



**1st MEETING OF THE RAILWAY WORKING GROUP (RWG)
UNDER THE TRANSPORT SECTOR COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TSCC) OF THE
CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROGRAM (CAREC)**

24-26 November 2015
Tokyo, Japan

Background and Objectives

Following decisions at the 14th CAREC TSCC meeting in April 2015, the RWG has been formed in order to guide the development of a CAREC railway strategy, which will contain immediate and midterm actions to steer the development of railways in the CAREC region.

The first meeting of the RWG will aim to (i) share the main issues facing railways in the CAREC region, (ii) review progress toward development of the CAREC railway strategy and (iii) agree on priority actions moving forward for the full development of the strategy.

The meeting is co-organized and sponsored by the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). It is supported by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan (MLIT), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the International Union of Railways (UIC), the Organisation for Cooperation in Railways (OSJD), East Japan Railway Company (JR East) and Japan Freight Railway Company (JRF).

Participants will also learn from the Japanese experience in railway reform and practical solutions developed by Japanese railway operators to reverse declining rail market shares. Moreover, given that Japan is the potential starting point of freight transport to CAREC region via rail, the participants will have opportunities to understand the potential market needs.

Agenda

24 November 2015

Venue: ADBI Conference Room (8 floor of Kasumigaseki Building)

- 800 **Participants to leave the hotel, guided by ADB/ADBI staff**
- 0830–0900 **Registration**
- 0900–0920 **Welcome remarks**
- Mr. Tomomi Tamaki, Representative, Japanese Representative Office, ADB
- Mr. Takuro Furui, Director for Intellectual Property, International Policy and Project Division, Railway Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan
- Mr. Akihito Nagata, Director, Central Asia and the Caucasus Division, East and Central Asia and the Caucasus Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Dr. Bokhwan Yu, Deputy Dean, ADBI
- 0920–0930 **Introduction to objectives and agenda of the RWG**
- Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Director, Transport and Communication Division, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB
- 0930-1020 **Country perspectives on the CAREC Railway Strategy**
- Moderator: Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Director, CWRD, ADB
Co-Moderator: Mr. Babar Badat, Chairman, Advisory Body International Affairs, International Federation of Freight Forwarders Association (FIATA)
- Prior to the RWG meeting, participants was requested to prepare a 5 min presentation against the question of “What are the best practices in your country on (i) user-oriented rail operation, (ii) enhancing interoperability, (iii) creating effective rail corridors or (iv) transferring technologies?” The presentations will be followed by discussion.*
- 1020-1030 **Coffee break**
- 1030-1140 **Country perspectives on the CAREC Railway Strategy (Cont.)**
- 1140-1200 **Overview of Draft CAREC Railway Strategy**
- Presenter: Mr. Takeshi Fukayama, Transport Specialist, CWRD, ADB
- Prior to the RWG meeting, participants received a draft "CAREC Railways 2030." The presenter will introduce the content of the draft and seek inputs from RWG members for feedback.*
- 1200-1210 **Group photo**
- 1210–1330 **Lunch (at ADBI Conference Room)**

Building Blocks for the Strategy

Moderator: Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Director, CWRD, ADB

Co-Moderator: Mr. Juan Gaviria, Practice Manager for Europe and Central Asia in Global Transport and ICT Practice, World Bank

1330–1430

Topic 1: Toward enhanced interoperability

Presenter: Mr. Vytautas Kinderis, Coordinator, Standardisation & East/West Relations, International Union of Railways (UIC)

Enhancing the interoperability of cross-border railway networks has been a major issue in Europe. Interoperability should be considered both from a technical and service point of view. How can CAREC railways further enhance interoperability in the region?

1430-1530

Topic 2: Creating effective railway corridors- connecting Asia and Europe

Presenter: Mr. Zurab Kozmava, Expert of the OSJD Commission for Transport Policy and Strategy Department, Organisation for Cooperation in Railways (OSJD)

OSJD has introduced a plan for railway corridors connecting Asia and Europe. CAREC countries are located in the middle of these corridors. What will be the strategic position of CAREC railways in railway corridors connecting Asia and Europe?

