

Summary of the 14th meeting with the RFC North Sea – Baltic RAG & TAG 27th March 2019

Date: 27th of March 2019
Venue: Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI)
Invalidenstraße 44, 10115 Berlin, Germany

1. Welcome and introduction address from the Chairman.

Anke Möller (DE MoT) welcomed the participants and wished a fruitful and successful meeting. She presented herself and gave the floor to Oliver Sellnick (Chairman of the RFC NS-B Management Board). He thanked German Ministry for the organization of the meeting. The agenda and speakers were presented. Afterwards all participants introduced themselves.

2. TAG slot

Friedrich Stuhmann (TAG Speaker) at first thanked for the possibility to have internal discussion within Terminal Advisory Group. He presented topics which were discussed during internal meeting:

- evaluation of the Regulation 913/2010 – TAG would like to support the Corridor in the evaluation, seeking for its role in the process;
- Transport Market Study – TAG Members have been actively involved in the cooperation with the consultant providing data and their experience, it would be appreciated by TAG to keep cooperation to consult first results as well;
- Common RFCs activities – as some lines in Germany are overlapping with RFC Orient/East-Med Friedrich Stuhmann had been invited to Advisory Group meeting organized by RFC OEM. He shared opinion that although topics are mainly common the approach may be different, it would be beneficial in his opinion to organize common AGs meetings with other RFCs. He asked the Management Board for the opinion.

Regarding evaluation of the Regulation, Oliver Sellnick explained that the process has only started with the roadmap being published and public consultation will take place in second quarter of 2019. RFC will try to consolidate feedback from all stakeholders, RUs, terminals and associations. It has not been decided yet if RFC Network common position will be elaborated. During public consultation phase feedback may be also given individually. For the Corridor it is important though to collect the streamlined feedback as evaluation takes time.

Answering to the idea of common RAG/TAG meeting with other RFCs Oliver Sellnick proposed to raise this issue during the next Management Board meeting, discuss it with RFC OEM, and come back to the AGs afterwards. Oliver Sellnick reminded that if TAG faces similar challenges on every corridor maybe future of TAG could be discussed also during common TAG speakers meetings.

3. RAG slot

Eva Eckert (RAG Speaker) gave an overview of topics which were discussed during RAG pre-meeting. She also appreciated the possibility to have a pre-meeting stating that RAG is also

aware that not all issues raised during RAG slot may be directly addressed during same meeting. She described the following topics raised by RUs:

- RAG speaker framework agreement:

Eva Eckert explained that document already consulted with the Management Board has been presented to RAG. After RUs comments/approval information will be passed to Weronika Karbowskiak to finalize the approval process.

- RU contingency planning:

Eva Eckert informed about the meeting to be held on 01.04.2019 to discuss RUs Handbook on ICM. First draft has been elaborated by UIC and ERFA. A recommendation was made that before the publication of RUs Handbook, common meeting with RNE could take place as both RFCs and RUs handbook should supplement themselves.

- TT2019/2020:

Eva Eckert presented feedback regarding the Corridor offer underlining most important issues: train parameters in PaP catalogue, running times and flexibility at the borders. It was agreed to further address this during 'capacity' topic of this meeting and bilateral meetings between C-OSS and RUs.

- ICM – Contingency process and rerouting scenarios:

Feedback received from DB Cargo AG was presented. After a discussion it was agreed that additional rerouting scenario for Dresden-Decin closure via Horka and further to Czech Republic via Chałupki/Bohumin will be added.

Regarding additional possibilities to run trains between Belarus and Poland and long-term alternative via Lithuania it was clarified that RUs proposals in this regard does not refer to contingency management but rather to train performance during TCRs and expected traffic increase from China. Jarosław Majchrzak from PKP PLK S.A. and Jakub Kapturzak from PL MoT provided information on the planned opening of another border crossing between Poland and Belarus as rerouting possibilities during planned investments in Terespol. Jakub Kapturzak mentioned that PKP PLK S.A. together with other stakeholders has planned wide investments to improve capacity of Małaszewicze. He informed about a visit which will be paid by Ms. Catherine Trautmann in Małaszewicze in May as most of the projects are co-financed by EU.

- Revision of Annex VII to EU Directive EU 59/2007

Eva Eckert presented information about Regulation amending Language Directive which is to be published within 6 months. She also informed about translation tool to be developed by DB Cargo DE, NL and SBB Cargo International and pilot on the border crossing Venlo. Götz Valther who has been involved in the development of derogating procedure in Germany informed about derogation from language directive in Germany. He summed up that in Germany requirements are described in the Network Statement and specific approval procedure is not needed as all RUs have to agree on NS.

Regarding other topics and proposed extensions of the Corridor including routing in Poland it was agreed that PKP PLK S.A. representatives will contact Polish RUs to discuss internally and feedback will be given during next RAG/TAG meeting.

4. International contingency planning

Oliver Sellnick presented goals of the ICM process describing how Infrastructure Managers cooperate to keep traffic at a highest possible level during disturbances. ICM Handbook complements comprehensive national incident procedures. Unanimously, RNE decided to implement the Handbook which was endorsed by PRIME and EU Commission. Weronika

Karbowiak informed that the Handbook, together with rerouting scenarios for the Corridor was published on the RFC NS-B website in December 2018.

Oliver Sellnick asked participants for their remarks and feedback. Apart from some minor corrections to the scenarios in terms of rerouting line parameters Lieven Goethals from Lineas proposed to add Oberhausen in the scenario 3.2 (as the rerouting does not end in Viersen). Agreed earlier additional scenario via Bohumin will be also added. On the proposal to add Sieniawka in the rerouting scenarios both IMs and RUS stated that it is not useful as although the route is shorter there is no electrification.

