



Eight meeting of the Shift2Rail States Representatives Group

18 April 2018

TRA (Transport Research Arena) venue at Reed Messe Wien GmbH, Messeplatz
1, 1020 Vienna, Galerieraum 9+10

Draft minutes

10:00 – 10:15	1. Introduction
	<p>The meeting was chaired by Mr Haltuf, Chairperson of the SRG. The Chairman welcomed the participants. The respective representatives briefly introduced themselves and highlighted the interest of their countries in the deliberations of the SRG.</p> <p>Mr Carlo Borghini, S2R JU's Executive Director, stressed that the SRG is a key partner of S2R and he appreciated the interest shown by the group on S2R's activities.</p> <p>A list of participants is attached.</p>
10:15– 10:20	2. Approval of the meeting agenda and minutes of previous meeting
	<p>The SRG members agreed on the provisional agenda, which had been circulated on 1 February 2018 (document attached, as updated on 16 April 2018) and they all signed a declaration of absence of conflict of interest and confidentiality.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (document attached). The minutes of all SRG meetings are available in the S2R website (https://shift2rail.org/about-shift2rail/structure-of-shift2rail-initiative/states-representatives-group/).</p>
10:20 – 10:40	3. State of play
	<p>The Executive Director, presented the latest developments related to the S2R activities including a short summary of the next steps (presentation attached).</p>

He informed the members of the SRG about last meetings/decisions occurred since the last SRG meeting. 2018 is a key year for the programme, where the S2R Lighthouse Projects are concluding, first S2R projects are being reviewed after more than one year of activity and the S2R Programme will show its first demos at InnoTrans 2018.

The call 2018 includes a novelty: S2R is being pioneer on testing the “lump sum” funding, an element of simplification of H2020. It will remove obligations on cost reporting, and remove the need for timesheets and for financial ex-post audits on costs incurred – removing a big part of the administrative burden on beneficiaries. The objective for the S2R JU is to ensure Members focus on delivering results. The Executive Director explained that the introduction of the Lump Sum Grants for the CFM grants remains within a strong internal management and control environment. In fact, while the reporting obligations of the CFM will be focusing only on the deliverables and results, the Members already today shall report on the Total Project Costs and IKOP of their R&I activities within the JU. This is a legal obligation in accordance with Art. 4.4 of the S2R JU Statutes and the reporting shall be accompanied by an independent auditor’s certificate. Hence, the JU has the assurance on the real costs sustained to perform the work and duly address any discrepancy in ongoing or future grants. FR intervened expressing strong appreciation for the initiative on testing the “lump sum” funding. The Executive Director thanked and stressed it is indeed a pilot subject to see the results of this exercise and it is not guarantee that this will be extended to the open calls.

The Executive Director also informed the SRG about the “*Invitation to S2R JU Associated Members (AM) to submit an answer in view of the realignment of their activities and additional commitment to the S2R Programme*”. He explained that on 23 March the GB adopted the decision on the outcome of the AM Invitation endorsing the Executive Director Report. The AMs will be notified individually of the results and invited to work together with the JU to amend the Membership Agreements with the new figures / activities (this is the meaning of “negotiations” in the decision of the GB). The draft amended Membership Agreements will be submitted to the Governing Board for adoption before signature of the Executive Director. This is a pure formal process that is foreseen in the S2R Regulation. It is expected to be finalized before the summer break and it will depend of the joint availability to progress the work faster. The result of this exercise should be the acceleration on key priorities of the S2R programme, such us automation and digitalisation.

The Executive Director informed the SRG members that the S2R Scientific Committee (SC) received the resignation of its Chairman and another member due to a conflict of interest situation. The S2R JU will propose to the GB a review of the SC Rules of Procedure in order to ensure balance between public interest and avoiding to detach the SC from the active R&I activities. He also updated the group on the KPI activity carried out within the programme and stressed the importance on assess how the technology developments are impacting on the S2R programme. On 25 April, there will be a kick off of IMPACT-2 which will continue with this work and preliminary results will be presented at the GB. Regarding the current context towards research beyond 2020, the Executive Director mentioned that the overall objective is to address the shortcoming highlighted in the Interim Evaluation of the JU, in particular on the correct balance between a strong membership and an encompassing participation. Building the S2R 2.0 is already started although all its progress will

