



**BS/TR/WG/R(2001)1**

**REPORT OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP  
ON TRANSPORT**

**Istanbul, BSEC PERMIS, 26-27 February 2001**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Transport was held at the BSEC premises in Istanbul on 26-27 February 2001.

2. The Meeting was attended by the delegates from the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Albania  
Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Republic of Bulgaria  
Georgia  
Hellenic Republic  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine

3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Poland as Observers, as well as of the Black Sea Region Association of Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers (BRASS) as NGO having sectoral dialogue partnership with the BSEC.

4. The representative of the BSEC Parliamentary Assembly (PABSEC) attended the Meeting in the capacity of BSEC Related Body.

5. The Meeting was also attended by the representative of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) as Guest.

The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

6. The Meeting was chaired by Ms. Tatiana S. BIRULEVA, Counsellor, Department of Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

7. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex II.

8. The draft agenda of the Meeting of Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States (Sochi, 30 March 2001) was also discussed and agreed upon with amendments. The draft agenda of the Ministerial Meeting is attached as Annex III.

### **DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT OF THE MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

9. The participants considered the text of the Draft Joint Statement of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States prepared by the BSEC PERMIS and agreed on its substance with relevant additions and corrections (attached as Annex IV).

10. While considering the Draft Joint Statement, the Delegation of Azerbaijan reiterated that the Declaration of the Second International Euro-Asian Conference on Transport (St. Petersburg, 12-13 September 2000) contains wrong wording with regard to TRACECA. Following the decision of the European Commission (Brussels, May 1993), TRACECA should be defined as Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia.

11. The Romanian Delegation stressed that the Minister of Public Works, Transports and Housing of Romania will adopt the documents in Sochi upon obtaining approval of the relevant authorities in accordance with the national legislation in force.

12. During the discussion on the Draft Joint Statement the Delegation of Armenia stated that discussion should not be opened on the documents which had already been agreed upon by the WG and the WG should follow the established Rules of Procedure.

### **CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION ON ELABORATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON FACILITATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OF GOODS IN THE BSEC REGION**

13. In view of the existing internal legal procedures, the WG suggested that additional time will be needed to study the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by the relevant national authorities.

It was proposed that the BSEC Member States will submit to the PERMIS their views on the substance of the said Memorandum until the next meeting of the WG on Transport.

## **ELABORATION ON UPGRADING THE BSEC STATUS IN THE BLACK SEA PETRA**

14. The participants took note of the position of the European Commission on upgrading the BSEC status in the Black Sea PETrA.

15. The WG on Transport recommended to the BSEC PERMIS to coordinate its work in such a way that there would be no overlapping between the activities of the BSEC and the Black Sea PETrA Steering Committee.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

16. The Russian Delegation circulated among the participating delegations of the BSEC Member States official invitations to the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States (Sochi, 30 March 2001).

## **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

17. The participants agreed that the date and venue of the next WG Meeting would be communicated to the Member States through the BSEC PERMIS.

## **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

18. The participating delegations expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Chairperson for her able and constructive chairing of the Meeting, as well as to the PERMIS for all the preparation and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

## **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

19. The present Report was adopted for submission to the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held in Moscow in April 2001.