

FERRMED MULTISECTORAL WORKING GROUPS – FMWGs

The business-oriented approach to the EU Railway Core Network development with Eurasian outlook

II. GENERAL SCOPE, OBJECTIVES AND MAIN EXPECTED RESULTS

1. GENERAL SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

In order to push the business oriented development of the Trans-European/Trans-Eurasian Railway Network, particularly for freight (bottlenecks solving and FERRMED Recommendations/Standards of Reference Implementation) and to reduce drastically lead times (door to door) and the logistics costs, FERRMED, jointly with other interested companies and associations, is launching the creation of three multisectoral working groups related to **Infrastructure**, **Operation** and **Rolling Stock**.

The main objective of these Working Groups is to carry out studies, analyses, reports and proposals (encouraging its implementation), from shippers point of view, in relation to the development of the railway infrastructure, operation and rolling stock in the European Union (particularly in the most crowded Corridors of the EU Core Network), in neighbouring countries and even in the Euro-Asian scenario, in order to facilitate the passage of freight trains according to current potential demand and taking into account the postulates of the "FERRMED Standards of Reference".

The key point is to achieve the EC target of 30% of road freight over 300 km shift to rail or waterborne transport by 2030.

Another key objective is to promote new rail freight journeys, looking for specific cases and train routes of shippers' interest.

For each Working Group, the following considerations must be considered:

A) INFRASTRUCTURE

Special emphasis should be placed in the corridors defined by FERRMED as "EU Main Trans-Eurasian Corridors" (Full FERRMED Corridors), corresponding to the 15,000 Km with the most rail freight traffic potential in the Core Network (see figure), giving priority to the corridors related to "EU Backbone Rail Network" (6.000 kms approx.).

B) OPERATION

This Group must consider all related aspects (harmonization and simplification of processes, rates, path allocation, free competition with non-discriminatory access to lines, traceability, ETA accomplishment, unification of management, etc.) to facilitate the passage of freight trains with an appropriate level of quality at competitive cost ratios and with the optimization of the global intermodal process.

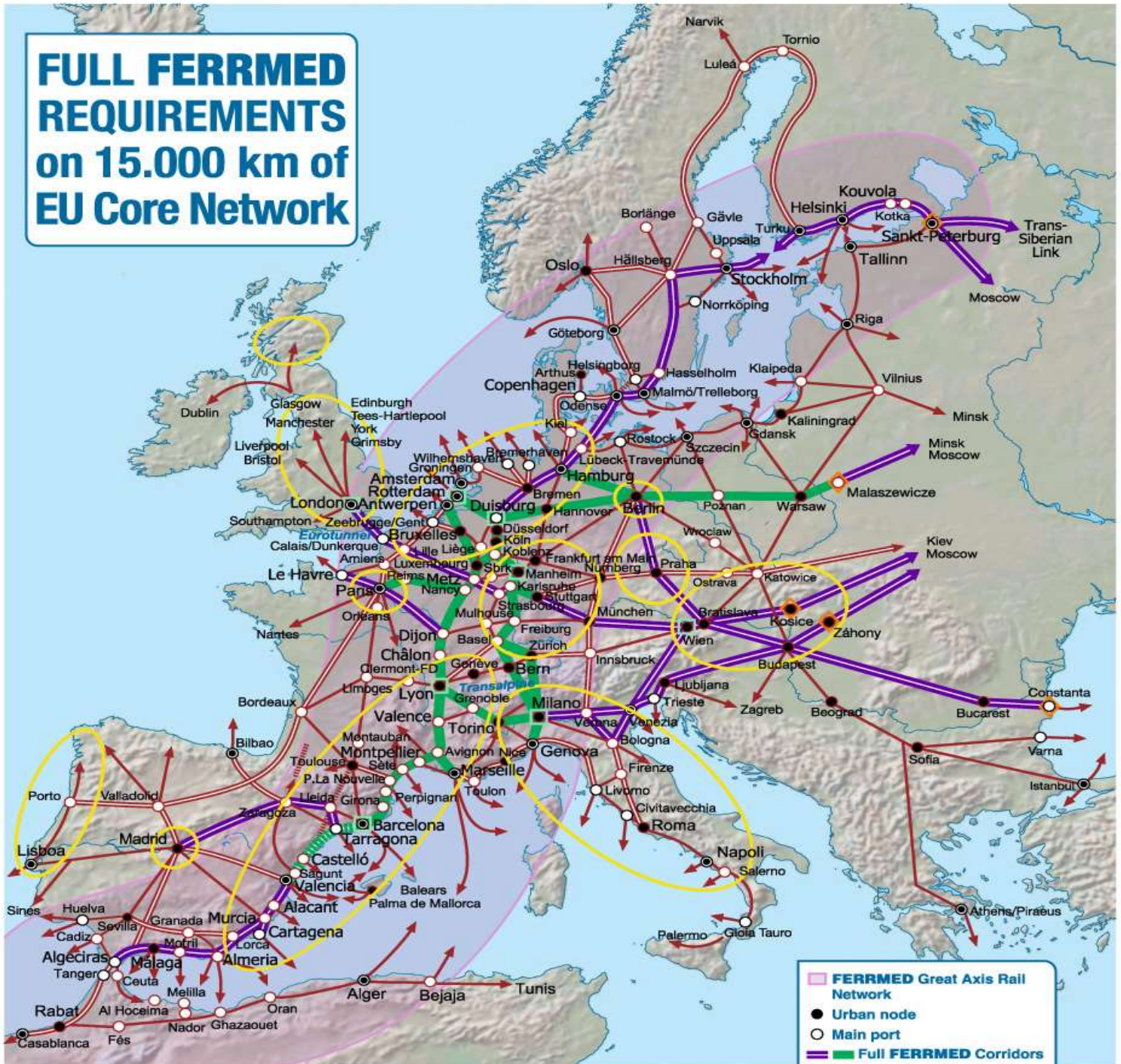
Operation Group will create a "New Routes Commission", to promote rail freight transportation, particularly in "Full FERRMED Corridors" in EU and even at Eurasian level.

