

1st ESCAP-ASEAN Regional Capacity Building Workshop: “Preserving Connectivity for Efficient and Resilient Supply Chains”

7-8 April 2021, Video Conference

Background

The **COVID-19 Recovery Guidelines for Resilient and Sustainable International Road Freight Transport Connectivity in ASEAN** (“Guidelines”) were developed by the ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) with joint assistance from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the International Transport Forum (ITF), following the outcomes of the ESCAP-ASEAN-ITF joint webinar on “Preserving Transport Connectivity and Building Freight Transport Resilience in ASEAN” in July 2020.

The Guidelines are designed to support ASEAN Member States in establishing their regional and national transport connectivity recovery plans with a focus on resilience and sustainability, as well as developing regional COVID-19 recovery guidelines on cross-border road freight transport. The Guidelines also contribute to the implementation of initiatives under the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit. The Guidelines are non-legally binding documents and can be updated by ASEAN Member States for consideration of TFWG, as and when necessary.¹

The Guidelines define three priority areas, derived from the findings of the interviews to the ASEAN Member States and representatives of the private sector.

- Priority 1: Ensure Transport Workers’ Safety and Training,
- Priority 2: Preserving Connectivity for Efficient and Resilient Supply Chains
- Priority 3: Building Back Better through Digital, Resilient and Decarbonized Transport Connectivity.

For each priority area, the Guidelines define its guiding principles and actions, and offer a timeline for the implementation, which can be immediate or current, medium term (6 months) or longer-term responses (12

¹ The Guidelines are available on: <https://asean.org/storage/asean-covid-19-guidelines.pdf>

months). The timing of implementation will also have significant implications on the effectiveness of a measure and the costs involved.

To support the implementation of the Guidelines, two (2) dedicated trainings are offered on Priority areas 2 and 3: Preserving Connectivity and Building Back Better through Digital, Resilient and Decarbonized Transport Connectivity. The workshop will offer training materials and tools and lectures by dedicated experts in the selected topics. They will conclude by facilitated discussions on recommendations for the possible priority actions by ASEAN Member States to be implemented in 2021-2022 and necessary updates of the Guidelines, as well as deliberations on the support for implementation of these recommended actions.

Tentative programme

Day 1 (Bangkok time)

13:00-13:15	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p><i>ESCAP secretariat, TFWG Chairman (tbc)</i></p>
13:15-14:15	<p>Best practices in road transport connectivity: ESCAP Transport Facilitation Models”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The efficient cross border transport model • The model on integrated controls at the border crossing • The secure cross border transport model <p><i>Mr. Goran Andreev, Expert consultant</i></p>
14:15-14:45	<p>Ensuring international connectivity during crisis time through the legal perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model crisis-response provisions in bilateral road transport agreements <p><i>Ms. Virginia Tanase, Expert consultant</i></p>
14:45-16:00	<p>Enhancing the efficiency of transport and logistics network through the use of ICT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards of Logistics Information Systems • National Experience from the Republic of Korea • National Experience from China <p><i>Ms. Kerri Ahn, K-Consulting, Republic of Korea</i> <i>Ms. Gao Xiaoyun, China Transport Telecommunications & Information Center (CTTIC)</i></p>

Day 2 (Bangkok time)

13:00 – 13:20	Initiatives undertaken by ASEAN to ensure seamless road transport network through implementation of goals, actions and milestones under Kuala Lumpur Transport Strategic Plan 2016-2025 (KLTSP). <i>ASEAN secretariat</i>
13:20 – 13:45	<i>Q&A and brief responses from each ASEAN Member State on initiatives undertaken by ASEAN Member States to ensure seamless road transport network during COVID-19 pandemic.</i>
13:45 – 14:45	Smart road solutions for pandemic response, the impact on transport workers and way forward on recommendations for possible implementation in ASEAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary electronic declaration to the control and supervisory authorities • "Electronic queues" and "fast lanes" for freight at border-crossing points • "Green corridors" to facilitate uninterrupted freight movement through border-crossing points • Applications for real-time updates on the route operational conditions • "Telemedicine" - remote medical monitoring of drivers • Remote approval and registration of permits for large, heavy and dangerous goods • Automated real-time en-route remote monitoring and control of parameters of vehicles • Electronic permit system for international freight road transport • Remote electronic customs control with navigation seals and smart containers • Smart tachographs • Information systems for the interactions at transport terminals • Use of unmanned transport technology <i>Mr. Mikhail Nizov, Scientific and Research Institute of Motor Transport, Moscow, Russian Federation</i>
14:45-15:30	Facilitated discussion on short/medium/long term ASEAN action <i>ESCAP secretariat</i>
15:30-16:00	Conclusions and next steps <i>ESCAP secretariat; ASEAN secretariat</i>