1530-1545

Coffee break

1545-1645

Topic 3: Transfer of technical knowledge in railways

Presenter: Ms. Yukiko Kimishima, International Relations Manager, International Department, East Japan Railway Company (JR East)

Inter-generational technical knowledge transfer is one of the crucial issues in Japanese railways. For CAREC railways, it is important to obtain the technical knowledge from the outside and to transfer it within the rail organization. What are effective ways of transferring technical knowledge in railway organizations?

1645–1700

Wrap-up of the first day session

1800

Cocktail reception hosted by ADBI (at Tokai Club: 35th floor of Kasumigaseki Building)

25 November 2015

Venue: Tokai Club (35th floor of Kasumigaseki Building)

0900–0950

Toward a user-oriented railway

Moderator: Mr. Babar Badat, Chairman, Advisory Body International Affairs, FIATA

Co- Moderator: Mr. Samukhin Oleg, Transport Specialist, CWRD, ADB

Presenter: Mr. Koji Nishimura, General Manager of Overseas Business Office, Japan Freight Railway Company (JR Freight)

JR Freight is the state-owned railway freight company, which was corporatized in 1987 from the former Japan National Railways. Facing competition from other transportation modes, JR Freight introduced innovative services aiming to improve user-orientation. What can CAREC railways learn from the Japanese experience of transitioning toward a user-oriented railway?

0950-1000

Coffee break

1000-1150

Interactive Session-Investment needs for developing efficient rail corridors

Facilitator: Mr. Ko Sakamoto, Transport Economist, CWRD, ADB

An interactive session will be provided for the formation of infrastructure needs. Participants will be asked to think about what kind of infrastructure projects are required by 2020 (short term) and by 2030 (long term) by each of the 6 rail corridors.

1150–1200

Wrap-up of the second day session

1200–1300

Lunch (at Tokai Club)

Site visits

1300–1400

Transfer to the site

1400–1800

Option A: Sumidagawa Freight Station

Coordinator: JR Freight

Located in the north-east of Tokyo, Sumidagawa Station is a gateway of freight transport of Tokyo metropolitan area connecting northern areas of Japan such as Kanazawa, Niigata, and Sapporo. Total area of the station is 224,125 square meters, with 16 lines for departure/arrival and 12 lines for loading and unloading. Average usage of container is 3,200 per day. RWG members will see the actual transport of good in the multimodal context. Also, the forwarder or the user will be invited to provide a briefing about the potential market for the rail freight connection between Japan and CAREC countries.

Option B: Railway Museum and a short ride on the Shinkansen (High Speed Rail)

The Railway Museum (Omiya, Saitama City) opened in 2007 as the centerpiece of the JR East 20th Anniversary Memorial Project. RWG members will visit the museum to see exhibits of rolling stocks as industrial heritage and to learn the history of railway development in Japan. On the way back, the RWG members will experience a short ride on the Shinkansen from Omiya station to Tokyo station.

1830

Dinner hosted by ADB (at Mimi Restaurant, Shimbashi)

26 November 2015

Venue: Tokai Club (35th floor of Kasumigaseki Building)

Implementing soft components

0830–0930

Topic 1: Streamlining activities at BCPs

Moderator: Mr. Oleg Samukhin, Transport Specialist, CWRD, ADB

Presenter: Mr. Tom Kennedy, Railway Policy Consultant

0930–1030

Topic 2: Developing attractive operational and tariff structures

Moderator: Mr. Jurgen Sluijter, Transport Economist, EARD, ADB

Presenter: Mr. Paul Power, Railway Policy Consultant

Participants will be divided into two groups. In each group, experts will provide the latest topic on the theme and participants will brainstorm to identify concrete actions for the implementation of soft components.

1030-1100

Coffee break

1100-1200

Wrap up

Moderator: Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Director, CWRD, ADB

Draft summary minutes will be presented and confirmed.

1200–1300

Lunch (at Kazan Kaikan, near Kasumigazeki Building)