

Autoridad Portuaria de Gijón

PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2005 QUESTIONS TO THE STAKEHOLDERS

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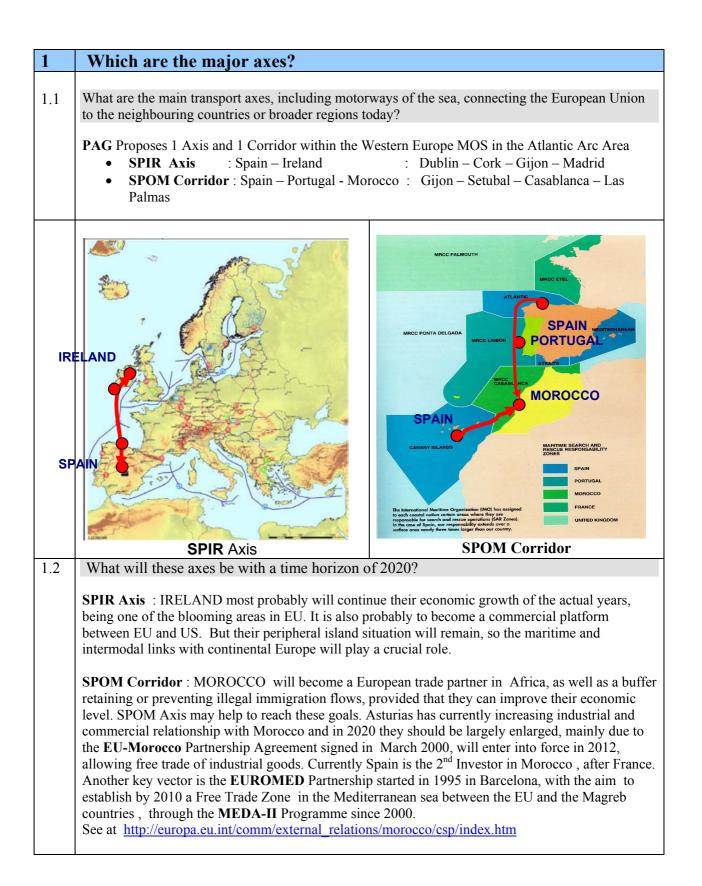


The Trans-European Transport Networks "TEN-T"

COMMENTS FROM THE PORT AUTHORITY OF GIJON

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	Besides, Morocco is participating in the Agadir Process in order to create a free trade area with Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia. Morocco also negotiated a Free Trade Agreement with the United States, which concluded in 2003. In summary a SPOM Corridor would support the development of the European Neighbouring Policy , which aims at establishing closer political and economic relations with the countries at the Southern and Eastern borders of the EU.
1.3	What is the balance between the different transport modes?
	SPIR Axis : IRELAND is an island, so the maritime transport is the only option to link it both with Europe and neighbour countries. The scenario is different if the Irish cargo and passengers towards Spain can go directly or through UK and/or France. In the case of a direct maritime link connecting Ireland and Spain, there is a traffic avoidance over UK and French road networks.
	SPOM Corridor : MOROCCO is a neighbour country in Africa separated by seas. It is not feasible than in 2020 there be a bridge connecting the South of Spain with the North of Morocco, allowing road and rail connections, so the main transport link will remain maritime. Nevertheless the Spanish South ports like as Algeciras, are overcrowded, with an increasing cargo and passengers traffic. So there will be necessary to diversify or avoid the passing through the Iberian peninsula, offering maritime transport services in a more Northern advanced geographical position, such as the one proposed from Asturias.
1.4	What are the current traffic volumes, both passenger and freight, on the proposed axes?
	 SPIR Axis : There is not a direct passengers service between Ireland and Spain, but a 2004 Survey from Port of Cork found that there are about 300,000 Irish people with business and-or summer homes in Spain, would be potential users of a direct service such as the one proposed. In relation to cargo, it can be deduced from the following figures. The external trade between Ireland and Spain in 2004. Imports from Spain to Ireland : € 650 millions. Exports from Ireland to Spain : € 2.430 millions.
	SPOM Corridor : The actual population of Spain and Morocco are 40 and 30 Millions aprox, but with the respective growth rates and migration flows , in 2020 the difference is expected to be less than 5 millions. There is foreseeable an increment on legal migrants from Magreb countries with EU passport. Moving back and forth to Morocco through Spain road network. Nowadays there are 4.5 millions persons passing the Gibraltar Strait every Summer and this figure surely will augment in 2020., depending on a future European Common Immigration Policy but most probably it might duplicate in 15 years, and the Spanish South ports infrastructures, can not be dimensioned to cope the demand of only 2 of the 12 months, hence an alternative transport service from the North of Spain may help to alleviate the concentration in the South of Spain, improving the road traffic . The total 2004 Export flow was roundly in US\$ 9.000 MM and the imports was US\$ 14.500 MM.
	(WTO Statistics). The export to EU are mainly minerals and agricultural products. The imports from EU are commercial and industrial products. There is a growing geographic movement from EU industries to Morocco and the Magreb, due to lower workforce costs so is quite probable the actual traffic be enlarged by 2020.

