

PROTOCOL
of the Joint Committee
Meeting on International Road Transport between the Republic
of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Latvia

The meeting of the Joint Committee on International Road Transport between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Latvia took place in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 23rd-24th April 2025.

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Latvia.
2. Transport of goods by road, including establishment of the final road transport permit quota for 2025 and preliminary for 2026.
3. Other matters, including development and digitalization of the ECMT and permit quotas.

The composition of both delegations is annexed to the Protocol.

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

The two delegations exchanged statistical information concerning trade relations between the two countries and about the organization of the road transport sectors in each of them. The Latvian delegation presented information on goods transport by road in Latvia, as well as information on international trade between Azerbaijan and Latvia.

The Latvian delegation noted that during the year 2024 export volume from Latvia to Azerbaijan in terms of money amounted to 24 million EUR, and compared to the previous year it has risen by 1.6%, while import from Azerbaijan has reached 5.4 million EUR thus decreasing by 16.4%. Export volume expressed in tons amounted to 3888.7 tons and against to 2024 has dropped by 21.2%, while import volume reached close to 1562 tons thus raising by 38.2%.

Total trade turnover expressed in EUR between both countries decreased by 2.2%, totalling over 29 million EUR during 2024. While total trade turnover expressed in tons decreased by 10%.

The main types of goods imported from Azerbaijan include articles of iron or steel, machinery and mechanical appliances, fruit and nuts, organic chemicals. Export from Latvia to Azerbaijan mainly include dairy products, eggs, honey, electrical machinery and equipment, pharmaceutical products, beverages, spirits and vinegar.



The Azerbaijani delegation noted that according to official statistics, in 2024 the trade turnover between Azerbaijan and Latvia amounted to over 27 million USD. Of this, exports to Latvia accounted for approximately 5.9 million USD, while imports stood at around 21.2 million USD.

In the first three months of the current year, the trade turnover between our countries reached approximately 5.3 million USD, including about 2 million USD in exports to Latvia and around 3.4 million USD in imports.

The Azerbaijani delegation took the opportunity to inform the Latvian delegation about the main categories of goods involved in bilateral trade. It was noted that imports from Latvia to Azerbaijan predominantly consist of wood processing products, machinery and equipment, as well as chemical products. In terms of exports, Azerbaijan primarily supplies oil and petrochemical products, as well as agricultural products, including nuts, fruits, and vegetables to the Latvian market.

The Latvian delegation informed about the structure of their heavy goods vehicle fleet and noted that the number of licensed Latvian operators involved in international goods transport operations has dropped by 3,1% in the year 2024 compared to the previous year, reaching 4472 operators to date. The number of vehicles involved in international carriage of goods is totalling 14,863 units. Additionally, the Latvian delegation noted the increase in the number of vehicles corresponding to EURO VI and EURO V standard amounting to 87% of the entire fleet involved in the international operations.

The Azerbaijani delegation provided an overview of the structure of the national vehicle fleet, noting that in 2025, 2119 operators are engaged in the international transport of goods. Additionally, the number of vehicles involved in international carriage is recorded at 13850 units.

The delegations expressed hope for development of trade between the countries in future.

2. Transport of goods by road, including establishment of the final road transport permit quota for 2025 and preliminary for 2026

Both delegations noted that for the year 2025 a total of six hundred and fifty (650) permits of which five hundred (500) valid for bilateral and transit transport operations and one hundred and fifty (150) valid for third country transport operations have been exchanged.

The delegations exchanged information on the usage of permits within the year 2024 and the first quarter of 2025.



The Azerbaijani delegation proposed considering the possibility of exchanging additional 1500 permits for bilateral and transit transport operations and 1850 permits for third country transport operations for the current year.

The Latvian side proposed to exchange additional 500 permits for bilateral and transit transport operations thus doubling the existing quota, while keeping 150 permits for third-country transport, as well as to introduce a new type of permits valid for bilateral/transit/third countries transport operations.

The delegations agreed to exchange additionally 500 permits for bilateral and transit and 150 permits bilateral/transit/third countries transport operations to be used in 2025.

The delegations noted that the final quota of the year 2025 shall be 1000 permits for bilateral and transit transport and 150 permits for third country transport operations, 150 permits bilateral/transit/third countries transport operations.

The sides will inform the relevant control authorities about the new type of permits.

The additional permits for 2025 will be exchanged at the earliest opportunity through diplomatic channels.

After discussions and taking into account the development of trade between the two countries, as well as the underlying ambition of the two delegations to further carriage of goods by road between Latvia and Azerbaijan, the delegations agreed to establish the preliminary quota for the year 2026 in the following amount:

- 1000 permits valid for bilateral and transit,
- 300 permits bilateral/transit/third countries transport operations.

The permits for 2026 shall be exchanged by 15 December 2025 via diplomatic channels.

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

The delegations agreed that in case of necessity, any of the Parties can request an additional number of permits and such requests will be examined in the spirit of goodwill.

3. Other matters, including development and digitalization of the ECMT and permit quotas



The two delegations discussed the progress of digitalization of the ECMT multilateral quota system in their countries, as well as the participation of national issuing authorities, control authorities and hauliers in trainings organized by ITF on the ECMT digital system.

The sides stressed the importance of digitalization of documents related to road transport activities and discussed the possibilities of digitalization of permits under the bilateral Agreement on international road transport in future.

The Azerbaijani delegation briefly informed about the work carried out and the proposed changes in legislation and regulations concerning the digitalization of the ECMT and permit quotas.

