PROTOCOL of the Turkish-Slovenian Joint Committee Meeting on Road Transport

The Road Transport Joint Committee meeting between Turkey and Slovenia was held in Ljubljana, on 17-19 July 2006, to further develop cooperation in road transport between the two countries.

The delegations negotiated the transport of passenger and goods between their countries on the basis of the following agenda:

- 1- Exchange of statistical information
- 2- Transport of goods
- 3- Transport of passengers
- 4- Other subjects

The members of both delegations are listed in the appendix.

1-Exchange of Statistical Information

Both delegations exchanged views and statistical information regarding the trade and current situation of road transport between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Slovenia; they both agree that the progress of trade and road transport between their countries is at a satisfactory level.

Both delegations expressed their sincere belief that trade between their countries would further develop in the future.

2-Transport of Goods

The delegations agreed that the primary purpose of their cooperation was to develop trade and facilitate the transport of goods between Turkey and Slovenia.

Moreover, they agreed to encourage the development of bilateral transport operations. Both delegations agreed that introducing alternative transport modes and lines would be mutually beneficial to both countries.

The Turkish delegation mentioned the insufficiency of the permit quota. The Slovenian delegation took notice of this and explained that because of the situation on the Slovenian road network, which is connected with road construction, it was not possible to accept the Turkish proposal.

After a long and intensive discussion both delegation agreed that the permits quota for 2006 and preliminary quota for 2007 were determined as follows:

- 9.000 permits for EURO 2 standard vehicles
- 8.000 permits for EURO 3 standard vehicles
- 500 permits fort o/from third countries transports

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The Slovenian delegation also promised the Turkish side that, by the end of September 2006, it would look again into the possibility to ensure unimpeded transit for Turkish hauliers across the Slovenian territory.

The Turkish side will be notified through diplomatic channels. Turkish delegation expressed its satisfaction over this proposal.

The Turkish delegation stated that the alternative modes and lines, including Ro-Ro and Ro-La transport operations, had been evaluated. On the other hand, the Turkish delegation informed the Slovenian delegation that the Ro-Ro transport operations had been conducted by the private sector and the private sector would be urged to utilize the Port of Koper. In this respect, the Turkish delegation requested the Slovenian delegation to increase awareness among Slovenian investors on this issue.

The Turkish delegation declared that the existing Ro-La lines were intensely used and that additional capacity increases would be utilized as well.

3-Passenger Transport

Both delegations agreed that there were no active regular bus services between the two countries, however due consideration would be given in the case of a request raised from either side.

Both delegations also agreed that there were no problems with the performance of occasional services between two countries.

4- Miscellaneous

The Turkish delegation expressed that on grounds of a number of minor unconformities, which do not require the withdrawal of the licenses or necessitate the issuance of fines and/or penalties, the ECMT licenses used by the Turkish hauliers are withdrawn at the Slovenian Border Gates and Turkish hauliers are exposed to monetary penalties.

The Slovenian delegation stated that no such information had been received by the Slovenian Ministry of Transport and although it mentioned that the problem was actually within the sphere of responsibility of other institutions, in-depth inquiries would be conducted.

The Turkish delegation said that Turkish hauliers were facing some difficulties regarding ECMT licenses and permits in transport operations performed by leased and/or hired vehicles.

The Slovenian delegation stated that the issue would be evaluated in line with the national law after the relevant documents and information regarding the problem were communicated to the Slovenian side through diplomatic channels.

Both delegations agreed that when Turkish or Slovenian hauliers used the permits for third countries it was not necessary to transit its own territory.

The Turkish delegation invited the Slovenian delegation to Turkey for the next Joint Committee Meeting. The Slovenian delegation accepted the invitation with pleasure. The exact date and venue of the meeting will be determined through bilateral correspondence.

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The meeting took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere and both delegations expressed their satisfaction over the result.

Done on 19^{th} July 2006, in Ljubljana, in the English language in two originals, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Slovenian Delegation

For the Turkish Delegation

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