



Materials of OSJD Bulletin Published in the First Half of 2022



Even though the main event of the first half of 2022 for Bulletin of Organization for Cooperation between Railways was its 65th anniversary, OSJD Bulletin continued to publish materials on the most significant events in the life of the organization, which will undoubtedly be of interest to readers of World of Transport and Transportation. With the consent of the editors of OSJD Bulletin, we reproduce the content of a number of materials published in its issue 1–2 for 2022.

Keywords: OSJD, OSJD Bulletin, railways.

The double issue 1–2 of OSJD Bulletin traditionally publishes articles and information about the activities of OSJD and the member countries of the organisation.

Thus, a material was published on the transport complex of Turkmenistan, which notes that this country continues large-scale implementation of projects for the construction and development of transport infrastructure facilities to further strengthen and improve the integrated transport system of the country and its integration into the international transport network of the region and of the Eurasian space as a whole for further economic prosperity.

The implementation of the main and most impressive projects in this area is described in an article provided by the Transport and Communications Agency under the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan.

The information of Chengdu Railway Corporation of China State Railway Corporation on work progress in adding the railway

consignment note with a function of a document of title is published.

The Chengdu Railway Corporation is one of 18 regional subsidiaries of China State Railway Corporation, which manages the railways of Sichuan, Guizhou and Chongqing. The operational length of railway lines on its territory is about 10 thousand kilometres. It ranks first in terms of freight and passenger traffic in the western part of China's railway network.

The Chengdu Railway Corporation carries out railway transportation of goods as part of container trains in the China–Europe traffic, departing from the city of Chongqing and the city of Chengdu (the administrative centre of Sichuan Province). By the number of container trains sent from these two cities, it ranks first in China. In 2020, the company organized and sent more than 4700 container trains, which is about 40 % of the total number of container trains in the China–Europe traffic.

Since 2018, in cooperation with airway and waterway transport companies, as well as large

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The text of the editorial article in Russian is published in the first part of the issue.

Текст редакционной статьи на русском языке публикуется в первой части данного выпуска.

commercial banks, the Chengdu Railway Corporation has begun to implement innovative projects to add the SMGS consignment note and CIM consignment note with the function of a document of title. Within the framework of pilot projects, a total of 10 shipments were organized, the total value of the transported goods exceeded 400 million Chinese yuan.

In the material about new passenger rolling stock for Azerbaijan railways, prepared by the deputy head of the department for passenger transportation of AZD CJSC H. Mamedov, head of passenger transportation organisation section T. Badalova, specialist of the OSJD Commission on Infrastructure and Rolling Stock, Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the OSJD Committee A. Shurganova it is noted that 2015 marked the beginning of a new era in the development of railway transport structure of the Republic of Azerbaijan, with the Azerbaijani Railways CJSC gradual transformation into the most dynamically developing company in the region. The railway personnel, focusing on new achievements, carry out successful transformations in the country's railway sector, using the most modern technologies. It goes not only about the transfer of power supply from direct to alternating current, the purchase of new signalling and communication systems, the improvement of the railway infrastructure, but also about the implementation of large-scale and systematic work to comprehensively improve passenger comfort.

Considering the social policy pursued by the state, which is aimed, in particular, at transformation of the passenger railway transportation sector, the Azerbaijani Railways CJSC have procured modern comfortable trains from the Swiss company Stadler Rail Group. Thus, the reforms have been launched with the implementation of all others of the concept of fast-speed passenger trains and the improvement of service provided at the railway stations. Such rolling stock also includes KISS double-decker electric trains (EMU) capable of running at speeds of up to 160 km/h.

The innovative and comfortable EŞ2 EMU represents a series double-decker electric train as an outstanding example of the Stadler KISS family, featuring a larger and wider body, painted in white colour with a black horizontal stripe on the sides between the rows of windows and gray stripes in the window area, while the doors and the black horizontal stripe edging are dark golden.

The material is published about the meeting, held on January 25, 2022 in the OSJD Committee premises of the three OSJD Committee Chairmen who held this post at different times: Mirosław Antonowicz (from 2020 to the present), Tadeusz Szozda (from 1998 to 2020) and Andrzej Golaszewski (from 1990 to 1998).