figures fro	e share is 70% with Algor UNCTAD statistics	service : <u>http://www.in</u>	ntracen.org/menus/co	untries-s.htm			
	What is the amount and share of international traffic to/from the Union or between the neighbouring regions?						
SPIR Axi							
	rnal trade figures accornal trade figures accornation trade figures accornation trade figures accornation to the statistics are a contract to the statistics are a co						
	estimates from the Intrastat Survey of Irish traders involved in trade with other EU memb states. Details of non-EU trade for December 2004 have already been published in a						
	Statistical Release. Th		-	-			
following	following figures :						
	• Imports from Spain to Ireland : € 650 millions Total EU : € 28.845 mm						
• Exports from Ireland to Spain : € 2.430 millions Total EU : € 52.446 mm							
Annu	al External Trade (€						
	Year Imports		Trade Surp	lus			
2000	· · ·	83,889	27,980				
2001	,	92,690	35,306				
2002	,	93,626	38,170				
2003	47,525	82,176	34,651				
	Main Geographic Areas – 2003 (€m)						
			Imports	Exports			
	Great Britain and No	orthern Ireland	14,680.0	14,870.2			
	Other EU Countries		11,822.6	35,470.4			
	USA		7,390.0	16,923.8			
	Rest of World		13,632.4	14,911.1			
	Total		47,525.0	82,175.5			
	Source: CSO						
SPOM Corridor :							
Trade between the EU and Morocco has flourished in the last decade. EU imports from Morocco almost doubled between 1003 and 2002 (growing from 63304 million to 66265 million). EU							
almost doubled between 1993 and 2002 (growing from €3394 million to €6265 million). EU exports to Morocco rose from €4237 million in 1993 to €7624 million in 2002). Total trade reache							
\in 14.000 million in 2002. The EU is Morocco's biggest trading partner and the balance of trade is							
still in the EU's favour. Morocco's main exports to the EU are foods (fishery products, fruit, early							
produce - particularly tomatoes and citrus fruit), flowers and finished consumer products (mainly							
textiles). Main imports are fabrics, various types of machinery and equipment, chemicals, plastics and wheat. Industrial products already enter the EU duty-free.							

