

## Common Declaration of the European Rail Freight Corridors for their cooperation in facilitating the RFC network

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No. 913/2010 of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 September 2010 concerning a European rail network for competitive freight,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No. 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union Guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network and to Regulation (EU) No. 1316/2013 for the European Parliament and the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, and in particular its Annex II,

Acknowledging the common aim of developing European Rail Freight Corridors (thereafter "the RFCs") in a competitive network, and thus of promoting consistency of approaches for issues of cross-corridor interest,

- (1) The Management Boards of the RFCs herewith share and support the following vision: striving to make the RFC network the first choice for all cross-border freight traffic for our customers.
- (2) In order to substantiate this vision, the Management Boards of the RFCs agree to:
  - a. Cooperate whenever deemed appropriate to improve the quality of corridor products and customer services,
  - b. Jointly foster compatible solutions for issues mutually identified as of primary and general interest to support seamless operations on an RFC network,
  - c. Organise regular meetings of its representatives in order to define the common scope of cooperation for the RFCs,
  - d. Participate in the above mentioned meetings on voluntary basis,
  - e. Sketch proposals and suggest next steps for reaching a common approach,
  - f. Make its efforts to work out and present common position towards the third parties whenever possible and required;
- (3) In doing so, the Management Board of the RFCs pay particular attention to involving Rail Net Europe as a coordination platform for supporting RFCs requirements;
- (4) The Management Boards of the RFCs goal is to create a harmonised and customer-friendly network for rail freight transport across the Europe;
- (5) The Management Boards of each of the RFCs remain the only decision-making instance.

Signed in ten originals

For the RFC Rhine-Alpine

For the RFC Atlantic

For the RFC Orient/East-Mediterranean

For the RFC North Sea - Mediterranean

For the RFC Baltic - Adriatic

For the RFC North Sea - Baltic

For the RFC Scandinavian-Mediterranean

For the RFC Mediterranean

For the RFC Czech-Slovak