

MEETING OF THE RAILWAY UNDERTAKING ADVISORY GROUP

21st of February 2019, Brussels

Participants

Railway Undertakings and associations

Lambert, Eric	CFL MM
Corbeel, Nicolas	Lineas
Goethals, Lieven	Lineas
Penso, Andrea Marco	DB Cargo
Flesch, André	HUPAC
Coart, François	Europorte

Executive Board

Avaux, Caroline	SPF Mobilité & Transport, MoT Belgium
Bodiaux, Pierre	SPF Mobilité & Transport, MoT Belgium

Regulatory Bodies

Panneels, Gretel	Belgian Regulatory Body
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Management Board – IM's & AB's – Permanent Team

Dierickx, Michaël	Chair of the MB
Thull, Daniel	CFL IM (MB member)
Van Crombruggen, Kris	Infrabel
Hamoniau, Claire	SNCF Réseau (MB member)
Achermann, Rudi	SBB Infra (MB member)
Haltner, Daniel	Trasse Schweiz (MB member)

Confais-Morieux, Guillaume	Permanent team
Vanbeveren, Thomas	Permanent team
Salimène, Mohamed	Permanent team
Maeselle, Matthieu	Permanent team

Welcome and expectations of the RAG

G. Confais-Morieux, Managing Director of the RFC NSM, welcomes the participants. The [agenda](#) is proposed.

The RAG members expressed their expectations, discussed during the pre-RAG meeting (see point 2).

Presentations

1. What's new on the corridor:

- See [Presentation 1](#) made by G. Confais-Morieux (GCM).
- On the point 'Publication of the PaP Catalog': All information is published on our website, you can consult it [by clicking here](#);
- On the point 'Publication of the CID's', we published a common Book 1, together with RFC's Rhine-Alpine, Atlantic and North Sea Baltic. All CID's are to consult on our website.
- On the point 'Approval of the International Contingency Management handbook', all information can be found on our website, [by clicking here](#);
- On the point 'The Coopere working group of SNCF Réseau', a state of play has been given by SNCF Réseau.

2. Expectations of the RAG based on input of the Pre-RAG

The RAG members expressed their expectations, discussed during the pre-RAG meeting. RAG Chair L. Goethals summed up following points to be addressed:

- On the ECCO meetings: the RAG attendants ask that the ECCO meetings with the RFC Network are still kept, despite the wrong organization of the previous one;
- On ICM: The RUs will first make an RU's ICM Handbook. Based on the results of this document they will further investigate on the re-routing scenarios. Objective publication 8 May / UIC Freight forum.
 - o The RFC NSM welcomed this initiative and agreed that following this publication, many cross border items will remain unsolved and will need the arbitrage from the NSA/RB/MS authorities;
- On the situation related to ETCS in Luxembourg: due to the obligation to operate with ETCS from Dec 2019, and given the unavailability of the rolling stocks as well as the fact that the LU authorities have not shown the will to give exemption to the RUs, it is most likely that most of the traffic will have to be deviated from the LU territory for a duration estimated at 18 months. CFL reminded that this decision is not in their hands but at a ministerial level;
- On the 4th Railway Package:
 - o RT – the 'renseignements techniques' will not exist anymore
 - o Question to be addressed: Will there be discrepancies between IMs for the technical characteristics of the PaP?
 - In the offer, discrepancies will always exist because of the technical characteristics of the lines and shunting yards on the routes supplied. Harmonisation for an entire corridor route means usually degrading the allowed maximum characteristics. Because a corridor route doesn't necessarily be used completely, or because shifting between various PaPs is possible, we believe we should keep showing the maximum parameters per section.

However, from TT2021, PCS will no longer block on parameter surpassing but only issue a warning message. This way, the IM can investigate if the published maximum parameters can be surpassed.

- On infrastructure works, mainly on line 130 of the Infrabel network:
 - o 80 PaP trains per week with no solution given from Infrabel. The RU's request the presence of the RFC in discussions on the matter.

Agreed is to further address the topics raised by the RAG in the action plan presented in Point 4 Action Plan as it is covered there, at the exception of the last 2 points.

