



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic
and Environmental Activities**

Vienna, 1 November 2006

To: All OSCE Delegations
Partners for Co-operation
Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Subject: Report on the joint OSCE/UNECE/EurAsEC seminar in Moscow, the
Russian Federation, on 17-18 October 2006.

Please find attached the report on the joint OSCE/UNECE/EurAsEC seminar concerning the implementation of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, which took place in Moscow, the Russian Federation, on 17-18 October 2006.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and
Environmental Activities**

Vienna, 1 November 2006

Joint OSCE/UNECE/EurAsEC seminar on the implementation of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (Moscow, the Russian Federation, 17-18 October 2006)

SEMINAR REPORT

Participants

The meeting was attended by 58 government and industry experts responsible for customs, transport and trade policies from Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) countries, including all EuroAsian Economic Community (EurAsEC) members and a number of neighbouring countries with transit links. The following OSCE participating States, 15 in total, were represented: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Poland, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Representatives of one Mediterranean Partner for Cooperation, Jordan, also participated in the meeting. In addition there was participation from the World Customs Organization (WCO) as well as from the office of the EU Special Representative for Central Asia. A list of participants (annex 2) is attached to this report.

Purpose of the seminar

The seminar was one of the immediate follow-up activities to the 14th OSCE Economic Forum on “Transportation in the OSCE area: Secure transportation networks and transport development to enhance regional economic co-operation and stability” under the Belgian 2006 OSCE Chairmanship. It can be considered as a first step in the joint OSCE/UNECE pilot project on promoting UNECE key legal instruments related to transport development. Participants were to discuss the implementation of the UNECE International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods. The seminar was aimed at a more effective implementation of the Harmonization Convention and addressed, among others, issues such as Integrated Border Management and cross-border cooperation measures (including harmonization of border & customs formalities, reduction of border crossing delays and transportation costs). Particular attention was paid to good governance practices and fighting corruption at border crossings.

Agenda of the seminar

In the first part of the seminar UNECE experts gave a general introduction to the Harmonization Convention and presented economic and governance issues related to

efficient border crossing procedures. They also provided information on the cross-border data exchange model project and presented a general overview of transport issues in the EECCA region. UNECE trainers emphasized that the principles contained in the Harmonization Convention were the necessary basis for further development of Integrated Border Management. A representative of EurAsEC presented recent developments and plans in the area of cross-border and customs cooperation between its member states. A WCO representative introduced to the participants the Kyoto Convention dealing with simplification and harmonization of customs procedures.

The second part of the seminar aimed at exchanging best practices and experience-sharing. Participants had the opportunity to report on their national efforts regarding the implementation of the Harmonization Convention. Industry representatives from the **Association of International Road Carriers of Russia** (ASMAP) and the **Association of Polish Road Carriers** (ZM PD) addressed general problems of the road transport industry in these two countries. In addition representatives of the Swedish, Russian, Polish and Azerbaijani Customs agencies gave presentations on their experiences regarding national border management and cross-border cooperation.

A number of countries expressed the need for additional training on the implementation of the Harmonization Convention. OCEEA in close cooperation with the UNECE Transport Division is now considering to offer national, tailor-made technical assistance seminars to those OSCE participating States who requested it. The delegations concerned will be contacted soon.

This seminar was preceded by a high-level UNECE/UNESCAP/EurAsEC conference on Trade Facilitation in Moscow on 16 October, where the Deputy Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities made a presentation on the OSCE's Border Security and Management Concept. In the morning of 17 October the conference was followed by a training seminar on Single Window and Data Harmonization at Customs organized at the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. More information on these events is available at <http://www.unece.org/trade/workshop/workshop.htm>.

Presentations

Presentations that were made at the Harmonization seminar are available on demand at OCEEA and will be published on a CD-ROM. An annotated agenda (annex 1) is attached to this report.

Conclusions/Outcomes

The main conclusions of the meeting were the following:

- As a follow-up activity to the 14th OSCE Economic Forum, the seminar provided an illustration of the relevance of harmonization of frontier controls of goods for the security and cooperation objectives pursued by OSCE in the content of its Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension.

- OCEEA believes that having held this event has strengthened ties with the UNECE and could offer new opportunities for future cooperation with EurAsEC and with OSCE participating States in the EECCA region regarding transport, trade, border and customs related issues.
- Participants expressed appreciation for the joint UNECE/OSCE initiative and encouraged the UNECE and the OSCE to develop similar training seminars on the implementation of other international legal instruments in the field of transport.
- There was wide support for holding further training seminars on the implementation of the Harmonization Convention, especially in the light of the need for assistance that was expressed by a number of OSCE participating States.
- UNECE announced that it would, based on the outcome of the seminar, consider proposing to further develop operational guidelines of the Convention including security issues and that it would further elaborate additional modal specific regulations and guidelines. The OSCE could contribute to this through dissemination of the additional information concerned.



