





Concept Note

Lebanon National Training Workshop on the Agreement on the International Carriage of erishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP)



Gefinor Rotana Hotel
Beirut, Lebanon, 12-13 December 2017







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Background

The Ministers responsible for Transport of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) have agreed on the importance of Euro-Mediterranean transport cooperation founded on two complementary pillars: (i) regulatory reform and convergence in all relevant different transport sectors (maritime, civil aviation, road, railway and urban transport); and (ii) establishment of the future Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network (TMN-T), to be connected with the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). To this end, two Regional Transport Action Plans (RTAPs) have been elaborated by the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Forum for the Mediterranean Region, the first RTAP concerning 2007-2013 and the new one for the period 2014-2020.

In order to complement the work of the EuroMed Transport programme in the land transport sector and assist the implementation of the RTAPs, the European Union has launched two **EuroMed Regional Transport Projects:**

- The "Road, Rail and Urban Transport" (EuroMed RRU) that lasted 5 years (2012-2016), aimed at supporting the implementation of the Trans Mediterranean Transport Network (TMT-N) by developing appropriate regulatory framework and operational conditions to facilitate cross-border transport, to enhance land transport safety and to promote sustainable and efficient urban transport.
- The new one, "EuroMed Transport Support Project", started in January 2017 and will last 4 years, aiming to increase the sustainability and performance of transport operations in the Mediterranean region through increased safety in transport operations; increased efficiency / lower costs of transport; lower environmental impact of transport, thus contributing to regional economic integration, economic well-being and job creation. The project covers Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, State of Palestine and Tunisia.

Action 9 of the 2014-2020 RTAP for the Mediterranean Region calls upon the EuroMed Partner countries adhere to and effectively implement the main United Nations road transport Agreements and Conventions. Except for Morocco and Tunisia, that are Contracting Parties to most of the main UNECE Road Transport Agreements, other EuroMed countries have not yet adhered to many of them and are not benefiting from their provisions. Lebanon is among them, having acceded to only two of the main UN road transport legal instruments. Moreover, Lebanon did not benefit from the TA efforts made by the EuroMed RRU project during the past five years through provision of TA, organization of awareness raising and training events, analytical work and study tours on these agreements.







During a formulation mission in Beirut, held from 24 to 26 January 2017, aimed at identifying the priority activities under the ETSP of interest to Lebanon which the project may develop, it was agreed, inter alia, that technical assistance and training to accede to the ATP and to implement the ATP Road Map would be among the priority activities for Lebanon.

Activity 1A.2.1 consists of the organization of a two-day national training event on the ATP and TA to Lebanon, tentatively scheduled to take place in Beirut on 12-13 December 2017, aimed at presenting the main provisions and benefits of the ATP Agreement and facilitate the participation of Lebanon in the respective UNECE intergovernmental body administering the ATP Agreement in Geneva.

This demand driven activity, based on the priorities identified in the RTAP 2014-2020, is regarded as a natural continuation of the Awareness Raising Workshop on Main UN Road Transport Agreements administered by the UNECE which was held in Beirut in May 2017 under the ETSP, to be also followed by other dedicated national training events and activities relating to ADR, ATP, Vehicle Regulations and Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), that would provide the officials at the Ministries, the state companies and the private sector involved, the necessary technical backstopping and information on the accession and practical implementation and monitoring of these Agreements and practices.

2. Objectives of the event

The general objective of the proposed activity is to support the accession of Lebanon to the ATP and to assist Lebanon to adhere to and effectively implement it.