First priority will be given to "EU Backbone Rail Network".

C) ROLLING STOCK

As particular objectives of this Group we can find to unify approval procedures, to reduce noise and vibrations, to facilitate the digitalisation of the information, to stimulate the implementation of the design criteria adopted in previous studies (FERRMED Freight wagon concept), etc.

FULL FERRMED REQUIREMENTS on 15.000 km of EU Core Network



- Trans-Eurasian Strategic Mega-Terminal (First priority)
- ◇ Trans-Eurasian Transborder Terminal
- EU Backbone Rail Network
- EU Mega Regions
- ▬ Extension of the Backbone Rail Network

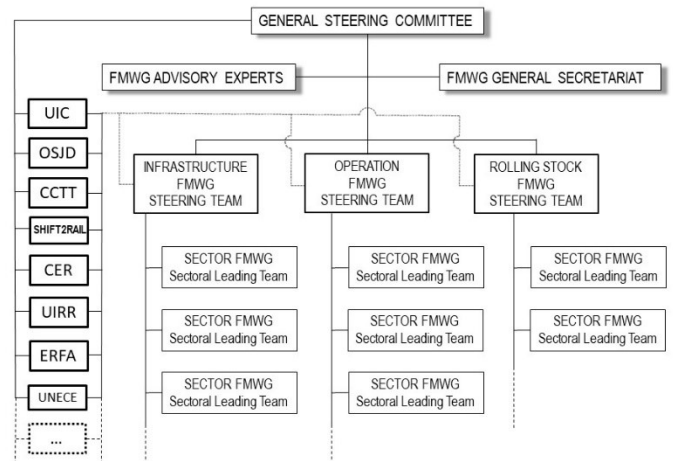
2. ORGANIZATION

The FMWGs will be structured according to the attached organization chart.

Agreements with key organizations (UIC, OSJD, CCTT, CER, ERFA, UIRR, SHIFT2RAIL, UNECE, ...) will be envisaged in order to share information, establish common working teams and to avoid duplication.

The Working Groups of Infrastructure and Operation may be subdivided according to geographical zones, in order to facilitate the relationship with the governments of the involved EU Member States. For the Rolling Stock Group this subdivision is considered not necessary.

Each Working Group should have a Global Coordinator and a Fully WG Secretary, and each subgroup should have a Sector Coordinator and a Sector Secretary, if necessary.



3. GENERAL CRITERIA FOR ACTION

The FMWGs activities will consider the following main steps:

To identify Strategic/Gateway Multimodal Terminals in the “EU Backbone Rail Network” (and its extension till 15.000 kms in second phase) and to select main the lines (plus back-up lines and feeders) of interconnection between them.

To settle the outstanding topics of the FERRMED Recommendations/Standards of Reference. The accomplishment of the ratios related to these selected topics, in the corresponding Strategic Terminals and in the different sections of the main lines (plus back-up lines and feeders), as well as, in the rolling stock, will be duly analysed.

Consequently, the appropriate improvement Action Plan will be proposed to the involved EU Member States and, also, to the European Commission.

In principle, the top priority topics that will be considered by the FMWGs are: Length of the trains, Terminals characteristics, loading gauge, Bottlenecks (related to infrastructure and to operation), track gauge in the Mediterranean Corridor (Spain), E-trains, Rolling Stock features and promotion of freight trains new routes.

A Global Action Plan at Short Term (2021), Medium Term (2025) and Long Term (2030) will be developed, “pushed” and continuously updated.

The general action plan of each Working Group must be in accordance with the guidelines of the Global Action Plan, and the proposals of each Group must be submitted to the approval of the General Steering Committee.

4. MAIN EXPECTED RESULTS

- Significant increase in Railway land transportation share
- Multimodal flows optimization
- Drastic lead time reduction (over 50%)
- Transportation cost reduction: over 25%
- Freight train punctuality over 95%
- Freight trains able to carry 224 TEUS
- Lines capacity increase: over 50%
- Continuous full “on line” information
- Payload increment ~ 2 Tn/wagon
- Substantial reduction of noise and vibration
- Strong decrease in GHG emissions
- Socio-economic Internal Rate of Return of 11%
- New freight trains routes, creation and consolidation

Because of the FMWGs activities, additional outstanding advantages for the involved members are expected, like, among others:

- Mutual experiences exchanges
- Critical issues identification
- Access to innovative applications
- Good news acknowledgement

Brussels, 15th March 2019

HOW TO FORM PART OF A WORKING GROUP

Write an e-mail to bureau@ferrmed.com and tell us at what FMWG o FMWGs you want to belong.

Necessary data: Company, address, phone, e-mail, main activity, expectations, topics you want to consider and representative person.

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