



**BS/TR/WG/R(2002)1**

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

**(Istanbul, PERMIS Headquarters, 7-8 February 2002)**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Transport was held on the BSEC premises in Istanbul on 7-8 February, 2002.

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

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

3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of France, Republic of Italy, Republic of Poland, Slovak Republic and Tunisia as Observers, as well as of the Black Sea Region Association of Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers (BRASS), the Black Sea International Shipowners Association (BINSIA), the Black and Azov Sea Ports Association (BASPA) and the BSEC Union of Road Transport Associations (BSEC-URTA) as NGOs having a sectoral dialogue partnership with the BSEC.

4. The representatives of the BSEC Parliamentary Assembly (PABSEC), the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB) and the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) participated in the Meeting in the capacity of the BSEC Related Bodies.

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

5. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Oleh Skoropad, Acting Head of the Department of International Scientific and Technical Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

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

**AGENDA ITEM 2: FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSPORT ACTION PLAN FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE BSEC**

6. Under this Agenda item the participants considered the results of the work done by the Working Group on the implementation of the BSEC Transport Action Plan.
7. The participants took note of the information provided by some delegations on the latest transport developments in their countries.
8. Evaluating positively the results achieved so far in the implementation of the BSEC Transport Action Plan, the Working Group requested that the BSEC PERMIS in consultations with the Chairmanship-in-Office should work out an annual plan of activities in order to streamline the work of the Working Group and ensure continuity in its work. To this end, the Member States as well as the NGOs, which have sectoral dialogue partnership in the BSEC, were invited to forward their concrete proposals to the BSEC PERMIS.
9. The Working Group also requested that the BSEC PERMIS on the basis of the information received from the Member States should collect data on the issues relevant to the implementation of the Transport Action Plan (e.g. development of the BSEC Transport Ring Corridor, accession by the BSEC Member States to the major international conventions and agreements in transport field, and others) and report on regular basis on the results of this work.
10. With regard to the map of the Black Sea Ring Corridor, the delegation of Turkey informed that the latest version of the map will be available shortly for the attention of the Member States.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: BSEC INPUT INTO THE SECOND BLACK SEA TRANSPORT CONFERENCE (5-6 MARCH 2002, KYIV)**

11. The Delegation of Ukraine informed the Working Group about the preparatory process for the Second Black Sea Transport Conference: “Black Sea Transport System - A Bridge Between Europe and Asia” to be held on 5-6 March 2002 in Kyiv and kindly reiterated invitation to the Member States to participate in this event. The WG was informed about the format of the final document, namely Declaration of the Second Black Sea Transport Conference, and agreed that the draft of this document should be considered.
12. the preparatory meeting of experts scheduled for 4 March 2002 in Kyiv. The BSEC Member States were invited to send their proposals and suggestions concerning the text of the draft Declaration to the host country at their earliest convenience.
13. The Representative of the BSEC-URTA informed the WG that the BSEC-URTA would hold the first meeting of its General Assembly on 4 March 2002 in Kyiv in order to present the views of the Union on transport cooperation to the said conference.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON FACILITATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OF GOODS IN THE BSEC REGION**

14. The Delegations finalized the text of the MoU, as it is attached to this report as Annex III, on the basis of the remarks and suggestions resulting from the internal procedures in their respective States.

15. The BSEC PERMIS was requested to send the text of the draft MoU to the Member States asking them to inform it at their earliest convenience but not later than 28 February 2002, about their readiness to sign the MoU during the Second Black Sea Transport Conference to be held in Kyiv on 5-6 March 2002.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: COORDINATION WITH OTHER INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION (BLACK SEA PETrA, SECI, TRACECA, ETC.).**

16. The participants reiterated the necessity to coordinate the activities of the BSEC in transport field with the Black Sea PETrA and SECI. They drew attention to the need to facilitate a constructive dialogue with the TRACECA with a view to exchanging relevant information and coordinating their efforts in the field of common interest.

17. Welcoming the proposal of the Republic of Azerbaijan to hold consultations with the IGC TRACECA, the WG requested the BSEC PERMIS to initiate consultations with the IGC TRACECA Secretariat in order to consider modalities of possible cooperation.

18. The participants appreciated the valuable contribution of the UN/ECE to the activities of the BSEC Working Group on Transport.

19. Drawing the attention of the Working Group to the necessity of coordination between organisations, programs and initiatives active in the transport field in the region, the delegation of Ukraine called upon the Member States to present their ideas and proposals in this regard at the Second Black Sea Transport Conference.

20. The representative of the BASPA informed the WG about the contribution of the BASPA to the work of the Black Sea PETrA and TRACECA and proposed to consider in the future drafting of a multilateral agreement on intermodal transport in the region.

21. The Delegations took note with interest of the information provided by the BSTDB representative about the prospects of the Bank activities in transport field.

22. Referring to the recent Troika Meeting (Kyiv, 22 January 2002), the Delegation of Turkey stressed expediency of inviting the European Commission, the Central European Initiative and the Council of Baltic States to the meetings of the BSEC Working Group on Transport.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON SHIPBUILDING, SHIPREPAIRING AND SHIPPING (ISTANBUL, 6 FEBRUARY 2002).**

23. The Chairman of the WG informed the delegations about the conclusions of the meeting of experts on shipbuilding, shiprepairing and shipping in the BSEC region which took place in the premises of the BSEC PERMIS on 6 February, 2002. The minutes of the meeting are attached to this report as Annex IV.

24. The participants took note of the information provided by the Chairman of the WG and, sharing the concern of the experts on the current situation in the field in question in some of the BSEC Member States, agreed to prolong the mandate of the Ad Hoc meeting of experts on shipbuilding, shiprepairing and shipping.

25. The BSEC PERMIS was requested to prepare the terms of reference for the said Ad Hoc meeting and submit them to the next meeting of the WG on Transport.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: COOPERATION WITH THE BSEC NGOs (BRASS, BINSAs, BASPA, BSEC-URTA)**

26. The WG congratulated the Black and Azov Sea Ports Association (BASPA) and BSEC Union of Road Transport Association (BSEC-URTA) on the occasion of granting them sectoral dialogue partnership in the BSEC at the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States on 25 October, 2001 and expressed a wish that they should substantially contribute into the work of the BSEC.

27. The WG highly appreciated the activities of the BRASS, BINSAs, BASPA and the BSEC-URTA aimed at the strengthening of cooperation in the respective areas and promotion of the goals proclaimed by the BSEC.

28. The WG welcomed the intention of the Black Sea Region Association of Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers (BRASS) and Black Sea International Shipowners Association (BINSAs) to prolong their sectoral dialogue partnership in the BSEC for the next two-year period.

29. The WG took note with interest of the presentation of the activities to be undertaken by the BSEC-URTA for the development of the road transport cooperation in the region and, in particular, of the Project Description Sheet on the BSEC Visa for Professional Drivers (attached as Annex V). The WG suggested that this Project should be studied by the competent authorities of the Member States with a view to deciding upon further action.

30. The WG welcomed information of the representative of the BASPA about the international conference "The Black Sea Area Transport Network Information" to be held on 13-14 June 2002, in Odessa (Ukraine), as well as about starting publication of a new journal "Black Sea Transport".

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

31. No issue was raised by the WG under this agenda item.

**DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

32. The WG decided that the date and venue of its next Meeting of the WG would be communicated by the PERMIS to the Member States at a later stage.

**EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

33. The delegations expressed thanks to the Chairman for his efficient and constructive chairing of the Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

34. The present Report has been adopted for submission to the Sixth Meeting of the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

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