

Summary of the 15th meeting with the RFC North Sea – Baltic RAG & TAG 25th September 2019

Date: 25th of September 2019

Venue: IBIS Styles Warszawa City, 43 Grzybowska Str., 00-855 Warsaw

1. Welcome and introduction from the Chairman.

Oliver Sellnick (Chairman of the RFC NS-B Management Board) welcomed the participants presenting the agenda and speakers. Afterwards all participants introduced themselves.

2. RAG slot

Lieven Goethals acting in his capacity of RAG vice speaker informed that Eva Eckert – RAG spokesperson - changed position and can't act a speaker any longer, therefore election took place during RAG pre-meeting. He introduced Dirk Zender from DB Cargo AG as new RFC NS-B RAG speaker. Dirk Zender introduced himself presenting topics discussed by RAG during pre-meeting to be tackled on this or upcoming Advisory Groups meeting:

1. Train Performance – during the next AGs meeting RUs would like to discuss train performance on the Corridor;
2. Traffic to China: Dirk Zender informed about the exchange with Polish MoT on the possibility to organize a workshop in Małaszewicze as this proposal was made also on the inauguration event of Rail Freight Corridor Amber earlier in September; PL MoT confirmed willingness to organize a workshop in the first quarter of 2020.
3. Information on Temporary Capacity Restrictions between Czech Republic and Germany (Decin border) – RAG would like to be informed about possible alternative routes during track closures. In reply to this request Oliver Sellnick stated that in the future line will be rebuilt to provide higher capacity, which in the meantime means restrictions in traffic. To handle this issue now a proposal to discuss it further with DB Netz AG regional division and RUs has been made. RUs are also asked to inform Infrastructure Manager and cancel path even on the latest time if the capacity will not be used to enable its allocation to another RU.
4. Harmonization of timetables at the border between Poland and Germany – RAG would like to see the improvement in coordination of TCRs at the borders as in many cases impact of TCR is taken into account only on the one side of the border.
5. Deadlines of TCRs publication in Poland – RAG would like to ask to investigate the possibility to provide information on TCRs earlier in advance. After short discussion it was stated that satisfactory information should be provided 6 weeks before TCRs starts – with its localization and if possible estimated impact. Jarosław Majchrzak informed that PKP PLK S.A. currently executes wide investment process and in the internal PKP PLK S.A. regulations final alternative timetable (diversionary TT) which takes all TCRs into account are provided to freight RUs 21 days before the period with TCRs. He added that it will be tackled internally to verify the possibility to fulfil customer's needs.
6. CFL Multimodal request to join RFC NS-B - to be presented by Eric Lambert under separate point.

7. User Satisfaction Survey 2019 – RAG request to postpone the deadline of 2 weeks more. Weronika Karbowski informed that it was agreed with all Corridors and RNE to postpone the deadline till 08.10.2019.

3. TAG slot

Friedrich Stuhmann (TAG Speaker) thanked the Management Board for the RAG/TAG meeting informing that in the first place TAG would like to be informed more often about Management Board plans and activities. He presented the following topics which were discussed during the pre-meeting:

1. ERTMS deployment on the Corridor – TAG would like to discuss if the deployment of system would be beneficial for terminals. TAG would appreciate to receive information about dates of deployment on the Corridor.

Weronika Karbowski explained that there is no specific Corridor deployment plan. There are national and European deployment plans, which RFC NS-B will describe in the Implementation Plan update. If ready, information will be presented during the next AGs meeting, but in any case customers will be consulted with the IP next year so information on ERTMS deployment will be given.

2. Terminal messages standardization – TAG would like to propose to combine many initiatives to find a standard covering all projects. Oliver Sellnick reminded ELETA project which should serve as a final tool. Reinhard Haller from DG Move informed that during SERAC WG on RFCs discussion is taking place on the improvements in linking railway and terminals and operators with TAF TSI usage. As an example of good performance airport collaborative decision making is taken into account.
3. Evaluation of the Regulation 913/2010 – information will be presented under point 4.
4. Studies update – information will be provided under point 9.

CFL group activities presentation:

Eric Lambert from CFL Intermodal introduced himself. He presented companies' portfolio according to the presentation annexed to the summary. Eric Lambert informed that CFL is interested to join RFC NS-B. Connection from Luxembourg is already happening on RFC NS-B to Poznań and between Bettembourg and Kolin, it would be also interesting in terms of military mobility as there are NATO logistics centres in Luxembourg.