	exports. In 2002, the EU imported agricultural products from Morocco for a value of over € 1318 million and exported €428 million worth . Under the Association Agreement, the two sides granted each other trade concessions for certain agricultural products. Article 18 of the EU-Morocco Association Agreement provides for ongoing discussions with a view to the further reciprocal liberalisation of agricultural trade.		
	(in millions €)	2001	2002
	Moroccan exports to the EU	5.783	
	Share of EU in total Moroccan exports		67%
	Moroccan imports from the EU	6.658	7.624
	Share of EU in total Moroccan imports		55%
	(Source: EUROSTAT)	5 1/0	
1.6	How will these traffic volumes deve	lop by	2020?
	Even if we use EC backed document issued in 2003, there are projections everywhere. The population will incr forecast is a flat and steady 1% per y member states most probably will fo Other source of change in the expect SPIR axis. There is a reasonable exp calls in the ports of SOUTHAMPTC inside the WE-MOS. Nevertheless th	s such based c rease a ear, so llow th ed traff ectative DN (U ne time	be the traffic volumes in Europe in the next 15 years. as "European Energy and Transport Trends to 2030" on sets of assumptions and the word "conditional" is mere 3% from 2000 to 2020, and the economic growth the traffic volumes in the Atlantic Area within the EU e same low profile pattern. The volumes may come from new Call Ports along the e of enlargement of the proposed route with potential K), and BREST or CHERBOURG (FR), all of them frame is too long and many things may change in future ht arise in the expected period to be taken into
	are not long term predictions nor pro- but on the political evolution of the c Magreb region, together with Algeria interest to establish a buffer area in the	jection country a and T he Med	ic volumes forecasting are different,. By one side, there s By other side, the economic evolution will depend , but due to the strategic position of Morocco in the unisia, both Spain and the EU will have a strong South coast with better economic conditions , to Europe, so the traffic volumes will increase

1.7	Are there particularly environmentally sensitive areas that must be taken into account when identifying major axes?
	SPIR Axis : Atlantic Arc is a specially sensitive fishing and environmental protected area for oil spill, due to major accidents occurred in the past years such as Erika , Prestige , Braer, Urquiola, due to high oil traffic imported to Europe Chemicals carriers are also another important traffics in the same area, for the industries established in several Atlantic ports industrial areas. The proposed maritime Axis Gijon – Cork has currently not any special environmental restriction.
	SPOM Corridor The proposed corridor has it most part over the Western Europe MOS inside the Atlantic Area, but extending beyond to African Coast and then to Canary Island is the Atlantic Ocean. The part in front of Spain and Portugal is holding a heavy traffic of oil and chemical carriers until Gibraltar Straits. In the VTS – TSS of Finisterre in Galicia, in 2004 was controlled around 120.000 vessels, while in the Tarifa VTS-TSS, there was counted up to 100,000 vessels. Some part of the Galicia coast has been declared of Environment Special Protection, and the Moroccan coast has a controlled fishing area.

2	Which investments and how?
2.1	Which are the most pressing congestion, traffic safety or geographical bottlenecks on the major axes that could justify investments?
	SPIR Axis : The geographical barrier in the case of SPIR Axis are 2; first the island condition of Ireland, and second the Pyrenees splitting Spain from mainland Europe. There is an increasing commercial traffic between Ireland and Spain currently supported by trucks travelling by road networks in UK and France, so a maritime link connecting Ireland and Spain would avoid this traffic and improve the overall safety and road congestion.
	SPOM Corridor The geographical barrier in the case of SPOM Corridor is the Gibraltar Strait. The closest connection point between Spain and Morocco is through Gibraltar, starting from Algeciras port, which is supporting an increasing flow of passengers and cargo, specially in the beginning and the end of Summer, where millions of vehicles and people converge on the Algeciras area and also other neighbour ports, collapsing the road traffic and augmenting the accidents risk. A maritime link in the North of Spain to channel the travellers going to Southbound of Morocco would improve the distribution of the transport and diminish the risk of accidents.
2.2	What kind of improvements (rehabilitation, new construction) to the infrastructure would be needed to remove the bottlenecks?
	 SPIR Axis : SPAIN New : Mobile Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Gijón Improvement : Port road link : Highways AP-8 and AS-1 in Gijón City New : Building in the ZALI– Asturias Logistic and Industrial Zone near Gijón Inland Ports : Castilla-León : Improvement : Ventastur. New : Toral and La Robla Improvement : ZAL-road link in Benavente Improvement : Railway node in Valladolid Improvement : PORTEL Port Digital Platform in Madrid
	 IRELAND 1- Improvement : North Exit to Belfast 2- New: Dublin Logistic Activities Zone 3- Improvement : Road junction improvement to Limerick 4- Improvement : Road junction improvement to Waterford 5- Improvement : North Ring Road to the Port of Cork
	 SPOM Corridor : SPAIN : New : Mobile Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Gijón Improvement : Portos de Galicia Improvement : Flota Suardíaz Improvement : Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Las Palmas Improvement : Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Tenerife

	PORTUGAL		
	Improvement : Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Setubal		
	MOROCCO		
	• Improvement : Ro-Ro Ramp in the Port of Casablanca		
2.3	What is the time horizon for the realisation of such a project?		
	SPIR Axis : 2010-2012 SPOM Corridor :		
	2008-2010		
2.4	What would the economic, environmental and safety benefits of such project be?		
	 SPIR Axis : Economic : it's hard to quantify, but the economic impact of a direct link between Ireland and Spain within the West Europe MOS would produce a profitable intermodal transport service connecting both markets Environmental : It is quite clear than the traffic avoidance in UK, and French road networks would improve the environmental performance and the fulfilment of Kyoto emissions limits Safety: Is the same argument that for Environmental focus: less trucks in the EU highways means less risk of accidents 		
	 SPOM Corridor : Economic : The commercial exchanges between EU and Magreb area will increase in the targeted period, so there will be an increase in the actual trade flows of 67% share of EU in total Moroccan export and 55% of share of EU in total Moroccan imports. Environmental : the trade and financial links with the EU will produce in Morocco a better understanding of the environmental issues, so there will be common protection policies in the Mediterranean and Atlantic areas Safety : the safety in maritime navigation in EU neighbour waters is of utmost importance, due to the range of oil or chemicals spills. The distance from Morocco to EU coasts is negligible in case of accidents. So we will be able to establish our own safety standards alongside the complete Corridor. 		
2.5	Are there alternative technical or modal options to remove or alleviate the bottleneck?		
	SPIR Axis : No		
	SPOM Corridor : No		

2.6	How can the project best be financed? What could be the role for private sector involvement and user charges?
	SPIR AxisThe following funding sources will be considered:1- STUDIES AND PROJECT : TEN-T , PEIT-2020 ** ,2 INFRASTRUCTURES : TEN-T , NEW FUNDS 2007-2013 : COOPERATION,CONVERGENCE3 SERVICES : MARCO POLO-II , NEW FUNDS 2007-2013 :COMPETITIVITY
	SPOM CorridorThe following funding sources will be considered:1- STUDIES AND PROJECT : TEN-T , PEIT-2020 ** ,2 INFRASTRUCTURES : TEN-T , NEW FUNDS 2007-2013 : COOPERATION,CONVERGENCE3 SERVICES : MARCO POLO-II , NEW FUNDS 2007-2013 :COMPETITIVITY
	 (PEIT-2020 : Spanish State Aid.) The development of policies on User Charging will be implemented to increase the ability of the engaged countries / regions to finance the identified transport axis and corridor. The role for the private sector would be as member of the Public-Private Partnership, in the areas where they are more efficient, where no public service is available, or where there is not other

3	How to ensure seamless and efficient use of the axes?				
3.1	What are the main technical and administrative bottlenecks on the axes?				
	 SPIR Axis : Technical bottlenecks : In the case of accompanied trucks, the difference between Irish/ UK and Continental EU driving wheel, which is placed at right and left side respectively. It may be solved with training to drivers of the companies, to enable driving both systems. Language : Different working languages English and Spanish in some case might become a problem, but again Training to improve language skills is the right approach. 				
	 Administrative bottlenecks : One of the aims of MOS is just to homogenise the Administrative procedures, so it should be not become a problem. The difference between juridical status in Ports : Spanish ports are Public Authorities mixing National and Regional Administrations, while Irish ones are Private entities. It may give different focus on financial and management approaches to solve common problems. 				
	 SPOM Corridor : Technical bottlenecks : There are not problems in the case of Spain and Portugal, but Morocco has les developed ICT services to give e-services supporting transport. Language : In the case of Spain and Portugal the differences are minor, but with Morocco, the French should be used as working language instead the Arabic or Bereber languages VTMIS Interconnectivity : The VTS Casablanca in Morocco should have an appropriate information and communication service with neighbour VTS services of Lisbon in Portugal, and Tarifa & Canary Islands in Spain, in order to assure the maritime safety in the whole SPOM Corridor. 				
	 Administrative bottlenecks The difference among juridical status in Ports : Spanish ports are Public Authorities mixing National and Regional Administrations, while Portuguese are Public Administrations with competences different than public authorities and Moroccan ports are National Public entities . Surely it will give different focus on financial and management approaches to solve common problems. 				
3.2	Are there problems of interoperability when crossing borders or changing modes?				
	 SPIR Axis : The above mentioned of different driving systems in Irish / UK trucks and EU continental ones. SPOM Corridor : Not major problems are foreseen. 				
3.3	Is safety or security a major concern along an axis?				
	SPIR Axis :				

