The European & rail sector’s perspective: an increased interest for Climate Change Adaptation

Adapting Rail Infrastructure to Climate Change, UIC, Paris, 19 October 2010

Anne-Laure Le Merre
European Commission takes climate change adaptation on board

  - Sept 2009: set up an Impact and Adaptation Steering Group to step up cooperation on adaptation 2009-2012: review each policy area to integrate adaptation, assessing 1) the potential impact of climate change in the sector, 2) the costs of action/inaction, 3) impact of proposed measures on other sectors
  - From 2013 on: implement that EU strategy.

- Focus put on agriculture, health, water.

- One reference to transport infrastructure: *Infrastructure projects which receive EU funding should take climate-proofing into account*
EU Parliament too, but underlines needs for adequate funds for transport infrastructure!

- European Parliament voted in June 2010 on the 2009 White paper:
  - Give more emphasis on transport: transport infrastructure is much affected by climate change
  - Need for mitigation measures and modal shift:
    - polluter pays principle
    - internalisation of external costs (Eurovignette)
  - EU existing funds are not enough

... Towards a European adaptation fund?
Link ongoing activities on extreme weather events!

Weather Extremes: Assessment of impacts on Transport Systems and Hazards for European Regions (DG Research)

Extreme Weather impacts on European Networks of Transport (DG Research)

Follow up to the ash cloud crisis (DG MOVE)

EU Commission’s Adaptation Steering Group

CER-EIM

« Winter Preparedness » workshops of EIM (18/06) and UIC (15/09)

UIC ARISCC

CER-EIM position paper

CEN/CENELEC standardisation work
UIC provides input on vulnerability and adaptation costs:

- ARISCC work
- Winter preparedness work
- Standardisation works
- ...?

CER and/or EIM feeds EU work with UIC input:

- Member of the EU Commission’s Adaptation Steering Group
- Interested parties in EU Research projects (EWENT, WEATHER)
- Consulted stakeholder for the ash cloud crisis’ follow-up
Thank you for your attention!

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