Oliver Sellnick thanked Eric Lambert for the presentation. He informed that from the formal perspective Corridor extension has to be agreed with the Member State. Since Luxembourg is not a member of RFC NS-B, such initiative should be issued by Luxembourg Ministry of Transport to the Executive Board of RFC NS-B, to be further proceeded with the European Commission. Reinhard Haller stated that it is within a Member State obligation to propose the extension as the criteria have to be fulfilled and have to be consistent with TEN-T criteria. Maybe revision of the Regulation will allow to include the proposal so the extension could be postponed after the evaluation.

Eric Lambert thanked for the information stating that without prejudice to the formal procedure he wanted to inform the Executive Board and the Management Board about the business case.

4. Evaluation of the Regulation 913/2010

At the beginning Reinhard Haller informed about new Commission's policy objectives in the light of climate change. The goal is to propose green policy and continue efforts to achieve the

share of 30% of transport on rail. Due to those political priorities, the revision of the Regulation 913/2010 is necessary and rail freight corridors are perceived as important players in developing rail freight transport. Although he noted that in the Implementation Report published in 2018 real operational achievements are somehow limited.

After this introduction Reinhard Haller presented formal process of the revision of the Regulation:

1. Evaluation – legislation must be evaluated and its impact will on international rail freight will be determined;
2. Impact assessment – future different possible scenarios will be assessed – to look forward on the possible changes, one particular scenario will be elaborated at the end of 2021-2022;
3. Revision - drafting of the legal proposal of the revised Regulation – planned on 2023-2024; has to be discussed with European Parliament and the Council.

For the time being the evaluation phase foresees:

- Public consultation – by online questionnaire (15-20 questions); to be published in the upcoming weeks; TAG speaker asked how the survey will be circulated: through the RFCs or directly to the stakeholders: EC will send information on public consultation directly to the customers.
- Study elaborated by the consultant with two parallel exercises:
 - o Targeted stakeholders consultations with questionnaires and
 - o 50 interviews with experts (strategic choice of experts, discussed by EC with the consultant, RFCs may volunteer).

Discussion took place. Oliver Sellnick asked about legal basis of the implementation of the ongoing Timetable Redesign project performed by RUs and IMs under the umbrella of RNE and FTE. Reinhard Haller explained that TTR project is not exactly in the scope of the Regulation. Legal basis for TTR might be included in the second revision of the Annex VII to the Directive 34/2012.

5. Information from the C-OSS

Felicia Riedl presented information on the results of TT 2020 allocation and preparation of the offer for TT 2021 according to the presentation annexed to the summary. She emphasized the quality of the offer as the most important. The quality of the draft offer has grown and RFC's offer is more stable because for the extensive consultations and coordination process.

Additionally Freddy van der Cruyssen, member of the TT/C-OSS working group from Infrabel presented improved PaP catalogue with map, more user friendly for the customers.

At the end, C-OSS Manager invited participants to take part in PCS trainings in 2020 which will take place in:

- Frankfurt am Main on 6-7.02.2020;
- Warsaw on 13-14.02.2020;
- Budapest on 19-20.02.2020.

6. View of DB Cargo AG on challenges on PL/BY border

Dirk Zender gave presentation enclosed to the summary on the general issues on the Małaszewicze - Brest border which is perceived as one of the RFC NS-B bottlenecks. RAG spokesperson stressed that topic is very complicated, with different stakeholders involved. Dirk Zender pointed out that China market is highly volatile and clients expects high flexibility and reliability in the same time. He pointed out that RAG/TAG meetings are the platform to

manage with the problems and find solutions. Damian Figurski from PKP Cargo added that a problem with traffic from China may be caused not only on the border itself but for example also due to terminal slots in other countries – not available at weekends.

Regarding the presentation Jarosław Majchrzak from PKP PLK S.A. gave an opinion that most of the issues at the border are not to be easily solved as they are result of law provisions as it is non-EU border and only those which are on IMs side and RU side can be tackled.

Oliver Sellnick thanked for the presentation and constructive discussion mentioning PL MoT proposal to organize a workshop in Małaszewicze. RAG speaker thanked PL MoT for this opportunity informing that RAG has decided to meet before the workshop to prepare the discussion. The meeting is foreseen on 04.03.2020.

7. Information regarding border coordinator position in Frankfurt Oder Oderbrücke

Lars Kunzelmann from DB Netz AG gave a follow up information regarding improvements on the border Frankfurt Oder Oderbrücke according to the presentation enclosed to the summary. He gave feedback from the customer workshop which took place on 27.08.2019 in Berlin in which 14 applicants participated agreeing on the principles of the cooperation between RUs and border coordinators. Weronika Karbowskiak thanked for this information and expressed interest of the Management Board for the future to be informed about the results of the project.

