
**Global Preparatory Meeting on the Mid-Term Review of
the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action**

on

**Trade Facilitation Opportunities for Landlocked and
Transit Developing Countries**

Geneva, 8–9 July 2008

**Facilitating transit for Landlocked
countries: challenges known, opportunities:
none?**

by

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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

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Known transit challenges for LLDCS

- Distances to/from overseas markets
 - Land transport to ports
 - Times and costs
- Border crossing
 - Goods & Vehicles
 - Delays and costs
- Dependency on neighbors infrastructure and services:
 - Road
 - Rail
 - Inland freight stations
 - Ports
- Well known facts:
 - 1000 km by sea increase freight by 4%
 - 1000 km by land increase freight by 30%
 - Being a landlocked country increases freight by 50%

The electrical toothbrush syndrome ...

- being landlocked is equivalent to being located 10,000 kilometers farther away from markets ...



New challenges for LLDCS

- Security measures in ports and supply chain
- Fuel costs
- Environmental impact of land transport
- Others ?

New solutions



Lessons from the field

- Participants directly involved in the operation of their respective corridors, showed sound capacity to analyse and solve daily obstacles but also plan for medium- and long-term actions.
- At "corridor level" operators in transit countries appear to actually drive and take the lead for the improvement of the transit corridor operation.
- Informal structures may find operational solutions and achieve significant improvements without having to call for bilateral formal negotiations or agreements.

Some opportunities for transit

- **Regional integration**
 - Land transport open markets
 - Becoming a transit country
 - Bilateral and regional agreements
- **Development in transit ports**
 - New terminals
 - More traffic - better inland connections
 - Lower costs reduced times
- **New rules:**
 - WTO
 - Transit regimes
- **New technologies:**
 - In transport
 - In Customs
- **The Almaty Programme of Action**



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Thank you

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