	 Safety of Atlantic maritime navigation in winter may become a problem during weather hardest days, but are the same than in other maritime regions, so vessels are prepared to face it. Security seems not to show any special difficulty SPOM Corridor : Safety of Atlantic maritime navigation in winter may become a problem during weather hardest days, but are the same than in other maritime regions, so vessels are prepared to face it. Safety of Atlantic maritime navigation in winter may become a problem during weather hardest days, but are the same than in other maritime regions, so vessels are prepared to face it. Security will be a problem due to illegal migration pressure both from Morocco and generally speaking African people trying to reach EU states. The strict application of
	ISPS Code at every Call port will be a must.
3.4	What could be done to solve the bottlenecks today and with a time horizon of 2020?
	 SPIR Axis : Technical bottlenecks : Training : Today is to identify and recognize which are and where are the problems, locating individual and common ones. Then to start an education and training Programme aimed to minimize or to solve it.
	 Administrative bottlenecks : The Administrative scenario at WE-MOS should be approached from a larger platform than only one Spain-Ireland MOS project and surely the EU and the 5 MS will have something to do. In relation to the juridical status of Port entities, little can be done.
	 SPOM Corridor : Technical bottlenecks : ICT gap should be approached through technical assistance programmes framed in the EURO-MED initiative in order to identify the different improving areas Language may be focused to Education and Training schemas. VTMIS Interconnectivity might be focused through EMSA services
3.5	How can intermodal transport be facilitated?
	 SPIR Axis : IRELAND : improving the railway connection between Cork and Dublin, as well as the Inland Clearance depots or Logistics Activity Zones in the Hinterland of both cities SPAIN :Improving the road connection from the Port of Gijón with the 2 highways connecting the city with the port hinterland AP-8 and AS-1. Improving the railway connection between Gijon and Madrid, (the so called (Variante de Pajares) as well as the ZALI or Asturias Logistics Activity Zones in the outskirts of Gijon, as well as the Inland Clearance depot near Benavente.

	SPOM Corridor :
	• Improving the Port accesses alongside the whole maritime transport corridor in Gijon, Vigo, Setubal, Casablanca, Tenerife and Las Palmas
3.6	What common market rules should be implemented to facilitate and speed up transport along an axis?
	SPIR Axis : Normally, true market rules are identified and implemented through normal market development. Driven by offer & demand forces. It can be hardly imposed by the Administrations.
	SPOM Corridor : Same as above.
3.7	Which policies or administrative procedures should be better integrated?
	SPIR Axis : Policies : all EU safety and security maritime transport policy Procedures : it should be developed a common administrative space in the WE-MOS regarding customs, environment, safety and security requirements in order to speed up transport operations along the axis.
	SPOM Corridor : Same as above.
3.8	What could be the role of the private sector?
	 SPIR Axis : PPP – Public-Private Partnership are the basic consortia recommended to promote the MOS projects, hence private sector will participate, most probably in the Service sector than in the Infrastructure, which is close to Public Authorities. Besides, Private sector should participate provided that they can apply for MARCO POLO and STATE AID programmes.
	SPOM Corridor : PPP – Public-Private Partnership are the basic consortia recommended to promote the MOS projects, hence private sector will participate, most probably in the Service sector than in the Infrastructure, which is close to Public Authorities. In this case a special focus will be pit on Moroccan SME's companies, to help creation of local job as a concrete measure to prevent illegal migration to EU. Besides, Private sector should participate provided that they can apply for MARCO POLO and STATE AID programmes.