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe



EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Joint OSCE/UNECE/EurAsEC seminar on the implementation of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods

17 (afternoon) - 18 October 2006

Conference Venue:
World Trade Centre

Moscow, Krasnopresnenskaya nab., 12, Entrance Nr. 7
Room Angara, 2nd floor, Tel: (+7 495) 258-12-12

ANNOTATED AGENDA

DAY 1

Tuesday, 17 October 2006

13h30	Registration and Lunch
15h00	Opening of the Seminar, welcome addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory Remarks – Mr. Alexey Stukalo, Deputy Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities • Opening Statements – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ H.E. Vincent Mertens, Ambassador of Belgium to the Russian Federation, Belgian OSCE Chairmanship; ▶ Mr. Poul Hansen, Economic Affairs Officer, Border Crossing Facilitation Section, UNECE Transport Division; ▶ Mr. Vladimir Nekrassov, Head, Department of Customs and Border Issues, Secretariat of the Integration Committee of EurAsEC
15h30	Trade and transport facilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE Transport Division
16h00	Coffee break
16h30	Integrated Border Management and the Harmonization Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to UNECE legal instruments and the Harmonization Convention, including annexes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mr. Poul Hansen, Economic Affairs Officer, Border Crossing Facilitation Section, UNECE Transport Division ▶ Mr. Gareth Lewis, Technical Officer, World Customs Organization
17h15	Discussion
18h00	End of DAY 1

DAY 2

Wednesday, 18 October 2006

9h30	<p>Country reports on implementation of the Harmonization Convention and integrated border management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of transport issues in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) countries ▶ Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE Transport Division• Country reports ▶ EurAsEC member states and observers, other countries. Presentations by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Jordan.
10h15	<p>Experience of the transport industry concerning Integrated Border Management</p> <p>▶ Mr. Lev Shoyhet, Association of international Road Carriers, Russian Federation (ASMAP) ▶ Ms. Ana Gawlik, Association of International Road Carriers in Poland (ZMPD) ▶ Mr. Alexei Menzulov, SGS</p>
10h45	<p>Coffee break</p>
11h15	<p>National cooperation measures in the framework of the Harmonization Convention and Integrated Border Management in general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General introduction, best practices vis-à-vis reality, state-of-the-art procedures <p>▶ Mr. Mats Wicktor, Director, Customs Future Centre, Swedish Customs</p>
12h00	<p>Experience of authorities in cooperation measures at national level in the framework of the Harmonization Convention and Integrated Border Management in general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues and challenges <p>▶ Ms. Larissa Korshunova, Deputy Chief of Department, Federal Customs Service, the Russian Federation</p>
12h30	<p>Lunch break</p>

14h00	<p>Cross-border cooperation measures in the framework of the Harmonization Convention and Integrated Border Management in general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General introduction, best practices vis-à-vis reality, state-of-the-art procedures incl. joint border stations <p>► Mr. Jerzy Adam Szczawinski, Deputy Director, Customs Chamber in Bialystok, Poland</p>
14h45	<p>Experience of authorities in cross-border cooperation measures in the framework of the Harmonization Convention and Integrated Border Management in general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and challenges <p>► Mr. Shahin Baghirov, Head of Department, State Customs Committee, Customs Control Organization of Azerbaijan</p>
15h15	Discussion
15h45	Coffee break
16h15	<p>Future aspects of Integrated Border Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete issues and scope for improvement in short and long term <p>► Mr. Poul Hansen, Economic Affairs Officer, Border Crossing Facilitation Section, UNECE Transport Division</p> <p>► Mr. Robert Nowak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE Transport Division</p>
16h45	<p>Concluding session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Concluding remarks by representatives of OSCE, UNECE and EurAsEC



**Joint OSCE/UNECE/EurAsEC seminar on the implementation of the
International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods**

17 - 18 October 2006

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Orkhan AFANDIYEV	International Road Carriers Association (ABADA), Secretary General
Mr. Ibrahim ALIYEV	Ministry of Economic Development, Chief Advisor
Mr. Shahin BAGIROV	State Customs Committee, Customs Control Organization, Head of Department
Mr. Ali GASIMOS	Ministry of Transport, Division of Transport Policy and Economy, Chief of Division

BELGIUM

H.E. Vincent MERTENS	Ambassador of Belgium to the Russian Federation, Belgian OSCE Chairmanship
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BELARUS

Ms. Svetlana DUBOVIK	State Customs Committee, Chief Inspector
Mr. Sergey YEREMENCO	Association BAMAP, Director

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ms. Marie NAJMANOVA	Chamber of Commerce FITPRO, Secretary General
Dr. Antonin KERNER	Chamber of Commerce FITPRO, Director

FINLAND

Ms. Saara TVEIT	Board of Customs, Senior Customs Inspector
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KAZAKHSTAN

Mr. Bulat SMAGULOV	Ministry of Transport and Communication, Transport Control Committee, Mototransport and Highway Control Department, Dep Head
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Mr. Dauren TULEMESOV	Customs Control Committee of the Ministry of Finance, Customs Control Organization Division, Head of Department
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Mr. Malit KHASENOV	National Company „Kazakhstan Temirjoli“, Head of the Legal Department
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Ms. Nelly RYKOVA	KAZPOST Company, Representative Office in Russia, Director
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KYRGYZSTAN

