



**Cooperation arrangements
between the European Commission's
Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
and the Organisation for Cooperation between Railways**

The Organisation for Cooperation between Railways and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, hereafter referred to as "the Sides",

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS:

In view of the Statute of the Organisation for Cooperation between Railways and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

The Sides recognise that they have a common interest in cooperating in the field of railway transport and note the importance of interaction in increasing competitiveness and developing international railway traffic between Europe and Asia, and of adhering to the principles of mutual respect, mutually beneficial business cooperation and equality of the Sides.

1. Objective

The objective of these Cooperation arrangements between the Organisation for Cooperation between Railways and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (hereafter referred to as "Cooperation arrangements") is to develop the Sides' relations in the field of railway transport on a stable, long-term basis.

2. Scope

2.1. These Cooperation arrangements set out a framework for cooperation between the Sides in the field of railway transport. Their scope is confined to the Sides' areas of competence.

2.2. The cooperation under these Cooperation arrangements will endeavour to cover the following areas:

2.2.1. interaction in developing and improving international railway traffic – particularly between Europe and Asia;

2.2.2. contributing to the development of coordinated transport policy in the field of international railway traffic, including passengers' rights and obligations;

- 2.2.3. developing railway transport corridors;
- 2.2.4. assisting in the improvement of international railway transport law;
- 2.2.5. addressing the problems relating to the economic, information, scientific, technical and ecological aspects of railway transport;
- 2.2.6. identifying measures to increase the competitiveness of railway transport as compared with other modes of transport; and
- 2.2.7. the operation of railways and technical issues relating to the further development of international railway traffic.

3. Forms of cooperation

The Sides intend to cooperate by:

- 3.1. exchanging information on the current rail transport issues;
- 3.2. exchanging documents that they have approved in the field of railway transport;
- 3.3. holding joint meetings to discuss important issues in the field of railway transport;
- 3.4. exchanging best practices on issues relating to railway transport operation;
- 3.5. developing joint proposals for improving the operation of railway transport; and
- 3.6. participating in the meetings and events organised by the Sides at their invitation.

4. Final clauses

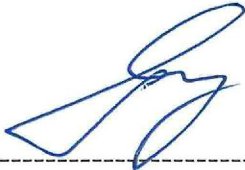
- 4.1. These Cooperation arrangements are not legally binding under international law.
- 4.2. These Cooperation arrangements are without prejudice to similar documents or arrangements, and do not limit the Sides' rights to conclude and comply with similar documents or arrangements.
- 4.3. The Sides may mutually agree to review these arrangements in writing at any time.
- 4.4. In the event of disagreement as to the interpretation or application of these Cooperation arrangements, the Sides' representatives will consult each other to seek a mutually acceptable solution.
- 4.5. After signing these Cooperation arrangements the Sides will immediately provide each other with information on contact persons, including their addresses, positions and a basic indication of their field of work.

- 4.6. These Cooperation arrangements shall take effect on the date on which they are signed.
- 4.7. These Cooperation arrangements will be applicable for an indefinite period, but may be discontinued by either Side subject to 6 (six) months' written notice.

Done and signed in duplicate, in English and Russian, on 1 March 2016 in Brussels.

For the Organisation for Cooperation
between Railways

For the European Commission's
Directorate-General for Mobility and
Transport



Tadeusz Szozda,
Chairman of the OSJD Committee



Henrik Hololei,
Director-General