegations is provided in the Appendix to the Protocol.

The Heads of the delegations exchanged greetings, introduced the participants and agreed on the following agenda:

1. Exchange of data on the exchange of goods and road transport between the countries,
2. Exchange of information with regard to new EU regulations (Road package),
3. Carriage of goods,
4. Carriage of passengers,
5. Miscellaneous.

Point 1

Both sides exchanged information regarding trade and road transport volumes between Slovenia in Latvia. It was established that the trade volumes of goods between the countries had been increasing in recent years (whereby compared to 2008, data for 2009 shows a decrease). The data for 2010 point to an increase in the exchange of goods. According to data on the trade volumes in 2010, EUR 26.3 million of goods was imported to Latvia from Slovenia, and EUR 4.7 million of goods was exported to Slovenia.

The delegations noted that the decrease in the exchange of goods in 2009 was due to the economic crisis, and thus, it does not reflect the actual level of exchange between the countries.

Both parties exchanged data on transport capacities, which display similarities with regard to the number of transport operators of goods and passengers and transport capacities.

The representatives of both countries exchanged data on the quality of their vehicle fleets and their activities in the promotion of the purchase of the most ecological and safe vehicles.

Point 2

Both sides introduced information relating to the introduction of rules adopted by the European Union, which are regulated by the Regulations (EC) 1071/2009, 1072/2009 and 1073/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The members of the Joint Committee were also informed on the future arrangement of the national electronic register, which is anticipated to be initially established in 2012.

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Point 3

With regard to the carriage of goods, both parties stressed that there are no major obstacles between the countries, as the carriage of goods is conducted without administrative barriers on the bilateral level, with third countries, in transit as well as in cabotage.

In the period since the last Joint Committee meeting, there have been no information from Slovenian or Latvian enforcement authorities regarding infringements made by transport operators of both countries.

Neither side has recorded problems with regard to cabotage, because cabotage is being performed in both countries according to the Regulation (EC) No. 1072/2009.

The Latvian side explained the particularities with regard to the issuing of licences in international road traffic and particularly to the copies of Community licences.

Both sides were mutually informed on the obligation to register motor vehicles in the country of origin of national transport operators. This obligation is valid in both countries.

Point 4

Delegations noted that there is quite a distance between the countries and the carriage of passengers by road is performed in small volumes without problems.

Both sides emphasised that in the case of problems they will provide information to one another and mutual aid in finding solutions.

Point 5

The Slovenian side informed the Latvian side on the amendment to the Road Transport Act, which entirely adopts the principles of European regulations with regard to the entry of transport operators into the haulage industry and their access to the transport market.

It was explained that Slovenia completely adopts the provisions on initial qualifications and periodic training of drivers which are included in the Directive 2003/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. There are some problems with the supervision of some foreign drivers, because they do not have documents stating their professional qualifications.

Both sides also discussed issues with regard to the arrangement of transport according to the ECMT resolution. They agreed that international discussions on the level of Ministries of Transport should contribute to establishing consents and solutions which would decrease administrative barriers and simplify carriage of goods in international road traffic in the period from 2012 and 2015. Therefore, both sides suggested that existing reservations with

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regard to the restriction of carriage with ECMT permits in individual countries should be solved in favour of the international road carriage of goods.

The Latvian delegation informed that in accordance with the 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 has postponed the Introduction of road vignette for trucks over 12 tons to 1st January, 2014. Slovenia is planning to introduce electronic tolling for commercial vehicles in 2013. The countries will promptly exchange current information on changes regarding these matters.

The Latvian side provided information that the following authority is now responsible for the supervision of the national and international cargo and passenger road traffic in Latvia: Traffic Control Bureau of the Prevention Department of the State Police Central Public Order Police Department, Stabu Street 89, Riga, LV-1009, Latvia
Phone: +371/67208108
Fax: +371/67274789
e-mail: inta.lujane@cpp.vp.gov.lv

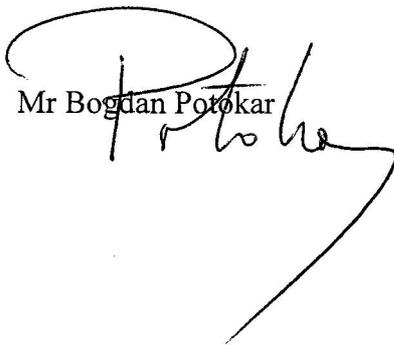
The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere. Both delegations emphasized the usefulness of the meeting.

The Latvian side proposed to organize the next meeting of the Latvian-Slovenian Joint Committee on the carriage of goods and passengers by road in the Year 2012 in Latvia, the exact time of which will be agreed by correspondence.

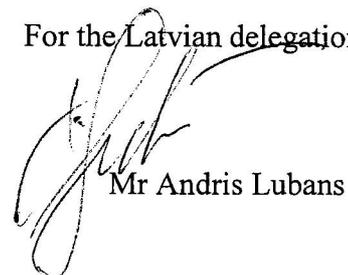
This Protocol is drawn up in two copies in English language.

Ljubljana, 30 June 2011

For the Slovenian delegation:


Mr Bogdan Potokar

For the Latvian delegation:


Mr Andris Lubans

Members of the delegations

Slovenian delegation

Mr Bogdan Potokar – Ministry of Transport, Head of Delegation

Mr Bojan Pečnik – Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia

Mr Igor Sep – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia

Mr. Andrej Klobasa - Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia

Latvian delegation

Mr Andris Lubans – Ministry of Transport, Head of Delegation

Mr Julijs Vaitužis – Road Transport Administration

Mr Aivars Olants – Road Transport Administration