29 May 2020 – CPRM Transport WG

Covid 19 and Transport
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I • Temporary Restriction on Non-Essential Travel to the EU (17.03.2020)

II • Practical advice on 'green lanes' (16.03.2020)

III • Temporary alleviation of airlines from their slot usage obligations (30.03.2020)

IV • Flexibility regarding the levying of port infrastructure charges (29.04.2020)

V • Aviation relief proposal (29.04.2020)

VI • Temporary State Aids Framework to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak
European Commission has issued practical advice on the implementation of ‘green lanes’ – border crossings open to all freight vehicles carrying goods where any checks or health screenings should not take more than 15 minutes.

Aim: To keep freight moving freely and efficiently across the EU.
Flexibility regarding the levying of port infrastructure charges (29.04.2020)

• The Commission has proposed to amend the regulation on port charges will give Member States and port authorities the flexibility to defer, reduce or lift port infrastructure charges for port users, if they so wish. This will provide shipping companies, including those operating ferries, with much-needed liquidity.
• The amendment will give ports the possibility to waive, suspend, reduce or defer the charges for port users due between 1 March 2020 and 31 October 2020
• Voted in the EP on 15 May and adopted by the Council few days later

Its implementation may generate unfair competition between ports within the EU
Air Transport

• The COVID-19 crisis is having an unprecedented impact on the air transport value chain and ecosystem
• The relaxation of state aid rules and suspension of the air slot regulation is positive
• Regional airlines and regional airports are hit the hardest and will face greater challenges to recover
• Particular attention is needed given their key role in ensuring connectivity, economic development and territorial cohesion
• In the revision of Regulation 1008/2008 (Q4) the European Commission should take into account the changed scenario and foster PSOs to ensure connectivity and resilience