

ANNEX IX

TO CHAPTER 15 (TRANSPORT) OF TITLE IV

1. The Parties have decided to cooperate on the development of the strategic transport network for the territory of the Republic of Moldova. The indicative map of the strategic transport network proposed by the Republic of Moldova is included in this Annex (see point 6 of this Annex).
2. In this context, the Parties recognise the importance of implementation of the main priority measures of the transport infrastructure investment strategy within the Republic of Moldova, aimed at rehabilitating and extending the internationally important rail and road links crossing the territory of the Republic of Moldova, starting with National roads M3 Chisinau — Giurgiulesti and M14 Brest — Briceni — Tiraspol — Odessa, as well as at upgrading and modernising the rail connections with the neighbouring countries used for international and transit traffic.
3. The Parties recognise the importance of improving transport connections by making them smoother, safer and more reliable. This is to the mutual benefit of the EU and the Republic of Moldova. The Parties will cooperate in order to develop further transport connections in particular through:
 - (a) policy cooperation, improved administrative procedures at the border crossings and removal of bottlenecks in infrastructure;
 - (b) transport cooperation in the framework of the Eastern Partnership;
 - (c) cooperation with International Financial Institutions that can contribute to improved transport;
 - (d) the further development of a coordination mechanism and information system within the Republic of Moldova to ensure effectiveness and transparency of infrastructure planning, including traffic management systems, charging and financing;
 - (e) the adoption of border crossing facilitation actions, in line with the provisions of Chapter 5 (Customs and Trade Facilitation) of Title V (Trade and Trade-related Matters) of this Agreement, that aims to improve the functioning of the transport network in order to increase the fluidity of the transport flows between the EU, the Republic of Moldova and the regional partners;
 - (f) the exchange of best practices on financing options of projects (both infrastructure and horizontal measures), including public-private partnerships, relevant legislation and user charging;
 - (g) taking into account, where relevant, the environmental provisions as set out in Chapter 16 (Environment) of Title IV (Economic and Other Sectoral Cooperation) of this Agreement, in particular the Strategic Impact Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, and nature-related and air quality-related EU legislation;
 - (h) the development of efficient traffic management systems, such as the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS), at regional level ensuring cost effectiveness, interoperability and high quality.
4. The Parties will cooperate in order to connect the Republic of Moldova's strategic transport network to the TEN-T network as well as to networks of the region.
5. The Parties will seek to identify projects of mutual interest located on the strategic transport network of the Republic of Moldova.

6. Map (Map of strategic transport networks for the territory of the Republic of Moldova):

Map of Strategic transport networks for the territory of the Republic of Moldova

