

The Minister of Transport praises the EUMedRail project to support the revitalisation of the railways

The EUMedRail Action Plan in Lebanon for 2018-2020, the support for decision makers to revitalise the Tripoli-Beirut railway line and the reform of the RPTA (Railway and Public Transport Authority) were some of the topics raised at a meeting between ERA (EU Agency for Railways), OTIF (Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail), the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and RPTA today, in Beirut, Lebanon.

This was the first meeting held in Lebanon, which is a partner country of the EuroMed Transport Rail Project (EUMedRail), organised by the European Union Agency for Railways. This meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport.

The Minister of Public Works and Transport in Lebanon, Youssef Fenianos, expressed his satisfaction that the country plays an active role in the EUMedRail project and that it can thus benefit from international technical support, training opportunities and a network of international experts to support implementation of the Tripoli-Beirut railway project. He also expressed the wish that Lebanon would soon play an active role within OTIF. The Secretary General of OTIF highlighted the importance of Lebanon in the Middle East and proposed to welcome a trainee to the Organisation to initiate joint work. During the meeting, the EUMedRail team highlighted the institutional capacity-building actions and seminars that can be offered to the Ministry and RPTA during the implementation of the EUMedRail project.

The EUMedRail delegation formally invited the partner country to the Action Plan conference on 23 and 24 April in Ljubljana. The EUMedRail conference will represent a forum to present the National Railway Action Plans, future railway projects, the state of implementation of Action 12 of the Regional Transport Action Plan and cooperation activities with the ERA.

BACKGROUND - The EUMedRail project, funded by the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement (DG NEAR) of the European Commission, has a budget of 2 million euros for the period 2017-2020, to carry over technical assistance in the Euro-Mediterranean countries. For more information, please contact: Peter Mihm (Peter.Mihm@era.europa.eu), Charbel Challita (charbel.challita@undp.org), Aleksandr Kuzmenko (alksander.kuzmenko@otif.org)



Contact:
Secretary General
secretary.general@otif.org