



5th MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE TRANSPORT COMMUNITY
Pristina, 18 May 2022

Conclusions

INTRODUCTION

- The Ministerial Council meeting was opened and chaired by Minister Liburn Aliu and co-chaired by Stefano Paci, DG MOVE.
- The Ministerial Council approved the Agenda of the meeting.

THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE TRANSPORT COMMUNITY,

1. Welcomes the progress achieved towards implementation of the Transport Community Treaty (TCT) and reconfirms its full commitment to continue efforts to that end.
2. Reconfirms its dedication to creation of Transport Community in the field of road, rail, inland waterway and maritime transport as well as the development of the transport network between the European Union and the South East European Parties, based on the progressive integration of transport markets of the South East European Parties into the European Union transport market on the basis of the relevant acquis, including in the areas of technical standards, interoperability, safety, security, traffic management, social policy, public procurement and environment, for all modes of transport excluding air transport.
3. Welcomes the interventions of Deputy Director-General Maja Bakran Marcich.
4. Acknowledges the monitoring role and the efforts of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat in ensuring smooth coordination and cooperation with the Regional Partners and EC, as well as valuable work demonstrated by the bodies established under the Transport Community Treaty.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK (TEN-T) TO NEIGHBOURING THIRD COUNTRIES

5. Welcomes the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the extension of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) to neighbouring third countries.
6. Supports the ambition of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) policy to provide for seamless, sustainable and effective transport across the Union as well as the Western Balkans region while strengthening social, economic and territorial cohesion.
7. Welcomes the proposed creation of a European Transport Corridor linking the Region with the Union, as set out in the proposal for a revised TEN-T Regulation, as a tangible example of what the Union can offer to the Region to enhance the implementation of TEN-T projects.

REVISION OF TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK REGULATION (EU) NO 1315/2013 (TEN-T REGULATION) INDICATIVE EXTENSION OF THE TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK (TEN-T) TO THE WESTERN BALKANS

8. Welcomes the European Commission lead consultation process on the TEN-T revision and inclusion of Western Balkans Partners.
9. Reiterates the importance of extending the Trans-European Transport Network to the Western Balkans as the basis for EU and IFI financing.
10. Recognises the investment gap for infrastructure improvement, as well as connectivity gaps between the Region and with the EU.
11. Welcomes further discussions with the European Commission on the possible adjustments of the indicative extension of the TEN-T Comprehensive and Core Network to the Western Balkans in view of reaching a High-Level Agreement, amending the indicative TEN-T in the Western Balkans.

FIVE-YEAR ROLLING WORK PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDICATIVE TEN-T EXTENSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AND CORE NETWORKS TO THE WESTERN BALKANS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY PROJECTS OF REGIONAL INTEREST

12. Endorses the Five-year Rolling Work Plan for the development of the indicative TEN-T extension of the comprehensive and core networks to the Western Balkans and the identification of priority projects of regional interest.
13. Welcomes its clear strategic objective for the coordinated development of the regional transport network in the next 5 years.

14. Welcomes the progress in the implementation of the TEN-T Network in the Region over the last years and for the commitment taken by all parties to strengthen the efforts to ensure progressive compliance of the network with the TEN-T standards in the coming five years.
15. Recognises the investment and connectivity gap and challenging TEN-T Regulation deadlines which are to be respected. Regulation 1315/2013 requires the Core Network to be completed by 2030, while the deadline for the Comprehensive Network has been set for 2050. Overall, approximately 2,800 km of roads require various forms of upgrade, of which almost 2,000 on the Core Network. Lack of railway maintenance heavily affects the performance of the network, while certain criteria like road safety improvement, ITS deployment, border-crossing facilitation or tolling compliance require acquis transposition and institutional reforms.
16. Welcomes the resources already committed by the European Commission and International Financial Institutions through the Economic and Investment Plan and focus on sustainable transport development, with explicit priority being given to TEN-T projects and programmes.
17. Acknowledges the role of the Five-year Rolling Work Plan as a tool to further improve the regional planning process and regional project prioritisation. Better cooperation on a regional level, especially on cross border projects and corridor projects, is needed in all stages: from project documentation development, project execution, operation and maintenance. Having a rolling plan with a list of regional priorities presents a first step towards more tightened cooperation and improved regional planning.
18. Underlines that quality data is a key to good policy planning and sustainable infrastructure development. In that respect it welcomes work by Transport Community Permanent Secretariat in developing Transport Observatory and dedicates itself to assist Secretariat with data collection.

DECADE OF ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY 2021-2030

19. Welcomes the efforts of WHO and the UN regional commissions, in cooperation with other partners in the UN Road Safety Collaboration, that have developed the Global Plan for the Decade of Action 2021-2030, launched on 28 October 2021.
20. Agrees to follow the recommendations of the Global Plan and to develop new road safety strategies in line with EU Road Safety Policy Framework 2021-2030, with the main goal to



achieve the ambitious target of reducing by 50 per cent road traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030.



CLOSING

21. Agrees to meet in autumn 2022 in Brussels to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the Transport Community Treaty.

Done in Pristina, on 18 May 2022

For the Ministerial Council,

The President

Mr Liburn Aliu,

Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure