

**European Co-operation
in the Field of Scientific and
Technical Research**

COST
Secretariat

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Ph. Stalins



Management Committee COST 340

Towards a European Intermodal Transport Network, Lessons from History

Subject: Minutes of the 2nd MC meeting held in Brussels on 27 June 2000

COST 340/15

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The 2nd MC meeting of COST 340 took place in Brussels on 27 June 2000 in the afternoon. Mrs. Merger, Chairman of the MC, was prevented to attend the meeting due to the sudden death of a member of her family. In her absence Mr. Divall, MC Vice-Chairperson chaired the meeting.

On the 26 of June and in the morning of the 27 of June, the Working Groups have had their 1st meetings.

1. OPENING & WELCOME

Mr. Divall welcomed the participants and presented the apologies of the following members who could not participate in this second MC meeting: Prof. Fremdling (NL), Prof. Carreras(E).

Delegates from the following MoU signatories attended the meeting: Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Romania, Switzerland, and United Kingdom. The list of participants is attached [see attachment 1].

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda [see attachment 2] was adopted with the inclusion of an additional point before the proposed point 6.

The new point 6 is as follows:

Funding of the research

The existing points 6 and 7 were renumbered accordingly.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 1ST MC MEETING

The minutes of the 1st Management Committee meeting (see document COST 340/9) were approved unamended.

4. INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIR, THE SECRETARIAT AND THE DELEGATIONS

4.1. Information from the Chair

It was reported that Mrs. Merger had undertaken since the last MC meeting, a number of contacts in order to promote the Action and to attract new participants.

4.2. Information from the Secretariat

4.2.1. MoU signatories

Mr. Stalins reported that at the time the meeting was taking place, twelve countries had signed the MoU. These are as follows:

- 01/02/00 Denmark
 France
 Germany
 Spain
- 02/02/00 Italy
- 28/02/00 Latvia
- 08/03/00 United Kingdom
- 15/03/00 The Netherlands
- 16/03/00 Slovenia
- 17/03/00 Romania
- 07/04/00 Switzerland
- 10/05/00 Austria

Mr. Stalins indicated also that at the last TCT meeting on 20 June 2000, the delegates from Finland and Sweden had indicated that their country intended to sign the MoU of COST 340.

Mr. Stalins reported also that the CSO was considering the request for membership of COST, expressed by Israel. If accepted, Israel would become the 33rd member of the COST framework.

Finally, as already mentioned at the 1st MC meeting, Mr. Stalins underlined that only experts from MoU signatory countries can be reimbursed for their travel expenses according to the existing rules (*please refer to section 2 of the COST 340 private internet page for the latest version of these rules*).

4.2.2. *Reorganisation of DG TREN*

Mr. Stalins explained that the former *Directorate General for Transport* and the *Directorate General for Energy* had been merged into a new single one called the *Directorate General for Energy and Transport* (DG TREN). This merge took effect on 1st January 2000 with effect at the level of the services in February/March.

Mr. Stalins gave an overview of the organisation of DG TREN where the COST Transport secretariat is now located in Unit B4. It was noted that some changes were still foreseen in the organisation of DG TREN. The organisation chart of DG TREN was circulated [see attachment 3].

4.2.3. *Situation of the COST Transport secretariat*

Mr. Stalins explained that he had been alone since mid of January to run the activities of the Secretariat, i.e. supporting 17 different committees. He mentioned that on 1st of June a Swedish detach national expert, Mr. Magnus

Carle, had joined its secretariat, and that a second one would probably arrive on the fall.

5. PROGRESS OF THE WORK

5.1. Working Group 1 – Transport Networks examined in the long term and at the scale of integrated networks and general movement's axes

Mr. Bonnaud, WG 1 leader reported on the work done the day before by WG 1. The Working Group worked mainly on its *Terms of Reference* of which a first version had been prepared by Mr. Bonnaud (see document COST 340/10).

Five main items were highlighted, i.e.:

- multimodal versus intermodal;
- competition between different modes on the same corridor;
- to look into the 19 century;
- supply oriented;
- potential problems with definitions (statistical units)

WG 1 will cover all modes of transport.

At this stage, the following planning was foreseen:

- a working group meeting in Paris on 23 February 2001;
- a paper presentation in Buenos Aires in July 2002;
- presentation of the final results of WG 1 in Lisbon at the end of 2002.

As a result of the work of the WG 1 meeting, Mr. Bonnaud would produce a new version of the ToR. The new version of the document would bear the reference COST 340/10 Rev. 1.

5.2. Working Group 2 – Transnational networks nodes from the intermodality angle and their connections to other existing transeuropean and intermodal infrastructures modes

Mr. Dienel, WG 2 leader reported on the conclusions of the WG 2 meeting which took place in the morning. A first version of the *Terms of Reference* had been distributed (see document COST 340/11).

It was reported that WG 2 would focus on network points, i.e.: ports, airports and railway stations.

It was also reported that the WG 2 needed more participants. The following subjects would be discussed during four different working group meetings:

- *Why so late? – Intermodal connectivity in European Airport Politics* (to be discussed at the next WG 2 meeting in February 2001 in Paris)
The work would be divided in three sessions according to the paper prepared by Mr. Dienel, i.e.:
 - Comparative view on railway connections on airports in Europe;
 - Different hypothesis to answer the question “why so late?”;
 - Results and concepts for the future;
- *Financing network points* (to be discussed in September 2001 in Berlin);
- *Freight* (to be discussed in February 2002 - to be confirmed);
- *Capacity problems* (to be discussed in October 2002 – to be confirmed).

Mr. Dienel would produce a new version of the ToR (COST 340/11 Rev.1).

5.3. Working Group 3 – How transnational unimodal networks behave in the long term

Following a proposal of Mrs. Merger, Mr. Filarski had taken over the leadership of WG 3. He reported on the conclusions of the WG 3 meeting that took place in the morning.

Two questions were discussed by WG 3, i.e.:

- Question 1: Does *Inland water transport* and *Short sea shipping* belong to WG 1 or WG 3?
- Question 2: Should WG 3 concentrate on supply (and on demand)?

For the first question it was assumed that the two items would be treated by WG 1. Concerning the second question it was agreed to focus on the supply and therefore the decision was taken to invert in the *Terms of Reference* (see document COST 340/12), the 1st and the 2nd sections. A new version of the ToR would be produced (COST 340/12 Rev.1).

For its next meeting in February 2001, WG 3 will undertake an inventory of existing studies in order to select 4 papers that will be ready by September 2001.

5.4. Working Group 4 – Transport clients and users behaviour, intermodality modes and practice in travellers transnational movements

Mr. Tissot, WG 4 leaders reported that only two persons attended the WG meeting. Therefore the meeting was cancelled.

He reported that WG 4 might work only on tourism and that the *Terms of Reference* would be amended accordingly (see document COST 340/13 Rev.1). He reported also that he would have a session on that subject in

Buenos Aires conference. A pre-conference will take place in Sion in January 2001.

5.5. Working Group 5 – Dissemination

As Mr. Dival, WG 5 leader was chairing the MC meeting, Mrs. Polino reported on behalf of WG 5 (The *terms of reference* for working group 5 are contained mainly in document COST 340/3).

Mrs. Polino reported two main trends in terms of communication/dissemination, i.e.:

1. Internal communication & co-ordination;
2. External communication & dissemination.

For the first one - *Internal communication & co-ordination* – the following was highlighted:

- The only media for internal communication and co-ordination is the COST 340 private Internet page. All documents will be posted in principle in PDF format based on the templates provided on the private internet page;
- A list of COST 340 members is available on the private Internet page (see document COST 340/6);
- Each working group is invited to nominate a contact person to liaise with WG 5. This person would have the responsibility to ensure that the information is provided in the right format for posting on the private Internet page;
- In each document statistical data have to be clearly defined (units, mode of calculation, etc.) and the concepts used have to be clearly defined (it should be understandable for non specialists);
- Each working group is invited to establish a list of definition of concepts used within the working group.

For the second one - *External communication & dissemination* – the following was highlighted:

- The target audience of COST 340 is mainly policy makers in transport at all level, i.e. European, national, regional;
- All the members of COST 340 are invited to identify at national level persons / organisations that should be informed about the work of COST 340 (e.g. administrations, companies, researchers, etc. Please refer also to the list contained in document COST 340/3).

- The public COST 340 Internet page on the COST Transport web site will be updated on a regular basis to reflect the actual status of the Action. More information will be provided on each working group;
- A text giving a standard description of COST 340 would be provided on the private COST 340 Internet page. This standard description might be used for publications in magazines, at conferences, for press releases, etc.
- COST 340 members are invited to communicate to Mr. Divall, the list of conferences, congresses, etc. where COST 340 could be presented;
- The COST 340 reports would be edited following the template provided on the private COST 340 Internet page. The printing will be done according to Commission's procedures.
- Reports will be written keeping in mind the target audience, i.e. mainly transport policy makers.

6. FUNDING OF THE WORK

6.1. Central funding from the COST budget line

Mr. Stalins explained that MC Chairmen had received in February a letter from Mr. Gösta Diehl, the CSO Chairman, explaining that the COST budget was under pressure. This is due to the following reasons:

- The average yearly number of ongoing Actions has increased over the last year and is now close to 200;
- The EU has accepted 11 new countries as associated members to the 5th Framework Programme. As these countries are members of COST, the COST budget has now to pay for their co-operation costs in COST Actions, essentially travel costs to project meetings and workshops.

