3rd ASEM Transport Ministers’ Meeting
“Development of Euro-Asia Multimodal Transport Connectivity – Status Quo and Blueprints for the Future”

Riga, Latvia | April 29-30, 2015
Venue: National Library of Latvia, Mūkusalas iela 3
Working language: English

Wednesday, 29 April

12:00 – 12:30  Arrival & Welcome by Anrijs Matīss, Minister for Transport of the Republic of Latvia
12:30 – 13:30  Buffet lunch
Venue: Restaurant of the National Library of Latvia, 1st floor

OPENING SESSION
Venue: Ziedoņa Hall, 1st floor

Moderator: Valdis Melderis, Radio Host

Welcoming Speeches

13:30 – 13:40  H.E. Andris Bērziņš, President of the Republic of Latvia
13:40 – 13:50  Weng Mengyong, Vice-Minister for Transport of the People’s Republic of China, (Chair of ASEM TMM2)
13:50 – 14:00  Anrijs Matīss, Minister for Transport of the Republic of Latvia, Chairman of the EU Transport Ministers’ Council
14:00 – 14:10  Violeta Bulc, EU Commissioner for Mobility and Transport

Keynote Speech on the development of multimodal transport linkages in the Euro-Asian continent

14:10 – 14:25  Miodrag Pesut, Chief of Transport Facilitation and Economics Section, Transport Division, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Presentation on the development of key Euro-Asian land transport corridors in the framework of the UNECE Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) project

14:25 – 14:30  CNN special feature video: China-Europe rail
SEPARATE WORKING SESSIONS

Heads of Delegations

14:30 – 18:00
Ministerial session
Venue: Riga Hall, 2nd floor

Interventions by Heads of Delegations (up to 5 minutes)

18:00
Family photo for Heads of Delegations
Venue: Atrium, 1st floor

Other participants

14:30 - 15:00
Coffee Break
Venue: Atrium, 1st floor

15:15 – 16:15
Business seminar on trade and investment opportunities in Latvia
Venue: Ziedoņa Hall, 1st floor

Presentations by:
- Latvian Investment and Development Agency
- Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia
- Latvian Logistics Association

18:00 – 19:30
Leisure time / time available for bilateral meetings

19:30 – 22:30
Gala Dinner hosted by H.E. Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia (All participants)
Venue: Latvian Railway History Museum, Uzvaras bulvāris 2/4

Thursday, 30 April
Venue: National Library of Latvia, Ziedoņa Hall, 1st floor
(Ministers and all other participants)

8:30 – 8:55
Arrival and registration, coffee

8:55 – 9:00
Uģis Magonis, President and CEO of Latvian Railways - Opening Remarks
General overview on transport and logistics development over the Euro-Asian continent
PANEL SESSION I
Case studies on Euro-Asia supply chain management

Moderator: Kaspars Briškens, Advisor to the Minister for Transport of the Republic of Latvia

9:00 – 10:00

Presentations by the speakers

The initial mix of panelists will represent several critical nodes in the integrated supply chain between Asia and Europe. We shall start with the Customer – HP – explaining how the company organizes production and what is the importance of supply chain management in the context of long-distance trade flows – given the global spread of their supply and distribution networks. We shall then turn to the Service Providers side who shall present their role in the wider supply chain and how they manage tailor-made logistics solutions to support trade and supply flows of the Customers. The participants will share their observations and experiences regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the land-based corridors in comparison with the more traditional maritime routes, as well as reflect on the necessary areas for improvement and the possibilities of closer cooperation between business practitioners and political/institutional decision makers.

Speakers:
Volker Schmitz, Head of Supply Chain Operations EMEA, Hewlett Packard;
Chen Zhongwei, Director-General, Chengdu Logistic Office;
Yerkhart Iskaliyev, First Vice-President, United Transport and Logistics Company;
Vadim Morozov, First Vice-President, Russian Railways;
Hans-Georg Werner, Management Board Member Region East, DB Schenker Rail;
Erich Staake, President & CEO, Port of Duisburg.