8. Follow up on Bad Bentheim workshop

Oliver Sellnick presented results of the workshops dedicated to improve the situation on Bad Bentheim border. He reminded that this initiative is carried out by Ministries of Transport from Netherlands and Germany, ProRail and DB Netz AG with the involvement of customers. In his presentation he gave information on the measures needed to achieve the goal:

- Information about origin and destination of international trains passing Bad Bentheim;
- Continuous international train numbers to be provided to RUs;
- Avoiding long rolling stock inspections in Bad Bentheim (cooperation between RUs needed).

Oliver Sellnick stated that the cooperation between RUs and IMs is essential and that the situation at the border will be further monitored.

9. Information on the ongoing studies:

• Transport Market Study

Izabela Kaczmarzyk – expert from Tplan Consulting presented state of play in the Transport Market Study elaboration according to the presentation enclosed to the summary.

Discussion took place about the interim results of the study in regard to the number of trains crossing the borders. RUs asked for explanation to the graph of international trains flows and pointed out that some data may be lost. Consultant representative explained that the only methodology that could be used is usage of the IMs data. What has been taken into account to the most possible extent was limitation of this information as not all IMs are informed by RUs about final origin/destination. Weronika Karbowskiak encouraged participants to share with the consultant data regarding real traffic flows which could be included in the study correcting current data. She explained that in some cases on which the consultant was informed about national traffic flows will be included to better present real traffic.

TAG speaker proposed to verify the GDP taken for the study to estimate the transport growth as in the past it proved to be higher than the one used currently.

Regarding next steps corrections will be made and if some data should be taken into account participants are asked to contact Weronika Karbowskiak. Final report is foreseen to be ready in November 2019.

- **Study on Capacity Improvement**

Weronika Karbowskiak informed that the consultant has been chosen and final results on the long train analysis should be ready in the first quarter of 2020. She pointed out that since terminal information is foreseen in the report terminals were requested to answer the survey circulated by the consultant on long tracks in terminals and investment plans. Due to low reply rate the data may not be used in the overall report but may be annexed to provide the information from those terminals who answered. TAG speaker proposed to share the list of terminals with him so he may encourage more terminals to provide the information.

10. Terminal information in Corridor Information Document

The topic was not discussed during the meeting due to time constraints, but TAG was reminded about the obligation to provide the information resulting from Commission Implementing Regulation on access to service facilities and rail-related services. The presentation summarizing the topic is enclosed to the summary.

11. Consultation on investments

Weronika Karbowskiak presented feedback received from RUs after two round of consultations. She presented the background of consultation reminding the letter issues by Ms. Elizabeth Werner from European Commission. Joost Overdijkink from UIC informed that on behalf of ECCO consultation has been performed and after the feedback will be consolidated it will be sent to the Corridor. Weronika Karbowskiak thanked for this information reminding that deadline given by EC to provide input is 14.10.2019. Topic will be discussed during upcoming CNC forum in November.

12. AOB

Weronika Karbowskiak presented some information regarding ongoing RFC NS-B activities according to the enclosed presentation.

Next RAG/TAG meetings will be organized on 1.04.2020 in Riga and 16.09.2020 in Berlin.

13. Summary:

Oliver Sellnick summarized the meeting underlying that common meetings have added value and he appreciate participation of RAG and TAG members.

Weronika Karbowskiak summarized next meeting topics proposal:

train performance, ERTMS deployment information and possible continuation on investment needs, experiences from the evaluation of the Regulation, discussion on possible scenarios in revision, terminal messages standardization (update on ELETA project);

follow up feedback on: TCRs between Czech Republic and Germany, TT harmonization between Germany and Poland, Małaszewicze workshop, improvements on the borders: Frankfurt Oder Oderbrucke and Bad Bentheim, TMS final results and state of play of Capacity improvement study.

Regarding Train Performance, UIC informed that to follow the initiative to work on the KPI for punctuality and speed, ECCO will start to analyse traffic flows on specific trains to improve the performance with cooperation of IMs, RUs and terminals.

Oliver Sellnick and Weronika Karbowski thanked the participants for taking part in the meeting, their feedback and cooperation.

List of annexes and presentations:

All the presentations and annexes are available on the RFC NS-B website in the [Download area](#).

- 1) Agenda for RFC NS-B RAG-TAG meeting 25.09.2019
- 2) 5. 190925_RAG_TAG NS-B_Warsaw_V2_Update
- 3) 6. Challenges of the border crossing procedure BY-PL
- 4) 7. Frankfurt Oder presentation
- 5) 8. 20190924_Bad Bentheim_State of Play
- 6) 9.1 RFC NSB TMS RAG-TAG Presentation 25_09_2019 (2)
- 7) 9.2 SCI state of play
- 8) 10. SFO information in Book 3
- 9) 11. Consultation on investments – feedback
- 10) 19.09.25 - RFC RAG - FRET PPT générale – Copy