



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT

Chisinau, 13 May 2015

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Transport was held in Chisinau on 13 May 2015.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Gheorghe AMBROSI, Head of the Road Transport Department, Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova.
3. The following BSEC Member States participated in the Meeting:
 - Republic of Albania
 - Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Republic of Bulgaria
 - Republic of Moldova
 - Romania
 - Russian Federation
 - Republic of Turkey
 - Ukraine
4. The representatives of the Black and Azov Seas Ports Association (BASPA), the Black Sea International Shipowners Association (BINSAs) and Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region (BSEC-URTA), as Sectoral Dialogue Partners, participated in the Meeting.
5. The representative of the International Road Transport Union (IRU) participated in the Meeting as a Guest.
6. Mr. Iulian POSTICA, Deputy Minister of Transport and Road Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova, welcomed the participants.

The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.

7. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2. Discussion on the Draft Final Document of the Meeting of Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States (Chisinau, 14 May 2015).

8. The Working Group considered, amended and agreed on the text of the Draft “Chisinau Joint Declaration on Prospects of Cooperation in the field of Transport in the BSEC Region”. The Draft will be submitted for adoption during the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States in Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova, on 14 May 2015. The text of the final draft is attached to the present Report as **Annex III**.

9. The Working Group also considered, amended and agreed on the text of the Draft Report of the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States (Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova, 14 May 2015). The text of the draft Report is attached to the present Report as **Annex IV**.

AGENDA ITEM 3. Strengthening legal capacity of BSEC transport cooperation.

3.1 Consideration of a Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the International Union of Railways.

10. The Working Group discussed, amended and finalized the text of the “Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the International Union of Railways” and decided to submit it to the CSO for taking further action on it. The text as finalized is attached as **Annex V**.

3.2 Draft Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Multimodal Ferry Lines in the Black Sea Region, presented by the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation.

11. The Working Group discussed the Draft Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Multimodal Ferry Lines in the Black Sea Region, presented by the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation.

12. Furthermore, the WG took note of proposals to the MoU presented by the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Romania, the Republic of Turkey and Ukraine and decided to continue working on the Draft MoU at its next meeting. The text containing the proposals of the said countries is attached to the present Report as **Annex VI**.

13. The Member States were invited to further present comments, remarks or proposals to the above Draft MoU, if there are any, before 15 September 2015.

14. The BSEC PERMIS was requested to further compile all remarks and proposals to the Draft MoU and disseminate them prior to the next meeting of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 4. Project Development Fund (PDF) and Project Management Unit (PMU) Projects.

15. The BSEC PERMIS provided information on the shortage of funds available for the PDF which is the financial instrument of BSEC for supporting the pre-feasibility studies of projects.

16. The Working Group took note of the information presented by the BSEC PERMIS on the evolution and Guidelines of the PMU. The Member States were re-invited to submit project proposals in compliance with the said Guidelines.

AGENDA ITEM 5. Consideration of the proposal to organize a Joint Meeting of the BSEC Working Groups on Trade and Economic Development, on Customs Matters and on Transport.

17. The Working Group on Transport welcomed the proposal to hold a Joint Meeting of the Working Groups on Trade and Economic Development, on Customs Matters and on Transport. At the same time, to streamline organization of such endeavour, the Working Groups on Trade and Economic Development and on Customs Matters were kindly requested to submit a preliminary agenda of such meeting to the Working Group on Transport at its next meeting for consideration and taking a relevant decision in that regard.

18. The BSEC PERMIS was requested to prepare a legal opinion on the decision making process and a quorum needed for such meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6. Any other business

19. The BSEC PERMIS informed the participants that the timeline in the document titled “The Way Forward for an Action Plan on the Implementation of the Economic Agenda towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership” (Istanbul, 15 December 2012) envisages launching of a second Orientation Survey for the priorities of the next medium-term (2016-2018) in the second half of 2015.

20. In this context, the Working Group is expected to redefine or confirm the priority areas, preferably not more than three themes for the next medium-term (2016-2018), to identify the envisaged deliverables/projects and to submit timely (December 2015) its Medium-Term (2013-2015) Achievement Report.

AGENDA ITEM 7. Adoption of the Report of the Meeting

21. The Working Group adopted the present Report to be submitted to the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States and to the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials.