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Ministry of Transport
Jordan

Concept Note

**Jordan National Workshop on the
Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and
Signals, of 1968 (Vienna Conventions)**



**Ministry of Transport, 4th Floor Theatre, Amman, Jordan
16 and 17 April 2019**



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1. 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 “EuroMed Transport Support Project”, which 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. Jordan is among them, having acceded to only two of the main UN road transport legal instruments (see the table in next page).

During a formulation mission in Amman, held from 13 to 16 February 2017, aimed at identifying the priority activities under the ETSP of interest to Jordan which the project may develop, it



Accession of EuroMed countries to UN Main Road Transport Agreements 1st November 2018

No.	UNECE International Conventions and Agreements (EuroMed Project beneficiary countries)	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Jordan	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Palestine	Syria	Tunisia
1	Convention on Road Traffic, of 1968			✓				✓			✓
2	Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968							✓			✓
3	European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Traffic (AETR), of 1970										
4	Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), of 1956				✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
5	The Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets, of 1975 (TIR Convention)	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
6	International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, Geneva, of 1982 (Harmonization Convention)				✓			✓			✓
7	The Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, of 1954	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
8	The Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles, of 1956	✓									
9	European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), of 1957							✓			✓
10	Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP), of 1970							✓			✓
11	Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions, of 1958		✓								✓
12	Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, of 1998										✓
13	Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections, of 1997										

was agreed, inter alia, that technical assistance it was regarded that the accession of Jordan to the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968, could be promoted. To this end, it was agreed that a National Workshop be organized in Amman for discussing the main provisions and benefits of the Vienna Conventions. The Workshop has been finally scheduled to take place on 16 and 17 April 2017.

Activity 1A.2.6a consists of the organization of a two-day national training event on the Vienna Conventions, aimed at presenting the main provisions and benefits of these Conventions, and further provision of TA as required in support of Jordan's accession to those Conventions.

2. Objectives of the event

The general objective of the proposed activity is to support accession of Jordan to the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968, and their effective implementation. To this end, this activity will:

- Describe in a succinct manner the main provisions of the Vienna Conventions;



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- Highlight the importance of accession to and implementation of the Vienna Conventions for upgrading the level of Jordanian road safety and for the harmonization of international road transport in the region;
- Strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders in order for Jordan to accede to and implement these Conventions;
- Provide a forum for discussion on the way forward, including follow up actions for building of institutional capacity, mobilization of national and regional authorities as well as international organizations in support of the application of Vienna Conventions in Jordan;
- Provide the necessary technical assistance to competent authorities to adapt national legislation to the provisions and practices of the Vienna Conventions and effectively implement them.

3. The Vienna Conventions, of 1968

The Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968, contain the rules of the road that have to be complied with by all road traffic components.

The Convention on Road Traffic, of 1968, contains rules related to all road traffic issues, including infrastructure, all kinds of wheeled vehicles, rules of the road of road traffic, as well as road users including pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. The Convention sets up: conditions for the admission of motor vehicles and trailers in international traffic and for their registration; distinguishing signs and identification marks of vehicles in international traffic; and rules concerning the issuing of domestic as well as international driving permits. Rules of the road include such issues as: position of vehicles in the carriageway; overtaking; speed and distance between vehicles; change of direction; rules applicable to pedestrians; behavior of drivers towards pedestrians; etc. By addressing the main factors of road accidents, including behavior in case of accidents, these rules are essential for enhancing road traffic safety and efficiency. This is applicable to national but also to international road traffic, since these rules provide a harmonized international road traffic system.

The Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968, contains general provisions on road signing and specific rules on rules on road signs, traffic light signals as well as road markings, including a color reproduction of signs, symbols and panels.

Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968 have been developed and continuously brought up to date by Governments under the purview of the Inland Transport Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). They are legally binding for countries that become Contracting Parties to them. As such, these Conventions specify the obligations of the countries Contracting Parties with regard to the Conventions. As many as 78 countries around the world have become Contracting Parties to the Convention on Road Traffic, of 1968, and 66 countries have become Contracting Parties to the Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968. These countries benefit from taking part in the almost globally harmonized road traffic system established by these Conventions.



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4. Time and Venue

Time: Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 April 2019

Venue: Ministry of Transport, 4th Floor Theatre, Amman, Jordan

5. Organization and Funding

The two-day national workshop on the Vienna Conventions is scheduled to take place in Amman on 26 and 27 September 2017.

The event will be hosted by the Ministry of Transport, which will provide conference facilities (audio visual equipment, secretariat, printing) and will send invitations. The EuroMed TSP will cover interpretation, coffee breaks and light buffet lunch for the two days, 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 request of the Palestinian Ministry of Transport, subject to Jordanian consent, EuroMed TSP will invite two Palestinian experts to attend the event, preferably one from the Ministry of Transport and one from the Ministry of Interior, Traffic Police and cover their travel and accommodation costs.

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

6. Target groups

Targeted group of participants, will include:

- National EuroMed Transport Coordinator
- Representative(s) of the EU Delegation
- Officials from the MOT, Road Traffic Institute, Traffic Police and other Ministries/Agencies dealing with the subject matters
- National organizations involved in the field of Road Transport and Road Traffic Safety
- Road transport professionals and operators (such as road freight transport companies, public transport companies)
- Any other organizations relevant to Road Transport and Road Traffic Safety
- Invited officials from the State of Palestine
- EuroMed Road Transport Key Expert and Senior NKE
- Invited international speaker from UNECE.

It is recommended to limit the number of participants to 45 in order to ensure interactivity of the sessions and involvement of all in the discussions.

7. Languages

The workshop will be delivered in English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and Arabic.



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8. Workshop materials

The following workshop materials will be posted prior to the workshop in the project's website <http://etsp.eu> accessible to all participants:

- Convention on Road Traffic, of 1949
- Protocol on Road Signs, of 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, of 1968 (EN-AR)
- Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1968 (EN-AR);
- Consolidated Resolution-Road Traffic- RE1-EN
- Consolidated resolution on Road Signs and Signals-RE2-EN
- Advocacy paper on Main United Nations Road Transport Agreements (EN-AR)
- Spectrum-UNECE-of-Road-Safety-Activities
- The Decade of Action Plan (EN-AR)
- Together on the Road to Safety- UNECE
- ESCWA Agreement International Roads, EN
- UN General Assembly Resolution 72-271-2018, AR and EN
- UN General Assembly Resolution 54-255-2010, AR and EN
- UNECE Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (R.E.1), EN
- UNECE Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2), EN
- PPPs of experts

Participants in the workshop will receive a Certificate of Attendance.

9. Indicators

OVI (Objectively Verifiable Indicator)	Source of verification
By the end of the project, Jordan has acceded to the Vienna Conventions or has made progress towards its accession	Communications by the country or from UNECE secretariat and from the EuroMed Transport Support Project reports
The event was rated as "good" or "excellent" by at least 75 % of participants	Evaluation questionnaires
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.