

CONVENTION

of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
“Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC”

based on

Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
of 17 December 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 on a European Grouping
of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC)

Amended version as of 31 March 2021

PREAMBLE

The INTERREG Project “CODE 24 – Corridor Development Rotterdam-Genoa” (10/2008 – 03/2015) aimed at a joint integrated approach towards the future development of this major European axis and intended the interconnection of economic development, spatial, transport and ecological planning.

The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation “Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC” shall continue the strategic initiative of the INTERREG Project CODE 24 for the securing of a long-term partnership and cooperation beyond the limited INTERREG project period.

In order to pursue these goals, to facilitate transnational cooperation between the partners along the axis and to manage the complex challenges of this corridor development, it was decided to establish the EGTC and to conclude the following Convention.

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

The name of the EGTC is “Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC”.

ARTICLE 2 – REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the EGTC is located in Mannheim, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, at the premises of Verband Region Rhein-Neckar (Körperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts), M1, 4-5, 68161 Mannheim.

ARTICLE 3 – AREA OF INTERVENTION

The area covered by the EGTC’s activities is the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor as shown in the map in the annex.

ARTICLE 4 – OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

4.1 The main objective of the EGTC is to facilitate and promote the territorial cooperation among its members and to jointly strengthen and coordinate the territorial and integrated development of the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor from the regional and local perspective.

4.2 Objectives and Tasks

The objectives and tasks of the EGTC are

- a) Combining and focusing the joint interests of its members towards national, European and infrastructure institutions
 - Organisation and implementation of joint lobbying activities for the development of the Rhine-Alpine Corridor from a bottom up perspective
 - Representation of the EGTC members in the EU Rhine-Alpine Corridor Forum
- b) Evolution of the joint development strategy for the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor
 - Coordination of regional development in the Rhine-Alpine Corridor, taking into account local and regional perspectives
 - Consideration of transport infrastructure projects and land use conflicts along the Rhine-Alpine Corridor
- c) Directing funds to corridor related activities and projects
 - Information to EGTC-members about funding opportunities for corridor related projects
 - Application for EU-funded new projects and joint management of EU-funds
- d) Providing a central platform for mutual information, exchange of experience and encounter
 - Organisation of meetings of members
 - Ensuring information transfer
 - Taking charge of the Corridor Information System, developed within the project CODE24
 - Maintaining the website www.code-24.eu developed within the project CODE24
- e) Improving the visibility and promotion of the corridor
 - Organisation of corridor events (congresses, workshops etc.)
 - Elaboration and distribution of publications (newsletters, leaflets, brochures)
 - Taking over and maintaining the Mobile Exhibition developed within the project CODE24.

ARTICLE 5 – ORGANS AND COMPETENCES

5.1 Organs

The organs of the EGTC are:

- the Assembly
- the Director and
- the Managing Committee.

5.2 Competences

5.2.1 The Assembly

The Assembly is the decision-making body of the EGTC.

The Assembly is responsible for the adoption of the general strategy and the annual work plan and as well for the adoption of the annual budget of the EGTC in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 and for the approval of the annual statement of accounts.

The Assembly elects a Chair as well as two Vice Chairs who carry out his / her tasks in case of prevention of the Chair. The Chair represents the EGTC in relations with third parties within the limits of his / her responsibilities.

The Assembly is entitled to establish an external Advisory Board.

5.2.2 The Director

The Director is appointed by the Assembly but is not a member of the Assembly. He / she can be directly employed by the EGTC or seconded by a member organisation.

The main responsibilities of the Director include:

- representing the EGTC in law
- presenting the strategic outlook for seven years
- presenting annually the work plan and the budget plan to the Assembly for approval
- presenting the annual state of account with a detailed report on the activities for approval by the Assembly
- presenting the annual state of account after its approval by the Assembly to the competent authority due to the seat of the registered office for approval
- engaging actively with European programmes, urban networks and the European Commission with a view to intensified collaboration
- taking and conveying the minutes of meetings to all Assembly members for validation and approval
- establishing and leading a Secretariat with a view to ensuring its optimal functioning
- administering personnel issues, preparing the recruitment procedures and working contracts for the personnel of the Secretariat.

5.2.3 The Managing Committee

The Managing Committee consists of

- the Chair
- the two Vice Chairs and
- the Director – without a right to vote – .

The Managing Committees' main task is the preparation of the strategic decisions to be submitted to the Assembly.

ARTICLE 6 – MEMBERS

The members of the EGTC are

- Provincie Zuid-Holland
- Havenbedrijf Rotterdam N.V.
- Havenbedrijf Antwerpen NV van publiek recht
- Provincie Vlaams-Brabant
- Provincie Gelderland
- Provincie Limburg

- Regio Venlo
- Duisburger Hafen AG
- Metropolregion Rheinland
- Regionalverband FrankfurtRheinMain
- Landeshauptstadt Mainz
- Verband Region Rhein-Neckar
- Stadt Mannheim
- Regionalverband Mittlerer Oberrhein
- Stadt Karlsruhe
- Port Autonome de Strasbourg
- Stadt Lahr
- Regionalverband Südlicher Oberrhein
- Kanton Basel-Stadt
- Regione Lombardia
- Uniontrasporti Scarl
- Regione Piemonte
- Regione Liguria
- Ports of Genoa
- Comune di Novara
- Provincie Noord-Brabant.

Further members according to Article 3, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1 of Regulation (EG) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 being situated in the Corridor area can join the EGTC upon application with approval of the Assembly.

ARTICLE 7 – ACCESSION OF MEMBERS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

Entities from third countries, in particular Switzerland, may become a member in accordance with the rules of Articles 3 a, 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013.

ARTICLE 8 – DURATION, DISSOLUTION

8.1 Duration of the EGTC

The EGTC is set up for unlimited duration. It ends with its dissolution.

8.2 Dissolution of the EGTC

According to Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, on an application by any competent authority with a legitimate interest, the competent court or the Regierungspräsidium Freiburg as competent authority of the Member State where the EGTC has its registered office, winds up the EGTC if it finds that the EGTC no longer complies with the requirements laid down in the Regulation or that the EGTC is acting outside the confines of the tasks laid down in the Regulation.

Notwithstanding the provisions on dissolution contained in Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, dissolution may also be the result of a

decision by the Assembly of the EGTC. The EGTC shall be dissolved by the Assembly if a unanimous decision to this effect is made by all its members.

ARTICLE 9 – APPLICABLE LAW

The members will comply with Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 as well as with the national provisions of Germany and the provisions of the German Federal Land Baden-Württemberg, where the registered office has its seat.

In exercising their activities, the EGTC's organs are subject to the national provisions of Germany and the provisions of the German Federal Land Baden-Württemberg due to the seat of the registered office.

German law is applicable for the interpretation and enforcement of the Convention.

ARTICLE 10 – AGREEMENTS FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION

In the interests of mutual recognition of the legal systems of the EGTC members from the other participating Member States, including for financial control issues, it is agreed that all documentation needed for financial control should be made available in the language of the controlling institution and in the form required.

ARTICLE 11 – ADOPTION OF THE STATUTES AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION AND TO THE STATUTES

The Statutes shall be adopted on the basis of and in accordance with this Convention by the EGTC members acting unanimously.

Amendments to the Convention and amendments to the Statutes which entail an amendment to the Convention require the approval of all Assembly members of the EGTC.

Any other amendments to the Statutes require the approval of a two thirds quorum of the present Assembly members.

Any subsequent amendments to the Convention and to the Statutes shall be notified to the Member States by the EGTC.

According to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, amendments to the Convention, except solely in the event of accession of a new member under point (a) of Article 4 paragraph 6 a, require the approval of each Member State.

ARTICLE 12 – PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT AND RECRUITMENT

The EGTC may employ personnel directly or make use of seconded personnel.

Personnel administration, recruitment procedures and working contracts are the responsibility of the Director. Due to the seat of the EGTC's registered office, for these procedures German law and the law of the Federal Land Baden-Württemberg are applicable.

The Managing Committee decides about the recruitment of personnel upon proposal submitted by the Director.

ARTICLE 13 – LIABILITY

The EGTC shall be liable for all its debts. To the extent that the assets of the EGTC are insufficient to meet its liabilities, its members shall be liable in equal parts for its debts irrespective of the nature of those debts.

ARTICLE 14 – FINAL PROVISIONS

According to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, the Convention, the Statutes and any subsequent amendments shall be published according to the applicable law where the EGTC has its registered office.

The EGTC shall acquire legal personality on the day of the publication of the Convention and the Statutes. The members shall inform their Member States and the Committee of the Regions of the publication of the Convention and the Statutes.

The EGTC will notify the present Convention and the Statutes to the Committee of the Regions for the purpose of publication according to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013.