

PRIME Meeting 15
18 November 2019, Brussels

Item 8.3 - Information points:
European Rail Facilities Portal – latest developments

From: EC

– For Information –

1. BACKGROUND AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

The lack of easy and quick access to information about rail service access points is a significant barrier to the efficient planning of rail services, in particular across borders. To address this problem, DG MOVE commissioned the development of a European Rail Facilities Portal. The objective of the Portal is twofold:

- To constitute an efficient and user-friendly market tool providing all the necessary information on rail facilities, in particular rail freight facilities, e.g. for the planning of rail services.
- To help the service facilities operators to comply with their obligations under the Recast Directive (Directive 2012/34/EU) and [Implementing Regulation 2017/2177](#).

The portal went live in June 2019: <https://railfacilitiesportal.eu/>. The Commission adopted a decision to finance the portal for two years with an option to extend by two additional years and to select a manager and continue the development of the portal. For the time being, the portal is managed under a five-month contract by the companies who developed it. An Interim Governance Board with sector representatives was set up to discuss the next steps in the portal development. The Board met on 16 July and 7 November 2019. In the meetings, the Interim Governance Board supported the proposal that RNE would take over the portal and develop it as a business tool with financial support from the EU.

2. NEXT STEPS

The Interim Governance Board agreed to set up a Technical Control Board, which will be given the task to develop detailed technical specifications for the software development of the portal. DG MOVE will send an invitation to the Board members asking them to propose experts for the Technical Control Board.

3. EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION BY INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGERS

Infrastructure Managers are invited to use the portal and upload descriptions of their service facilities, by accessing the Portal and registering. DG MOVE plans to develop functionalities, which would allow service facility operators to upload information to the portal in an automated manner. We encourage infrastructure managers to inform DG MOVE of their interest in participating in the Technical Control Board and in the development of the automation process for information exchange.

For further information, contact Vassil Zhivkov (MOVE C3) at vassil.zhivkov@ec.europa.eu.