3. Action plan following previous RAG

- See [Presentation 3](#) made by G. Confais-Morieux.
- **All details are in the presentation 3 given by the permanent team.**

Additional comments, remarks and questions on the presented information:

Sector Priority 1: Following the Time Tabling Review project (TTR) implementation:

- T. Vanbeveren gave a state of play of:
- **Action 1:** give a regular feedback on the pilot Rotterdam – Antwerp on the RFC North Sea- Mediterranean lines:
 - o A workshop has been organised in January 2019.

Sector Priority 2: New concepts for capacity offer on RFC's:

- T. Vanbeveren presented actions 2 to 4.
- **On Action 2:** PaP as standard international rail freight product:
- **On Action 3:** Proactively participate in the upgrade of PCS and use the tool for all international capacity requests:
 - o RU's are asked to provide regular feedback on field experience to the Corridor, including quality defects in the offer;
- **On Action 4:** Better integration of works in the PaP Catalogue:
 - o As was the case for TT2019, the RFC will provide an overview on the TCR impact on the PaPs for France. This is in the last stages of finalisation. For the first time, this information is already available for the paths provided on the TTR pilot lines and is currently being investigated for the routes Antwerp – Aubange and Antwerp – Mouscron on the Infrabel network.
 - o RUs will be asked for a feedback on the provided documentation

Sector Priority 3: Improving coordination on TCR:

- **On Action 5:** systematic implication of RU's in TCR presented by M. Salimène;
- TCR recommendations for border were published in June 2018;
- This tool will from now on be systematically used for the TCR coordination discussions in the RFC/IM, IM/IM and RFC/RU meetings

Sector Priority 4: Enhance of the use of PCS:

- **On Action 6:** Enhance use of path coordination system (PCS) presented by T. Vanbeveren;
 - o RUs are being invited to participate to the various platforms RNE is providing concerning the development of PCS. If RUs can't attend these meetings, they can always contact the C-OSS which can relay the messages to RNE.

Sector Priority 5 - Improving harmonization of processes at the borders:

- **On Action 7:** identify and prioritize cross-border issues presented by M. Salimène
- **On the exceptional transport announcement:** there is a need for harmonization for a treatment at the Corridor level. Today discrepancies with the announcement (each time the train runs and indicated in the path reservation system). Railway Undertakings attending the meeting inform that RFC Atlantic runs a reflection that could help to solve the situation.
- State of play to be made at the corridor level:
 - o Situation IM per IM
 - o Exchanges RFC2/RFC4
- RAG volunteers to participate to this taskforce:
 - o Nicolas Corbeel
 - o Andrea-Marco Penso will look for a representative on behalf of DB Cargo NL or ECR
- On the Braking sheets: next meeting beginning of March.

Sector Priority 6 – Train tracking and Estimated Time of Arrival:

- **On Action 8:** Consider the application of the corridor to be one of the RNE pilot for the ETA program (at one corridor border).
- The Permanent team asked who can be contacted from RU side. Once the names known, a workshop will be organized with the identified participants

Sector Priority 7 - Monitoring and supporting rollout of the TEN T requirement:

- **On Action 9:** Longer trains in Belgium;
 - o State of play has been given by the Infrabel MB member M. Geubelle.
 - o As the quality of the path proposed in long trains delivered by Infrabel is questionable (lower robustness, long waiting time requested by the IM...), the RU announced they won't push this topic until real investments are made, allowing long trains to be handled without a depreciation of the quality of the paths.

Action 14: contingency planning: a state of play was given by M. Salimène.

4. 'ICM presentation by SNCF TGV Team: was cancelled.

Due to time constraints, the other planned points: performance report, and User Satisfaction Survey, could not be discussed. Matthieu Maeselle will propose a date for a web conference on this topics. Nevertheless, the presentations prepared for these topics are already available online:

5. Presentation Performance Report 2018:

- See [Presentation 5](#) prepared by T. Vanbeveren.

6. Presentation User Satisfaction Survey - Overall Comparaison 2014 - 2018:

- See [Presentation 6](#) prepared by M. Maeselle.

7. Open Points and AOB:

- The RAG members agreed to hold the **next RAG meeting on the Wednesday the 18th of September 2019 in Paris**. Exact timing and location will be send out by Matthieu Maeselle to the RAG members.