

AGREED MINUTES

of the 1st Latvian - Montenegrin Joint Committee meeting on International Road Transport held in Podgorica, 16th – 17th June, 2015.

The following agenda was agreed by the delegations:

1. Exchange of information regarding the development of trade and road transport between Montenegro and the Republic of Latvia.
2. International passenger transport.
3. Transport of goods by road and establishment of the quota of international road transport permits for the year 2015 and preliminary for 2016
4. Miscellaneous (road user charges, control of road transport operations, etc.).

Both sides stressed that the meeting was organized to monitor the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on the International Transport by Road which was signed in Dublin on 6th December, 2012 and entered into force on 22nd October, 2013.

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

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 information on passenger and goods transport by road in Latvia, as well as information on international trade between Latvia and Montenegro. The Latvian side noted that during the year 2014 export volume to Montenegro in EUR was about 95 000 and in comparison with the previous year it increased by 24%, but as to import from Montenegro it reached 9.8 thousand EUR. Conversely in tons export volume in comparison with 2013 decreased by 6.5%, but import volume constituted only 2,2 tons. Total trade turnover in EUR between both countries during 2014 increased by 36.8% and constituted 105 thousand EUR. At the same time trade turnover in tons decreased by 2.3%.

The Montenegrin delegation noted that statistical data about annual international trade turnover volumes are similar.

The delegations stressed that both sides need to give a maximum contribution to increase significantly the volume of trade, as well as to seek ways to achieve better results by improving and developing of passenger and freight transport, as well as to mitigate the effects of the economic crisis and improve mutual trade exchange.

2. International passenger transport

Both delegations noted that regular service does not exist between Montenegro and the Republic of Latvia because of long-distance, and the existence of more cost-effective modes of transport as well as for the reason that there is no demand for passenger transport on this route.

It was pointed out that Latvian carriers carry out occasional service of passengers during the summer tourism season, however both countries must place greater effort promoting this mode of transport.

The Montenegrin delegation also provided the information that Montenegrin legislation recognizes operating of seasonal regular services, which sets the preconditions for Latvian carriers to consider performing this form of transportation.

The Latvian delegation informed that as from 30 September 2011 the competent authority for regular bus permits is the Latvian Road Transport Administration (address: Valnu street 30, Riga, LV-1050, Latvia; e-mail: daiga.ancane@atd.lv; phone: +37167686493; fax: +37167686490).

The Montenegrin delegation informed that the competent authority for regular international bus service is the Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs (address: Rimski trg 46, Vektra, Podgorica, Montenegro; e-mail: bojan.radoman@msp.gov.me; phone: +38220234179; fax: +38220234342) and Traffic Directorate (address: IV proleterske 19, Podgorica, Montenegro; e-mail: direkcijazasaobracaj@dzs.gov.me; phone: +38220655052; fax: +38220655359).

With regard to the implementation of Regulation 181/2011 concerning the rights of passengers in bus and coach transport and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 the Latvian delegation informed that responsible for the enforcement of

this Regulation is the Road Transport Administration and it is also dealing with personal claims of bus passengers. Latvia has opted to implement exceptions for domestic regular services and bus lines to third countries. At present only the Riga international bus station has been designated as a terminal where assistance for disabled persons and persons with reduced mobility can be provided. Carriers in Latvia already have special trainings regarding assistance provided to disabled persons and persons with reduced mobility and disability.

The Montenegrin delegation informed the Latvian delegation regarding the partial implementation of Regulation 181/2011 under the framework of the Law on Contract for Road Transport, and its current works on full implementation as soon as possible.

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

It was noted that in the year 2015 the following type and number of permits have been exchanged which shall be considered as the final quota for this year:

- 150 permits valid for the bilateral and transit transport operations;
- 50 universal permits valid for the bilateral, transit transport and third country operations.

It was pointed out that in accordance with point 1 of Article 7 the transit transport operations shall be carried out without permits. The sides agreed that the reminding notice on establishment of free transit regime shall be given to control authorities of both countries.

Taking into account the usage of permits and development of logistics services in road transport the Latvian side proposed in the year 2016 to exchange 100 permits that are valid for bilateral and third country transport operations.

The Montenegrin side accepted the proposal made by the Latvian side.

The preliminary quota for the year 2016 shall be established in amount of 100 universal permits valid for bilateral and to/from third countries goods transport operations.

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



4. Miscellaneous (road user charges, control of road transport operations, etc.).

Both delegations exchanged information on the existing systems for access to the profession in their countries.

The Latvian side informed that according to the European Union Road Transport Package provisions in Latvia the Community licences are issued for the period of up to 10 years, but the validity of the certified copies of Community licences 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 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 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 starting as from July 1, 2014.

Latvia introduced road vignette for trucks with permissible total weight over 3.5 tons. The Latvian side noted that the vignette is electronic. It is possible purchasing of it by a fuel card, a credit card, by mobile phone or by internet. The carriers are able to purchase a day, a week, a month and a year vignettes. An electronic database is used for control of the vignette system. The vignettes is issued taking into consideration ecological standards of the vehicles, number of axles, etc. More detailed information available at: www.lvzvignette.eu.

The Montenegrin delegation informed the other side that Montenegro does not charge tolls for vehicles other than passage through the tunnel Sozina.

The Latvian delegation informed that since Latvia joined the Schengen Agreement on 21st December, 2007 at the internal borders of Latvia with Lithuania and Estonia control authorities has been removed and, therefore, foreign drivers, when crossing the Latvian – EU internal border and performing transport operations for which the Latvian permits for international carriage of goods or occasional carriage of passengers are needed, should mark themselves in the column of a permit “date and stamp of the customs or border control authority” the place and date of border crossing. Without such records a permit is regarded as not valid.

The Latvian side pointed out that road transport control functions inside the country 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).da

The Montenegrin delegation informed that the competent institution for performing control of road transport is Inspection for road traffic of the Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs (address: Rimski trg 46, Vektra, Podgorica, Montenegro; e-mail: kabinet@msp.gov.me; phone: +38220234179; fax: +38220234342).

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: Gogoļa street 3, Riga, LV-1743; phone/fax: +371 67036412; email: kadikis@lvceli.lv and lvceli@lvceli.lv).

The Montenegrin delegation informed that the competent authority for carriage of abnormal loads is the Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs-Traffic Directorate (address: IV proletarske 19, Podgorica, Montenegro; e-mail: direkcijazasaobracaj@dzs.gov.me; phone: +38220655052; fax: +38220655359).

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

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

Done in Podgorica on 17th June, 2015 in two originals in the English language.

For the Latvian delegation



Ms. Annija Novikova

For the Montenegrin delegation

Mr. Ervin Adrović