The specific objective is to provide necessary technical assistance and institutional capacity building to competent authorities to adopt national legislation to the provisions and practices provided in the ATP Agreement and effectively implement them in their national and international road transport operations. More precisely, the event will offer the opportunity for:

- Presentation of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP), 1970 Objectives-key provisions-benefits
- Highlight the importance of adherence to the ATP Agreement to improve food security and facilitate international road transport of temperature-controlled cargoes in Lebanon and in the region
- Provide and transfer additional knowledge and skills in order for Lebanon to undertake







accession to the ATP Agreement

- Inform participants about specific provisions of the ATP Agreement, including:
 - 1. The role of testing stations in conducting rigorous tests and harmonizing procedures
 - 2. Verification and classification of ATP equipment
 - 3. Procedures for checking insulated bodies and refrigerating equipment
- Inform and build capacity for the visual inspection of compliance with the ATP and on measurements and the various tests and checks to be used
- Analyze the consistency of results, understand how to prepare a test report
- Study the road map for the development of the ATP in Lebanon

3. The ATP Agreement

The ATP Agreement establishes uniform prescriptions for the preservation of the quality of perishable foodstuffs during their international transport. It defines uniform norms and standards for the special transport equipment required, and uniform distinguishing marks to be affixed to the special equipment. It also sets temperature conditions for frozen and chilled foodstuffs are specified. The conformity of the equipment is confirmed through an international certificate and an ATP plate affixed to the vehicle / equipment, allowing easy identification of ATP transport and mutual recognition, thereby avoiding repetitive controls.

The ATP applies to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs but some countries also use it for their domestic transport of perishable foodstuffs.

The ATP contains a non-exhaustive list of the products that can be carried under ATP and sets the warmest possible temperature of the load.

The ATP does not foresee any enforcement mechanisms or fines for breaching the agreement. It is up to countries to organize the enforcement of the agreement, by highway controls of vehicles or inspections at food processing establishments.

Contracting Parties at 31 August 2017: 51 States, of which 2 EuroMed (Morocco and Tunisia).

Time and Venue

Time: Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 December 2017.

Venue: Gefinor Rotana Hotel, Beirut.







5. Target Groups

- National EuroMed Transport Coordinator
- Representative(s) of the EU Delegation
- Invited experts from the MOT of Palestine
- Officials from the Ministry of Transport and other Ministries/Agencies dealing with the refrigerated transport
- National/local organizations involved in the field of road transport and the carriage of foodstuffs
- Road transport professionals and operators (such as road freight transport companies, public transport companies, particularly those engaged in the carriage food and other chilled or refrigerated cargoes, supplying supermarkets etc.)
- ▶ Companies involved in the construction or import of refrigerated transport equipment
- Any other organizations relevant to Road Transport
- EuroMed Road Transport Support Project Key Expert and ATP Non-Key Expert
- Invited international speakers UNECE, UNESCWA, ATP experts, others

It is recommended to limit the number of participants to 30 in order to ensure interactivity of the sessions and involvement of all in the discussions.

6. Organization and funding

The two-day national workshop on the ATP is scheduled to take place in the Gefinor Rotana Hotel Beirut, on 12-13 December 2017. The Ministry of Public Works & Transport will provide some conference facilities (secretariat and material printing, and will send invitations).

EuroMed TSP will cover catering and all other conference facilities as well as the travel cost of the international invited experts.

The event will be held in English and Arabic and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

In view of the specific interest of the Palestinian Ministry of Transport on the subject, EuroMed TSP will invite two Palestinian experts to attend the event and cover their travel and accommodation costs.







In view of the importance of women engagement with the project, participation of women will be encouraged.

7. Training materials

Training materials will be posted in the project's website accessible to all participants.

http://etsp.eu/?page_id=24967

These will be as follows:

- Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP), 1970
- ► The ATP Road Map
- An introductory note on the ATP
- ► The latest edition of the ATP Handbook
- Advocacy paper on Main United Nations Road Transport Agreements
- Power point presentations

Participants in the training will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

8. Indicators

OVI (Objectively Verifiable Indicator)	Source of verification
By the end of the project, Lebanon has acceded to the ATP Agreement or has made progress towards its accession	Communications by the country or from UNECE secretariat and from the EuroMed Transport Support Project reports
The participants appreciated the event and considered it useful	Evaluation questionnaires and communications to EuroMed TSP by Lebanese authorities
Women's engagement	Percentage of women experts' participation
RTAP support	Action 9: Adhere to and effectively implement the main United Nations road transport Agreements and Conventions.