10:00 – 11:00

Panel Discussion: „Perspectives on the emergence of new multimodal supply chains between Asia and Europe”

The discussion shall feature representatives of other key business stakeholders in the development of multimodal Euro-Asia corridors: national railway operators, sea and land port operators, integrated logistics providers as well as shipping lines. Given the multi- and inter-modal nature of Euro-Asian continental supply chains – that feature long-haul rail connections with land-, rail- and sea-based distribution and logistics solutions – the participants shall provide additional perspectives from critical sections along these integrated continental supply chains. These insights shall further serve to inform and engage the institutional and political decision makers for the benefit of a continued and more coordinated development of the emerging continental supply chains, especially in the areas of infrastructure development, administrative optimization and legal harmonization. Interaction with the audience is foreseen.

Discussants:
Henk van Dieren, CEO, Samskip Van Dieren Multimodal;
Adam Purwin, CEO, PKP CARGO
Tsutomu Hakeda, Executive Director, Global Logistics, Portek International Pte, Ltd;
Sanzhar Yelyubayev, President, KTZ Express;
Paolo Costa, President, Venice Port Authority;
Reinhard Bamberger, Member of the Board, Rail Cargo Austria AG;
Tony Michaelsen, Director and manager for Baltic Sea operations, Stena Line.
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
Venue: Atrium, 1st floor

PANEL SESSION II
Prospects and challenges in view of the development of new EU-Asia connectivity

Moderator: Oddgeir Danielsen, Director for the Secretariat of the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics

11:30 – 13:00

International organizations and industry associations play an important role in the development of new transport connections. Given the highly complicated nature of long-haul cross-border supply chains, a smooth development of efficient, integrated and commercially viable Euro-Asia supply chains depends heavily on the coordinated planning and development efforts of all key stakeholders. Business and political umbrella organizations serve as crucial platforms in driving transport policies, promoting infrastructure development and access to financing, seeking to minimize red tape and ensure cross-border technical and legal compatibility, and promoting cooperation among the key stakeholders. The second panel session shall, therefore, feature several key international institutional players who shall provide their perspectives on the issues raised in the first panel and contribute their visions for the future of the emerging multi-modal Euro-Asian transport corridors.

Speakers
François Davenne, Secretary General Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF);
Dong Jianmin, Deputy Chairman, Organization for Co-Operation between Railways (OSJD);
Gaozhang Zhu, Director of Compliance and Facilitation, World Customs Organization (WCO);
Umberto de Pretto, Secretary General, International Road Transport Union (IRU)
Max Jensen, Head of Public Transport (and rail) Division, European Investment Bank (EIB);
Libor Lochman, Executive Director, Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER);
Wang Shunqing, Deputy Director-General of Department of European Affairs, and Representative of Secretariat for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China;
Philippe Citroën, Director General, The Association of the European Rail Industry (UNIFE);
Park Jin Young, Director, the Korea Transport Institute (KOTI).
CONCLUDING SESSION
Venue: Ziedoņa Hall, 1st floor

Moderators: Kaspars Briškens, Advisor to the Minister for Transport of the Republic of Latvia
Oddgeir Danielsen, Director for the Secretariat of the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics

13:00 – 13:10 Highlights from the business panel discussions by the Moderators

13:10 – 13:15 Concluding Remarks by Violeta Bulc, EU Commissioner for Mobility and Transport

13:15 – 13:20 Concluding remarks by Anrijs Matīss, Minister for Transport of the Republic of Latvia, Chairman of the EU Transport Minister’s Council
- Adoption of the ASEM TMM3 Declaration

13:20 – 13:30 Family Photo – all participants
Venue: Atrium, 1st floor

13:30 – 15:30 Buffet Lunch (All participants)
Venue: Restaurant of the National Library of Latvia, 1st floor

13:30 – 14:00 Press conference
Venue: Hall Baltija, 1st floor
Language: English/Latvian