The leaders of various generations discussed the issues of continuity in the OSJD activities, the possibilities of maintaining the general guide line of OSJD in order to fulfil the tasks set in a dynamically changing situation in the world, including the restrictions associated with the pandemic.

The information message of Shukhrat Kayumkhodjaev, Chairman of the OSJD Commission on Transport Policy and Development Strategy is published about the 60th meeting of the OSJD-ERA Contact Group, held from 25 to 27 January 2022, on the subject «Collaboration between ERA and OSJD on the analysis of the relationship 1520-mm/1524-mm and 1435-mm rail systems of EU and non-EU states».

During the meeting, the following agenda items were considered:

- Progress of work on updating the analysis of the subsystems «Locomotives and multi-unit rolling stock» and «Passenger coaches».
- Progress of work on updating the analysis of the subsystem «Infrastructure. Tracks and track facilities».
- Exchange of relevant information and practical experience in order to coordinate measures for maintaining and improving the existing technical and operational compatibility and unimpeded international railway traffic (including cross-border traffic and traffic safety), etc.

The issue also contains the information message of specialist of the OSJD Commission for Transport Policy and Development Strategy Aian Mamytov about the expert meeting of the OSJD Commission on Transport Policy and Development Strategy on the subject «Directions for the strategic development of railway transport in the OSJD member countries», which was held on 16–18 February 2022 in the OSJD Committee.

The meeting agenda included the following items:

- Study of the directions for the strategic development of railway transport in the OSJD member countries and preparation of proposals on general approaches and tasks for the strategic development of railway transport.



- Studying the experience and analysis of reforms in the railway transport of the OSJD member countries with the publication of information on the OSJD Website.

- Preparation and publication of an information collection on ongoing structural reforms of railway transport in the OSJD member countries.

- Consideration of the progress of the work of the OSJD/ERA Contact Group on the interaction of 1520-mm/1435-mm gauge railway systems.

- Preparation and approval of the draft Work Plan and Work Program of the OSJD Commission on Transport Policy and Development Strategy.

The meeting participants listened to the presentations and speeches delivered by the representatives from Hungary, Republic of Lithuania, Russian Federation dedicated to the directions for the strategic development of railway transport in their countries, and also took into account the information of the People's Republic of China provided to the OSJD Committee, on the basis of which they held a discussion and exchanged experience and opinions on the issues of key strategic directions for the development of railway transport in the OSJD member countries.

In the information message Radovan Vopalecky Chairman of the OSJD Commission on Infrastructure and Rolling Stock noted the results of the regular meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) for reviewing and converting the OSJD/UIC international technical solutions in the field of railway transport, which was held from 15 till 17 February 2022.

As part of the agenda, the meeting considered the following items:

- Information of the JWG Chairman relating to the outcomes in the implementation of the decisions of the OSJD/UIC Joint Working Group meeting for reviewing and converting the OSJD/UIC joint leaflets into draft OSJD/UIC international railway solutions (IRS) (21–23 September 2021).

- Progress of work for the formation of the draft IRS solution «Transportation of unconventional goods in international railway traffic» taking into account the comments received from the railways;

- Discussion of UIC proposals on the draft OSJD/UIC joint work program in the field of joint IRS developing and others.

As it is noted in the information message of Zubaida Aspayeva, chairperson of the OSJD Commission on Freight Traffic, as of 22–25 March 2022: a meeting was held to consider the

topics «Updating the Harmonized Nomenclature of Goods (GNG)» and «Updating the Catalogue of Freight Stations of the OSJD Railways».

It is reported about holding on 18 February 2022 of a consultative meeting of representatives of the OSJD Committee and the OTIF Secretariat. Opening the meeting, Chairman of the OSJD Committee Miroslaw Antonowicz and Secretary General of OTIF Wolfgang Küpper welcomed the participants and expressed the opinion that these cyclical meetings shall be continued in the future, which would result in further successful cooperation expansion between OSJD and OTIF and would be expressed in real positive results in the work towards the unification and harmonization of transport law aimed to ensure international railway transport in the Eurasian area.

