

**Second day of the Eighteenth Meeting**  
MC(18) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

**DECISION No. 11/11  
STRENGTHENING TRANSPORT DIALOGUE IN THE OSCE**

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming the commitments related to transportation in the OSCE area, in particular those contained in the Helsinki Final Act (1975), the Document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe (1990), the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted by the Ministerial Council in Maastricht (2003), Ministerial Council Decisions No. 11/06 on future transport dialogue in the OSCE and No. 9/08 on follow-up to the Sixteenth Economic and Environmental Forum on maritime and inland waterways co-operation, and other relevant OSCE documents,

Noting the attention given to the transport issues during the Corfu Process and the preparation of the Astana Summit, which reconfirmed the importance of the OSCE's Economic and Environmental Dimension for the Organization's comprehensive approach to security,

Recognizing the vital importance of secure transportation networks and of sustainable transport development to the enhancement of regional economic co-operation and to stability in the OSCE area,

Drawing upon the summary conclusions and recommendations of the 14th, 16th, 18th and 19th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forums and acknowledging the valuable contribution that they have provided to the OSCE's work in the transport field,

Recognizing the importance of the activities listed in the annex that were conducted in follow-up to the above-mentioned Economic and Environmental Forums,

Noting that landlocked developing countries face unique challenges related to their lack of access to the open sea, their dependence on transit services and difficulties related to market access and acknowledging that addressing the needs of landlocked developing countries is an immediate concern and requires a long-term process,

Welcoming the ongoing co-operation between the OSCE and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and recognizing the importance of further strengthening targeted co-operation with other relevant international organizations and institutions,

Noting that progress has been made in the implementation of the aforementioned Ministerial Council decisions, while recognizing that additional efforts are needed to address existing challenges adequately,

1. Encourages the participating States to further develop co-operation and dialogue amongst themselves and with relevant international organizations on transport-related matters, notably by making the best use of the existing internationally recognized legal instruments they are party to, and standards and best practices available, with the aim of facilitating efficient, secure and sustainable transportation;
2. Calls upon the participating States to enhance, where appropriate, regional and interregional co-operation and the exchange of experiences and best practices to create and maintain sustainable, secure, integrated and uninterrupted transportation links amongst themselves, including in the maritime field;
3. Encourages the participating States to expand and enhance co-operation between landlocked, transit and non-landlocked countries, for the benefit of regional economic development including within the spirit of the United Nations Almaty Programme of Action;
4. Encourages the participating States to:
  - Intensify efforts aimed at facilitating secure transportation and trade, while preventing illicit trafficking in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and agreements to which the OSCE participating States are parties;
  - Further strengthen public-private partnerships in the transport field;
  - Share best practices, particularly in the field of border-crossing facilitation and sustainable transport;
  - Develop more effective national policies for cleaner and more energy-efficient transportation;
  - Promote the establishment of multimodal transport and logistics systems, including further development of Euro-Asian transport links and corridors;
  - Identify and tackle inland transport security challenges across the OSCE area and improve the co-ordination and effectiveness of national and international efforts in addressing these challenges;
5. Tasks the OSCE Secretary General, the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities and field missions, within their mandates, with assisting participating States upon their request in implementing the provisions of this decision;
6. Encourages the Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily implement the provisions of this decision.

OSCE activities in the follow-up to the 14th, 16th, 18th, and 19th Economic and Environmental Forums:

- The International Conference on the Prospects for the Development of Trans-Asian and Eurasian Transit Transportation through Central Asia till the year 2015 held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in October 2007;
- The International Expert Conference on The Safety of Navigation and Environmental Security in a Transboundary Context in the Black Sea Basin, in Odesa, Ukraine, in July 2008;
- The practical support provided by the OSCE Secretariat to the continuation of the Euro-Asian transport links – Phase I-II, Trans-European Motorways (TEM) and Trans-European Railways (TER) projects Master Plan as a contribution to the implementation in the OSCE region of the UN Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries;
- The various national and regional training and capacity-building activities organized across the OSCE region with a view to improving the implementation of relevant international legal instruments such as the UNECE International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, the World Customs Organization (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade and the WCO International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures;
- The regional training seminars on prevention and detection of illegal transboundary waste transportation and its disposal;
- The joint OSCE-UNECE Handbook on Best Practices at Border Crossings: A Trade and Transport Facilitation Perspective, in order to contribute to further awareness-raising and capacity-building in the OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation.