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ТРАНЗИТНЫЙ ПОТЕНЦИАЛ РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ
TRANSIT POTENTIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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Belarus is located in the centre of Europe. The shortest transportation systems run across the territory of the republic. Increasing the total transit volume is an important factor for stabilization and restructuring of the economy of the Republic of Belarus.

The transit potential is an ability of all transportation modes to provide efficient service of international flow of goods. Transit potential includes two key components: developed market; transport infrastructure.

The implementation of the transit potential depends on two factors: external and internal ones. The external factor includes geopolitical (political risks) and geo-economic factors (geographic location). The internal factor includes infrastructural (transport and logistics infrastructure development), technological (introduction of modern transportation management) and institutional factors (international law).

Ninety-eight percent of transportation volume consists of auto (132 mln. tons), rail (131 mln. tons) and pipeline transport (180 mln. tons). Air and inland transport accounts for less than two percent. In 2015, the biggest share of transit was performed by pipeline (91 mln. tons) and rail transport (45 mln. tons). The highest income comes from motorway service and rail transport. The income from transit operations amounted to 2 883, 3 003, 3 137, 3 036 mln dollars in the period between 2011 and 2014. The highest increase was in 2013. The rail transit volume decreased in the last 5 years. Nevertheless, Belarus assumes leadership position in rail volume transit as compared to Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and Russia.

The following measures are to be taken to improve transit potential:

- highway modernization;
- reconstruction of the 1-st category highway;
- construction of the 2nd ring road around Minsk;
- reconstruction and replacement of bridges and viaducts;
- development of motorway service;
- improvement of roads management system.