The Latvian side informed about the fuel limit of 200 litres in vehicle standard tanks effective from 1st January 2025. Additionally, the Latvian delegation pointed out that as of 1st January 2025, changes to the road charge rates have come into force in Latvia, according to which the road charge is calculated taking into account the emission level of the vehicle and the number of axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles for the period during which the road is to be used. Rates, road map and options for payment for road user charge is available at lvvignette.eu.

The Azerbaijani side informed about toll road project which is currently operational in length of 129 km in the section of the North–South corridor. The project is managed by the State Agency of Azerbaijan Automobile Roads. More detailed information to be consulted for www.aayda.gov.az.

The Azerbaijani side outlined the following issues related to international freight transportations carried out by Azerbaijani hauliers in Latvia:

- Before entering Latvia, vehicles must complete a pre-registration process through the system (<https://www.csdd.lv>). However, access to the system is not possible from outside Latvia, and registration can only be completed after entering the country. Sometimes, due to drivers forgetting to register, pre-registration is not carried out, which results in fines when such violations are discovered. The Azerbaijani side requested that access to the pre-registration system be made available to users located outside of Latvia.
- Upon entering the country, goods road vehicles are not allowed to carry more than 200 liters of fuel. If the fuel exceeds this amount, the vehicle is denied entry into the territory of Latvia and is returned. The Azerbaijani side informed that foreign vehicles are allowed to enter the country with up to 200 liters of fuel duty-free. For any additional fuel, a state fee of 0.20 usd per liter is charged. The Azerbaijani side kindly requested that a similar rule be applied to Azerbaijani carriers entering Latvia.



- In Latvia, control authorities require the original documents confirming that the goods road vehicle has passed its annual technical inspection, with official stamps and signatures. If these documents are not provided, the vehicle is denied entry into the territory of Latvia and is returned. The Azerbaijani side informed that in Azerbaijan, annual technical inspections for goods road vehicles are carried out by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and are registered exclusively in an electronic system. Given that all roads in the country are equipped with a radar control system, vehicles that have not passed inspection cannot participate in traffic. The Azerbaijani side kindly requested that Latvian authorities waive the requirement to present original technical inspection documents for Azerbaijani goods road vehicles. Instead, The Azerbaijani side proposed submitting the original Roadworthiness Certificates for vehicles operating with ECMT permit or providing inspection data through the Ministry of Internal Affairs e-Polis application.
- At the border crossing points of Latvia with the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, only 30-40 goods road vehicles are processed daily in each direction. The average waiting time at the Latvian border with the Russian Federation is approximately 2 days, and at the border with the Republic of Belarus it ranges from 6 to 7 days. To ensure the continuity of transport, the Azerbaijani side requested the possibility of increasing the daily processing capacity at these border checkpoints.
- Upon entry into Latvia, border service officers seize food products intended for the driver's personal consumption (including food kept in the refrigerator, even if partially consumed). This causes dissatisfaction among the drivers. The Azerbaijani side requested to carry food in quantities sufficient to meet the personal needs of the drivers.

Taking into consideration that these issues require deeper analysis and consulting with relevant competent authorities, the Latvian side undertook to provide answers to the Azerbaijani side in writing.

The Latvian side outlined the following issues related to international freight transportations carried out by Latvian hauliers in Azerbaijan:

- As from October 1, 2024 the deposit system is applied during transit transportation of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products in the Republic of Azerbaijan. The amount of the guarantee is set at a minimum equivalent of 200,000 (two hundred thousand) US Dollars for each transit vehicle. The information is required how this requirement is implemented in practice including the ways of proving the amount deposited.

- Road charging system in Azerbaijan including carriage of dangerous goods.

The Azerbaijani side informed that road charging eliminated for the carriage of dangerous goods. Noted that other issue require deeper analysis and consulting with relevant competent authorities, the Azerbaijanian side undertook to provide answers to the Latvian side.

The delegations agreed to exchange contact details to ensure that, in case the carriers encounter any issues, they can promptly contact for the necessary support and assistance.

The delegations exchanged information on competent authorities and bodies in the field of road transport in both countries.

The Latvian side pointed out that road transport control functions inside the country are executed by the Bureau of Traffic Supervision and Coordination of Traffic Safety Directorate of Main Directorate of State Police (address: 10B Ezermalas Street, Riga, LV-1009, phone: +371 67208143; email: sdp@vp.gov.lv).

The Azerbaijani delegation informed that road transport control is carried out by the Main Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (address: AZE 1117, Baku city, Khirdalan-Binagadi highway 4, phone: (+994 12) 590 81 25; (+994 12) 590 81 35; email: info@dyp.gov.az).

And the control of maximum permissible weights and dimensions is carried out by the Main Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the State Agency of Azerbaijan Automobile Roads (address: AZ1117, Binagadi District, Bilajari Settlement, R. Ismayilov Street, 2025th Quarter, phone: (+994 12) 599-79-75, email: info@aayda.gov.az).

It was noted that special authorizations for carriage of abnormal loads in Latvia are issued by the State joint – stock company “Latvian State Roads” (address: 7/9 Torna Street, Room 203, Riga, LV-1050; phone: +371 67036412; email: atlaujas@lvceli.lv).

The Azerbaijani delegation informed that special authorizations for carriage of abnormal loads are issued by the Azerbaijan Land Transport Agency under the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport (address: Haji Mammadov str., 5, AZ1033, Baku, Azerbaijan, phone: +994 12 5665258, email: office@ayna.gov.az).

The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.



Both delegations emphasized the usefulness of the meeting.

The Latvian delegation invited the Azerbaijani delegation to Latvia for the next Joint Committee meeting. The exact dates of the meeting will be additionally agreed upon through correspondence.

Done at Baku, on 24 April, 2025, in two originals in the English language.

**For the delegation
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**



Anar Rzayev

**For the delegation
of the Republic of Latvia**



Annija Novikova