Mr. Kasymbek ALYSHBAEV	Customs Office, Department on Goods Delivery Control, Major, Senior Inspector
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Mr. Temir NIYAZBEKOV	Ministry of Transport and Communication, Department for External Economic Relations, Head of Department
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Mr. Jantoro SATYBALDIEV	Osh Province Administration, Governor
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LITHUANIA

Mr. Stasis VAICEKAUSKAS	Organization of Customs Activities, Customs Departement, Chief Inspector
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MOLDOVA

Mr. Corneliu MOISE	Border Guards Director General's Office, Adviser
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Mr. Alexandru MUNTEANU

Customs Authorities, Customs
Regime and Procedures Management
Division, Adviser

POLAND

Ms. Anna GAWLIK

Association of International Road
Carriers in Poland, Transport
Department, Specialist

Ms. Anita RUSZTECKA

Association of International Road
Carriers in Poland, Transport
Department, Specialist

Mr. Jerzy Adam SZCZAWINSKI

Regional Customs Chamber in
Bialystok, Deputy Director

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ms. Larissa Pavlovna
KORSHUNOVA

Federal Custom Service, Central
Administration Board of the Customs
Control, Department of the
Organization of Customs Registration
and the Customs Control over
automobile and railway items of
dissolution, Deputy Chief of
Department

Mr. Valery OKNYANSKIY

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Department of Economic Co-
operation, Head of Division

Mr. Pyotr BAKLANOV

Federal Customs Service, Deputy
Head of Customs Control

Ms. Tatjana BIRAJEVA

Ministry of Economic Development,
Consultant

Mr. Petr PAVLUK

Association of international Road
Carriers, Department of Transit, Head
of Department

Mr. Michail SAVIN

Association of international Road
Carriers, Department of Customs,
Head of Department

Mr. Lev SHOYHET

Association of international Road
Carriers, Department of Transit,
Head of the Monitoring Group

Ms. Svetlana SHUTKO

Association of international Road
Carriers, Department of Transit,
Leading Specialist

SWEDEN

Mr. Mats WICKTOR	Swedish Customs, Swedish Future Centre, Director
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TAJIKISTAN

Mr. Mansur ARIPOV	Ministry of Tax and Revenue, International Department, Chief Inspector
Mr. Makhshupov MUHORAKSHO	Ministry of Economy, Head of External Department
Mr. Suyhan RUSTAMOV	Ministry of Finance, Chief of Tax Policy Department
Mr. Kahbibullo TACHEV	Transport Institute, Ministry of Transport, Dean
Mr. Valeriy OSYPENKO	State Customs Administration, Security Department, Head of Department

UKRAINE

Mr. Kyonstantin SAVCHENKO	Ministry of Transport and Communication, Development and Coordination of Systems Transport and Communications Department, Deputy Director
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UZBEKISTAN

Mr. Shanrat BERNAZAROV	Ministry of Internal Relations and Trade, Chief Specialist
Mr. Shurhrat MIRHAMIDOV	Transport Association, Deputy Head of Department
Mr. Ulughbek JAVHAROV	State Customs Committee, Chief Inspector

JORDAN

Mr. Abdalla HABEKH	Jordan Customs, Director of Transit Department
Mr. Mohammad Fayez OBEIDAT	Jordan Customs, Head of International Cooperation
Mr. Mohammad Berny ESA	Jordan Customs, Director of Planning

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. Vladimir NEKRASSOV	EuroAsian Economic Community (EurAsEC), Head, Department of Customs and Border Issues, Secretariat of the Integration Committee of EurAsEC
Mr. Umoy KULMATOVA	EurAsEC, Department of Trade, Consultant
Mr. Boris PODGORNY	EurAsEC, Analytical Department, Consultant
Mr. Victor RICHTER	EU Special Representative for Central Asia, Political Advisor
Mr. Alexey STUKALO	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Deputy Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
Mr. Roel JANSSENS	OSCE/OCEEA, Economic and Environmental Advisor
Ms. Muhabbat KAMAROVA	OSCE Centre in Dushanbe, Programme Assistant
Mr. Mario APOSTOLOV	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Trade (UNECE), Regional Advisor
Mr. Konstantin GLUKHENKIY	UNECE, Economic Affairs Officer
Mr. Poul HANSEN	UNECE, Transport Division, Border Crossing Facilitation Section, Economic Affairs Officer/Head of the TIR secretariat
Mr. Robert NOWAK	UNECE, Transport Division, Border Crossing Facilitation Section, Economic Affairs Officer
Mr. Gareth LEWIS	World Customs Organization (WCO), Technical Officer, Compliance and Facilitation Department

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Ms. Yeraterina IVANOVA	Montrade Inc. Moscow Office, Canada, Lawyer
Mr. Arkadi SHMELEV	International Road Union, Permanent Delegation to the CIS, Chief Expert on Customs Issues