

Transport Forum in Beijing 2014

AS EWTC A PARTNERS have been informed earlier, on 16 June 2014 Algirdas Šakalyš, President of EWTC A, participated in Transport Forum in Beijing and delivered the presentation „Baltic intermodal transport corridor as a promising link with New Silk Road“.

THE PRESENTATION was based on the outcomes of EWTC II Project, as well as on the outcomes of the first four years of EWTC A activity in developing the East-West Transport Corridor in the southern part of the Baltic Sea.

ALSO THE FOCUS was given to the following future oriented strategic targets:

- Ideal utilization of infrastructure ;
- Competitive logistics and transport system;
- Increased efficiency/productivity of logistics processes;
- Balanced provision of goods and services;
- New models of integration of long distance and last mile transportation;
- Promotion of transition from independent supply networks to open networks where resources are compatible, accessible and easily interconnected;
- Establishment of international research platform along EWTC.

THE EFFORTS have also been taken to get China's transport business and research companies interested, and demonstrate that Baltic Intermodal corridor could serve as an effective link with the New Silk Road Project in serving global Asia-Europe trade flows. The fact that Baltic Sea region economies are being developed by two complementary models was also taken into consideration. The Scandinavian countries Sweden, Denmark, Norway are moving towards the knowledge driven model, whereas the Baltic States, as well as Germany and Poland are more focused on the trade driven model. Cooperation between countries with different models in common projects (one of them is Baltic intermodal transport corridor) allows to reach synergy in strengthening competitive capacity of the project. The potential business interest map was also demonstrated during the presentation.

TRANSPORT FORUM in Beijing was attended by 100 representatives of China's transport, logistics, railway and research companies and institutions. During the bilateral meetings B2B (face-to-face) they have clearly demonstrated their interest of cooperation with EWTC A.

ESPECIALLY important was a constructive dialogue with **Mr. Liu Xuede**, CIFA Secretary General. During the meeting with **Mr. Liu Xuede** we discussed the guidelines of the Action Plan in implementing the cooperation agreement between EWTC A and CIFA which was signed in 2012. It was agreed that constructive



Dr. Algirdas Šakalyš delivering speech during the Transport Forum



After meeting with Mr. Liu Xuede, Secretary General of CIFA (on the left) and Mr. Fang Jian, Director of Training Department of CIFA (on the right)

cooperation should begin from joint EWTC A and CIFA events (forums) in Asia and Europe (rotated on a regular basis). It was considered two options: to organize one event per year (alternately in different continents) or two events per year (in Asia and Europe). Both parties, EWTC A and CIFA should decide on the above issue and reach the agreement. Moreover, views have been exchanged on possible research activities, identification of obstacles in developing Europe-Asia transport links and elaboration of proposals on their elimination. It was agreed that CIFA representatives will be the first to submit proposals.



THE MEETING with **Mr. Wu Jingyu**, Vice President of China Railway Landbridge International Logistics Co, was also very interesting and promising. It was organized under the initiative of Vice President. It was agreed that specific proposals on cooperation with EWTC in developing the idea of a container block train (Southern Baltic Sea Region - Urumqi) will be submitted by his company in the near future.

FINALLY, **Mr. Guo Yinghui**, Deputy Director General of the Trade Development and Cooperation Centre of the China Council for promotion of International Trade, invited **Algirdas Šakalys** to be a key note speaker in the Lianyungang Silk Road conference to be held on 21-23 October of this year. Discussions and negotiations will be arranged to empower communication and cooperation between logistics service companies, manufactures and traders along the Land Bridge (Europe – Asia) during the event.



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