	depend on the overall MFF 2021-2027 expected to be presented by the Commission on 2 May.
10:40 – 10:50	4. Establishment of the MoU with regions and strategic partnership
	<p>The Chair of the SRG presented the importance for the JU to establish regional strategic partnership following the experience of other JUs, such as the Clean Sky JU. In this respect, he mentioned that the CZ Parliament sub-committee on Transport held a session dedicated to the S2R JU which resulted in two main conclusions: a. strong support to the S2R JU 2 and b. the support for the signature of a regional strategic partnership.</p> <p>Also the European Parliament in its overall recommendations for the S2R JU Discharge 2016 makes reference to the importance of regional partnership, especially in view of the deployment of the S2R Innovative Solutions.</p> <p>The Executive Director indicated that the JU is examining the text proposed by CZ, it will provide its comments and once the text will be considered stable it will be submitted to the GB for comments before signature by the ED.</p> <p>The Chair of the SRG invited the other Member States to consider the same approach.</p>
10:50-11:20	5. Preparation for Innotrans
	The final layout of S2R stand in INNOTRANS is not yet available. It will be filled with around 20 Quick Wins (demos) of the projects that have been approved. The stand will be designed according to the demos' requirements. The Executive Director invited the SRG representatives to be present at InnoTrans and take part to the demonstration activities.
11:20 – 11:40	6. Preparation of Annual Work Plan (AWP) 2019
	<p>The Executive Director stressed the need for the SRG to be actively involved in the planning of the S2R activities.</p> <p>The Executive Director briefly explained the timetable for the adoption of the AWP 2019, mentioning that the next draft (more elaborated than the draft from January) needs to be stable before the summer or just after it, so to be submitted to the SRG and SC for their final input in view of the adoption by the GB on 8 November.</p> <p>It was agreed that the members will submit to the Chairperson their proposals by the end of May 2018.</p> <p>The Executive Director highlighted the fact that the AWP 2019 will be critical to ensure a stronger focus on key priorities before the final AWP of 2020. It should be aligned with the new MAAP Part B under preparation and the work runs in parallel.</p>

11:40 – 12:00	7. MAAP review
	The Executive Director presented the status of the MAAP – Part B which is currently being reviewed. SE intervened showing interest on this exercise. The Executive Director agreed on the importance of the document, highlighting that there are being complex discussions since this will be the basis to bridge with the research and innovation programme beyond 2020. The SRG may expect to receive a first stable draft not before mid-June and they will be provided with the necessary time for comments. It is expected that the document would be adopted at the GB in November or by written procedure immediately after.
12:00 – 12:30	8. MS presentations
	<p>The Chair invited AT to present the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Introduction to www.railindustry.at b. Results from a stakeholder process on RTI-topics related to automation, digitisation and decarbonisation in the rail system c. The social and organizational effects of further automation within the Austrian freight transport system with special focus on rail <p>The presentations were distributed by AT after the meeting. The SRG thanked AT for the interesting presentations and the possible follow up to be given.</p>
12:30 – 13:00	9. Presentation on invitation
	The Chair invited the representative of CUTRIC, the Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium, to present its work focusing on supporting projects that develop the next-generation of mobility and transportation technologies for Canadians. These advancements help foster the low-carbon and "smart" technology eco-system in the country, leading to job growth and economic development over the long-term. After the encompassing presentation and considering the point of contacts/synergies between CUTRIC and S2R JU, the Executive Director asked the SRG if there were any objections to consider the signature of a memorandum of cooperation. No objection was expressed and this presentation will be followed up by a meeting between the Executive Director and Ms Petrunic, CUTRIC CEO, to discuss the possibilities for cooperation.
13:00 – 13:10	10. Closing remarks
	The closing remarks were reported at the dinner after the visits organised by AT and were provided by Mr Keir Fitch, DG Move, and the Executive Director.
13:10 – 13:30	11. AOB

	<p>The only point in the AOB was the request of the Chair to the SRG to fill in a questionnaire on the rail testing facility in Europe. In fact, during the last two GBs, it appeared that Europe does not avail itself with a complete test facility where to test infrastructure, trains, signalling, communications, etc. with a system approach. There are discussions in understanding the possible needs and actions to be undertaken, including in view of the next multi annual financial programming period.</p> <p>The survey would allow to have a clear mapping of the situation and understand possible way forwards.</p> <p>The SRG was requested to answer the survey by end of May 2018, sending it to the Chair and the Secretariat.</p> <p><u>Next meeting:</u></p> <p>The Executive Director proposed the next SRG meeting to take place in Berlin, on 20 September 2018, combined with the InnoTrans international trade fair, which is scheduled on 18-21 September 2018.</p>
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Actions for the members:

Members are invited to send their input for the AWP 2019 and the testing facilities questionnaire, by 25 May to the Chairperson (miroslav.haltuf@hcomp.eu) and copy to the JU (Valerie.LORGE@s2r.europa.eu).