The journal contains the material about the intention of Laos to become a member of OSJD, in which it is noted that in accordance with the decision of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, adopted on 24 March 2022, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which is in charge of the Lao Railways, sent a letter to the OSJD Committee with an official request to admit the LPDR to the Organisation of Co-Operation between Railways. The letter was signed by the Minister of Public Works and Transport of the Lao PDR, Mr. Viengsavath Siphandone.

In this letter, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport also expressed its intention to become a Party to the Agreement on International Passenger Traffic (SMPS) and the Agreement on International Freight Traffic by Rail (SMGS) to ensure the smooth transport of passengers and goods in the international railway traffic.

In accordance with the OSJD procedures, the issue of joining the Lao PDR will be considered by the governing bodies of OSJD, and the final decision on this issue is to be taken within the framework of the OSJD Ministerial Conference session.

For reference it is reported that the Lao People's Democratic Republic is situated in South-East Asia on the Indochinese Peninsula. It borders on Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, China and Myanmar. Laos is a landlocked country having no direct access to the sea, so the development of railways and international railway traffic are of paramount importance for it.

The overall operational length of the railway lines of Laos amounts to 425,94 km, of which:

- Vientiane–Boten Railway (with a track gauge of 1435 mm) – 422,44 km.
- Vientiane–Thanaleng Railway (with a track gauge of 1000 mm) – 3,5 km

As it is clearly seen, the length of the railway section from the Boten border station on the China-Laos boundary to the capital of Laos, Vientiane, is about 422 km, while the total length of the Kunming (China)–Vientiane (Laos) railway line is 1035 km. The construction of the railway line was carried out on the basis of the Chinese technologies and engineer standards. In total, 167 tunnels have been laid along the route of the line and a large number of bridges and viaducts built.

The railway is subdivided into two sections: Chinese and Laotian. The construction of the Laotian section from the border town of Boten to Vientiane began in December 2016, while the construction of the Chinese section from Yuxi to the border town of Mohan began in December 2015.

With a maximum operational speed of 160 km/h, the entire journey with border clearance procedures takes about 10 hours. This route provides for the transportation of both passengers and goods. The commissioning of the new line has made it possible to switch a significant part of export goods onto the railway and reduce the transportation costs. According to the preliminary calculations, at the initial stage, 300,000 containers will be transported annually along the new railway line from Laos to Europe through China, and in the future, the freight flow may increase to 1,2–1,8 million containers per year.

Already in the first two and a half months since the start of the China–Laos railway operation, more than 1 million passengers and 500 thousand tons of goods have been transported on it, while 100 thousand tons of the total volume of transported goods have been carried in international traffic.

In another information message prepared by Mirosław Antonowicz, Chairman of the OSJD Committee, and Angelina Shurganova, Specialist of the OSJD Commission on Infrastructure and Rolling Stock, it is noted that major railway institute in Poland marked its 70th anniversary. On 15 March 2022 the Jubilee Scientific Conference was held, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Railway Research Institute and the 25th anniversary of the Test Track Operation Centre.



Map of the new railway line China–Laos.

One of the materials of the issue is dedicated to the international scientific and practical conference «Innovations for Sustainable Development. Development of Human Capital», which was held on 5 April 2022 at the CCTT Secretariat in Moscow.

This event was organized by the International Coordinating Council for Trans-Eurasian Transportation (CCTT), Russian University of Transport (RUT (MIIT)) (an OSJD affiliated enterprise) and the Association of Transport Higher Schools. The conference was attended by more than 250 representatives of transport, logistics, forwarding companies and associations, educational and research institutions in the field of transport from the Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, People's Republic of China, Mongolia, Russian Federation and other countries, experts and specialists from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Organization for Co-Operation between Railways (OSJD).

Another information message is dedicated to the IX Specialized Railway Safety Forum 2022, organized by the Polish Office of Rail Transport together with the company Tor-Andytor, held on 17 March 2022 in Warsaw.

Among the forum participants were representatives of the companies – infrastructure managers, operators and carriers, specialists in the field of maintenance and repair, as well as in the field of ensuring of safety in railway traffic management.

