

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Brussels, 2 June 2016**

## **EIM welcomes a new Vice-President and welcomes High Speed 2 as a new member**

Today, the General Assembly of EIM unanimously re-elected Lena Erixon, Director-General of Trafikverket, the Swedish Transport Administration as EIM Vice-President for a 1 year mandate.

EIM Vice-President Lena Erixon thanked all the members of EIM for their confidence and said, *"I am looking forward to supporting EIM towards fulfilling infrastructure managers' mandate, soon to be reinforced with the approval of the Fourth Railway Package. EIM is committed to working in an open and collaborative way with its members and their customers but also with other transport modes. Our goal is to deliver excellent levels of service, innovative transport solutions and help build the European transport network of the future."*

The General Assembly also approved the application for membership of High Speed 2 Ltd (HS2), a publicly –owned high-speed railway in the United Kingdom which will cover more than 500 km of new high speed line, linking London, Birmingham, the East Midlands, Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester. With HS2, EIM counts 15 members in 11 EU countries.

Prof Andrew McNaughton, Technical Director HS2 Ltd said: *"HS2 is delighted to be joining EIM, which has built up a strong reputation as the body where rail infrastructure managers develop and share best practice and help shape European Standards. It will help us meet our goal of creating HS2 both cost effectively and to stand the test of time."*

The General Assembly endorsed the work done and the progress made by EIM so far.

The President, Antti Vehviläinen, congratulated Lena Erixon and Prof Andrew McNaughton and expressed his keen interest in a continued and strengthened cooperation with Trafikverket and HS2.

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EIM, the association of European Rail Infrastructure Managers, was established in 2002 to promote the interests and views of the independent infrastructure managers in Europe, following liberalisation of the railway market. It also provides technical expertise to the appropriate European bodies such as the European Railway Agency. EIM's primary goal is promoting growth of rail traffic and the development of an open sustainable, efficient, customer orientated rail network in Europe.

To find out more about EIM, visit [www.eimrail.org](http://www.eimrail.org)