As the total budget for COST is fixed for the duration of the 5th Framework Programme, the relative average yearly budget per Action is decreasing. Therefore, the Chairman of the CSO is requesting MC's to take measures to reduce the expenditures mainly through proper meetings' planning. He propose that:

- if possible, MCs should only hold a maximum of 2 meetings per annum;
- Working Group meetings should whenever possible be held in connection with MC meetings;
- Whenever possible, delegates travelling to those meetings should use APEX or similar low cost airline tickets.

The committee took note of these recommendations.

It was agreed that at its February 2001 meeting, the Committee would examine the way of financing the three conferences planned respectively in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

6.2. National funding

The following was reported by the delegations:

- In the Netherlands money is available from the state for historical studies;
- In Germany, money can be obtained from the Economic and Social Research Council;
- In France, money can be obtained from the Ministry of Transportation;
- In Romania, money can be obtained through an ongoing national project.

7. DATES AND PLACES FOR THE NEXT MEETINGS

The following planning was agreed for the meetings until end of 2001:

The 3rd MC meeting planned in December is postponed until February 2001 and will take place according to the planning described hereinafter:

- February, 22 WG 1 and WG 3 Paris
- February, 23 WG 2 and 3rd MC Paris
- September, 27 WGs Berlin
- September, 28 WGs and 4th MC Berlin

It was agreed that in principle the MC would meet twice a year, with one meeting in February and one meeting in October.

8. LIST OF ACTIONS AGREED AT THE 2ND MC MEETING

ID	Action	Actionee	Deadline
05	To produce a new version of the ToR of WG 1 (i.e. COST 340/10 Rev. 1).	Mr. Bonnaud	ASAP
06	To produce a new version of the ToR of WG 2 (i.e. COST 340/11 Rev.1).	Mr. Dienel	ASAP
07	To produce a new version of the ToR of WG 3 (i.e. COST 340/12 Rev.1)	Mr. Filarski	ASAP

08	To undertake an inventory of existing studies in order to select 4 papers that will be ready by September 2001	WG 3	February 2001
09	To produce a new version of the ToR of WG 4 (i.e. COST 340/13 Rev.1)	Mr. Tissot	ASAP
10	To nominate a contact person to liaise with WG 5	WG 1, WG 2, WG 3 and WG 4	February 2001
11	To establish a list of definition of concepts used within the working group	WG 1, WG 2, WG 3 and WG 4	February 2001
12	To identify at national level persons / organisations that should be informed about the work of COST 340	Everybody	February 2001
13	To communicate to Mr. Divall, the list of conferences, congresses, etc. where COST 340 could be presented	Everybody	February 2001

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing was reported under that point.

ATTACHMENT 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Please note that the complete list of members can be found in document COST 340/6.

Mr. Laurent Tissot (CH)

Mr. Hans-Liudger Dienel (D)

Mr. Helmuth Trischler (D)

Mr. Tom Rallis (DK)

Mr. Laurent Bonnaud (F)

Mrs. Marie Noëlle Polino (F)

Mr. Andrea Giuntini (I)

Mr. Claudio Pavese (I)

Mr. Igor Kabaskins (LV)

Mr. Ruud Filarski (NL)

Mr. Ioan Cuncev (ROM)

Mr. Colin Divall (UK)

ATTACHMENT 2 – DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 2ND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

- 1. OPENING & WELCOME**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 1ST MC MEETING (DOCUMENT COST 340/9)**
- 4. INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIR, THE SECRETARIAT AND THE DELEGATIONS**
- 5. PROGRESS OF THE WORK**
 - 5.1. Terms of References of the Working Groups**
 - WG 1, see document COST 340/10
 - WG 2, see document COST 340/11 (not yet available)
 - WG 3, see document COST 340/12
 - WG 4, see document COST 340/13
 - WG 5, see document COST 340/3
 - 5.2. Report from the Working Groups meetings**

The WG leaders, i.e. Mr. Bonnaud, Mr. Dienel, Mrs. Merger, Mr. Tissot and Mr. Dival, will report on the work done by their respective WGs.
 - 5.3. Participation in the working groups**

Delegates will be invited to indicate in which Working Group(s) they intend to participate. Please note that Working Group members are not only MC delegates, but also experts involved in the work at national level who might participate temporally or permanently in COST 340 activities.
- 6. DATES AND PLACES FOR THE NEXT MEETINGS**
- 7. MISCELLANEOUS**

ATTACHMENT 3 – ORGANISATION CHART OF DG TREN

