

**Minutes**  
**of**  
**the Bulgarian-Latvian Joint Committee**  
**Meeting on International Road Transport**  
*(9-10 July 2014, Varna)*

In the period 9-10 July 2014 a meeting between delegations from the Executive Agency Road Transport Administration within the Ministry of Transport, Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia was held on matters related to international road transport.

Both delegations agreed upon the following agenda:

1. Exchange of Information Regarding the Development of Trade and Road Transport between Bulgaria and Latvia;
2. Transport of Goods;
3. Transport of Passengers;
4. Miscellaneous.

The members of the delegations are attached to the present Minutes in Annex I.

**1. Exchange of Information Regarding the Development of Trade and Road Transport between Bulgaria and Latvia**

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

The Latvian side informed about the development of passenger and goods transport by road in Latvia for 2013.

Both delegations expressed their satisfaction on the increased of the total trade volume between the two countries during the last year. Both delegations noted that there is a positive trend within the bilateral exchange of goods, a trend which has also a similar impact on the transport operations performed between Bulgaria and Latvia. The two delegations agreed to further encourage this positive trend.

Both sides concluded that the development and organization of the road transport sectors in both countries are similar and expressed hope that the international road transport operations between Bulgaria and Latvia will keep increasing in the nearest future.

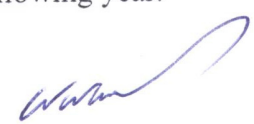
**2. Transport of Goods**

Both delegations exchanged information on the use of permits for transport of goods to/from third countries. They agreed that there are no significant problems in the performance of transport of goods between the two countries.

Both delegations agreed to establish the final quota for 2014 at 150 permits for transport of goods to/from third countries.

The delegations also agreed upon the preliminary quota for 2015, i.e. 150 permits for transport of goods to/from third countries.

All permits for the current year are valid until 31 January of the following year.



Both delegations agreed that upon request of one of the sides for additional permits the other side will consider the request in a manner which reflects the good cooperation between the two countries.

Both delegations agreed to discuss in future the possibility of liberalizing the third country transport operations under the bilateral Agreement.

The delegations exchanged views on the progress of implementing the EU Road Transport Package.

The delegations also exchanged information regarding the licensing system in their countries.

The Latvian side informed that the legislation is in full compliance with the relevant EU legislation and it provides that 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 and issued only for vehicles registered in Latvia. A certified copy contains the registration number of the particular vehicle. A transport manager is allowed to manage the transport activities of 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.

Both delegations informed each other about the progress of implementation of the National Electronic Registers. The Latvian side noted that Latvia has been fully connected to ERRU register since April 2013.

### **3. Transport of Passengers**

Both delegations underlined that there are no significant problems regarding the performance of transport of passengers between the two countries.

The Latvian delegation informed that at the moment there is one functioning regular bus line along the route Riga-Sofia. The Bulgarian delegation asked for a copy of the issued authorization for this bus line to be sent to them in due time.

The Latvian delegation highlighted the urgent necessity of drafting regulatory framework for organizing regular passenger transport services by coach and bus which covers EU and non-EU countries. The information on current situation with regard to two possible options in this respect, namely drafting of OMNIBUS agreement or extension of the scope of INTERBUS agreement was exchanged.

Occasional transport of passengers and tourism between both countries is well developed. Occasional transport operations are performed under the provisions of the respective EU legislation and the control document is an EU waybill.

The Latvian delegation informed that as from 30 September 2011 the competent authority for issuing regular bus line permits is the Latvian Road Transport Administration, Valnu Street 30, Riga, LV-1050, Latvia, e-mail: [daiga.ancane@atd.lv](mailto:daiga.ancane@atd.lv), phone: 00371 67686493, fax: 00371 67686490.

### **4. Miscellaneous**

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 introduced road vignette for trucks with permissible total weight over 3.5 tons starting as from 1 July



2014. The Latvian side noted that the vignette is electronic. The vignette can be purchased cash, by a credit card or by internet. The payment is fixed in the amount of 11 EUR per day and applied only on main roads. The carriers can purchase a day, a week, a month and a year vignettes. An electronic database will be used for control of the vignette system. The vignettes are issued taking into consideration ecological standards of the vehicles, number of axles, etc. The detailed information concerning this matter is provided in home page <http://lvvignette.eu>.

The Latvian delegation explained that the ecological standards of the vehicles can be proved by a registration certificate of the vehicle or an ECMT certificate issued by the manufacturer of the vehicle.

The delegations exchanged information about the latest development of the ECMT Multilateral Quota system. Both sides noted that it is important to further develop the ECMT Multilateral Quota system and to eliminate territorial restrictions.

The Latvian side informed that starting as from April 1, 2011 road transport control functions 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](mailto:kanceleja.cpp@vp.gov.lv)).

The Bulgarian side provided information on the traffic bans in the summer period.

The Bulgarian delegation expressed their concern about the new national requirements introduced in some EU member states regarding the prohibition to spend the normal weekly rest period on board of vehicles under Regulation 561/2006 and the respective fines.

Both delegations expressed their concerns regarding the development of the TIR Carnet regime in Russia.

The meeting was held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

The Latvian delegation invited the Bulgarian delegation in Latvia for the next Joint Committee meeting in 2015. The exact dates of the meeting will be additionally agreed upon through correspondence.

Done at Varna on 10 July 2014 in two originals in the English language.

**For the Bulgarian delegation**



**KRASIMIR KALAYDJIEV**

**For the Latvian delegation**



**NORMUNDS NARVAIŠS**

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Agency Road Transport Administration,  
**head of the delegation****Ms. Tsvetelina ILIEVA-YORDANOVA**Acting Head of International Affairs  
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Transport Administration**Ms. Boryana PENEVA-KUTSEVA**Senior Expert, International Affairs  
Department, Executive Agency Road  
Transport Administration**Ms. Antonia ATANASSOVA**Chief Expert, Association of the Bulgarian  
Enterprises for International Road Transport  
and the Roads (AEBTRI)

## LATVIAN DELEGATION

Mr. Normunds NARVAIŠS

Chairman of the Board, Road Transport  
Administration, **head of the delegation**

Mr. Oskars BARANOVSKIS

Deputy Head of International Road Carriage  
Co-ordination Division, Road Transport  
Administration

Mr. Aivars OLANTS

Senior Expert of International Road Carriage  
Co-ordination Division, Road Transport  
Administration

Mr. Valdis TRĒZIŅŠ

President of Association „Latvijas auto”