It was agreed that scenarios will be compared with Handbook elaborated by RUs.

Friedrich Stuhmann underlined that rerouting scenarios are also important from the terminal perspective as the traffic to terminal has to be secured. Terminals were invited to comment on rerouting scenarios and send feedback to RFC NS-B.

5. Capacity offer

Felicia Riedl thanked Eva Eckert and Friedrich Stuhmann for their valuable feedback. Felicia Riedl gave a presentation annexed to the summary describing the PaP offer to be requested till mid-April 2019 for the annual TT. She also informed about Reserve Capacity request received and delivered by the Corridor. Next C-OSS Manager informed about the next steps planned, among them:

- Re-shape of PaP construction process to improve the product quality;
- Test and implementation of new PCS Envelope functions;
- Prepare process for capacity with Latvia and Estonia.

Eva Eckert pointed out an issue of track closures coordination between Germany and Poland and harmonization of TT in the running timetable period. It was agreed that Felicia Riedl will contact RU's to confirm which exact closures are meant and what steps can be taken by the Corridor.

6. Information about border crossings

• Border Oldenzaal-Bad Bentheim operational workshop – state of play

NL MoT Marcel Tijs run the presentation regarding an initiative to investigate operational issues on Bad Bentheim border. He informed that meeting with NL and DE stakeholders with the customers participation took place on 22.03.2019. List of issues has been identified with responsible bodies indicated. Next meeting is planned for third quarter of 2019.

GdM pointed out that the process of dealing with those issues is more complexed than it looks, but it is very beneficial to discuss in such open way.

• Bad Schandau – Decin – presentation of the approach and results of the RFC OEM project – Oliver Sellnick, Chairman

Oliver Sellnick informed about the results of the activities within the taskforce between SŽDC and DB Netz AG to reduce border waiting times.

Eva Eckert thanked for both presentations suggesting to cover all the Corridor border crossing with such an analysis. Oliver Sellnick confirmed that if needed all border points will be analysed, but gradually, not in the same time.

• Frankfurt Oder – Rzepin – information about new developments on the border

Susanne Lewandowsky from DB Netz AG presented the initiative to improve the performance of Frankfurt Oderbrücke border station, which has been identified as a bottleneck. As building new infrastructure – additional tracks - is impossible due to the geographical location, other

measures are proposed to improve the situation. Susanne Lewandowsky presented plan elaborated for this station:

- to establish border coordinator position at Frankfurt Oderbrücke who will support all participating parties. RU's will be asked to inform border coordinator about any deviations from the contracted timetable;
- to have all tracks in the station dedicated for traffic – no parking allowed anymore; trains which will park more than allowed time will be removed after consultation with RU responsible.

Dirk Zender from DB Cargo AG asked for a workshop to be organized with customers to agree on cooperation requirements between RUs and coordinators. The Management Board agreed with this suggestion and common meeting with interested parties will be organized.

7. Information on future Corridor extension in Belgium and Netherlands

BE MoT Caroline Avaux informed about the request to extend the Corridor to North Sea Ports: Ports Ghent and Terneuzen and Port of Zeebrugge. After the investigation done by the Management Board the Executive Board confirmed that the request is justified by market potential therefore the Executive Board will take measures to extend the Corridor towards those Ports. RAG and TAG took note on the request and supported the Executive Board decision.

8. User Satisfaction Survey 2018 – discussion on the results and actions

Weronika Karbowskiak presented results of the customer survey performed in 2018 presenting actions taken by the Corridor to improve the aspects rated as bottom ten. Eva Eckert confirmed that in RAG opinion the survey is needed, regarding the structure more time is actually needed for RUs to fill in the questionnaire.

9. Information on the ongoing studies:

• Transport Market Study

Weronika Karbowskiak informed that TMS kick-off meeting took place in November 2018, terminal and RU's were also invited and few customers took part. TMS results will be ready in third quarter of 2019. Weronika Karbowskiak thanked RU's and terminal who closely cooperated with the consultant during the consultation phase. Friedrich Stuhmann stressed that it would be beneficial to keep the cooperation with customers also during other phases of the study.

• Study on Capacity Improvement

Weronika Karbowskiak informed that the consultant has been chosen lately and the elaboration of the study will start soon. Final results will be finished in the first quarter of 2020. Weronika Karbowskiak requested TAG members to cooperate with the consultant for capacity improvement study as for TMS.

10. AOB Summary:

Oliver Sellnick asked customers for their feedback form the meeting. Among the topics mentioned were:

- intermodal gauge system in Poland (information should be provided to Andreas Pietsch);
- benchmarking, using best practices from other RFC's;
- separate slots before the meeting are very useful for the customers and should be kept for the future.

Oliver Sellnick and Weronika Karbowski thanked the participants for taking part in the meeting, their feedback and cooperation in solving the problems.
The next RAG/TAG meeting is foreseen for 25th of September 2019 in Warsaw.

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 27.03.2019
- 2) 3. 27032019 RAG TAG meeting_RAG slot_RAG Speaker_Eva Eckert
- 3) 4. 190327_RFC NSB_RAG-TAG_ICM
- 4) 5. 190327_RAG_TAG_NS-B_capacity
- 5) 6.1 190327 outcomes meeting RU's Oldenzaal - Bad Bentheim 22 March 2019
- 6) 6.2 TaskForce RFC OEM_Decin-Bad Schandau_English (003)
- 7) 6.3 Presentation_Grenzkoordinator Frankfurt_EN
- 8) 7. Présentation NSP-Zeebrugge
- 9) 8. 190327_RFC NSB RAG&TAG presentation USS 2018 results