



Annex III to BS/TM/R(2015)1

**JOINT DECLARATION
ON PROSPECTS OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT IN THE BSEC
REGION**

***“TRANSPORT FACILITATION: PAVING THE WAY TO TRADE
AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE BSEC REGION”***

(CHISINAU, 14 MAY, 2015)

The Ministers of Transport of the Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) met in Chisinau on 14 May 2015, within the framework of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office of the Republic of Moldova,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the high potential and strategic role of the BSEC Region, which determine a major economic significance of the BSEC transport system,

WILLING to continue to promote the development of reliable, efficient, safe, integrated and sustainable transport systems in the BSEC region,

STRESSING a common approach for interconnections between the Trans - European transport network and the networks of the BSEC Member States and the need for an integrated and coordinated development of regional transport systems as well as its interconnections between the transport network of the BSEC Region and the Trans - European Transport Network,

COMMITTED TO strengthening cooperation in the sphere of transport with other international and regional organizations,

CONSIDERING the BSEC-EU interaction aimed at obtaining a feasible framework, for promoting a valuable regional interaction based on the synergy of bilateral relations, the potential of the cross-border cooperation and the benefits from the relevant regional dimensions and policies,

REITERATING the need to promote and develop a coordinated and uninterrupted intermodal transport and logistics system within BSEC and outside the region and with its neighboring regions,

ACKNOWLEDGING the existence of major deficiencies in the operation of international road transport in the Black Sea region which are not only due to a lack of adequate infrastructure, but also to institutional, regulatory and economic barriers;

HAVING IN VIEW the necessity to facilitate the transport of goods and passengers in the BSEC Region, by removing physical and administrative bottlenecks along the main transport axes and supporting the co-operation and communication between the relevant authorities of the BSEC Member States, especially taking into consideration the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on facilitation of road transport of goods in the BSEC Region,

AWARE of their commitments stemming from the acceptance of relevant international Agreements and Declarations;

TAKING NOTE of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Memoranda of Understanding on the Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region, on the Development of the Motorways of the Sea at the BSEC Region, on the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway, as well as the work of the relevant Steering Committees and the Ad-Hoc Working Groups,

HAVE AGREED TO:

1. **FURTHER EXERT** joint efforts for promotion of reliable, efficient, safe, integrated and sustainable transport systems, based on mutually acceptable transport policies of the BSEC Member States and relevant international conventions and treaties, to which BSEC Member States are parties;

2. **ENHANCE** the cooperation and interaction with other related international and regional organizations, institutions and initiatives with a view to increase the transport potential of the region;

3. **INTENSIFY** regular contacts and joint coordination meetings at executive and working level between the BSEC PERMIS and Related Bodies with their counterparts in the EU institutions,

4. **MAKE EFFORTS** for accelerating the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods at the BSEC Region resolving the main essential issues of conceptual nature and shaping a harmonized approach based on common interest in accordance with principles of feasibility, sustainable development, safety and security;

5. **TAKE CONCRETE STEPS** towards gradual liberalization of international road transport of goods on the basis of removing barriers hampering mutually beneficial participation of road transport operators in bilateral and transit transportation, which would help develop intermodal transport connections and transport services among BSEC Members States with a view to further improving the competitiveness of their national economies in the world trade system,

6. **PROMOTE** safety and efficiency in road transport through professional competence based on internationally recognized qualification standards.

7. **CONTINUE** the exchange of experience and best practices related to simplification of trade and transport procedures, harmonization of transport documents and implementation of intelligent transport systems.

8. **ENSURE** implementation of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate by the interested BSEC Member States in accordance with provisions of Annex 8 to the UNECE International Convention on the Harmonization of the Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982, as a necessary step for efficient transport operations in the BSEC transport network,

9. **NOTE** the outcomes of the Project on BSEC Permit for the facilitation of international road transport of goods in the BSEC Region and the willingness of the interested BSEC Member States to extend its action,

10. **ENDEAVOR** the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods at the BSEC Region by introducing them into practice under the existing or yet to be concluded bilateral road transport agreements or their relevant protocols between BSEC Member States,

11. **TAKE FURTHER STEPS** for the implementation of the BSEC Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway (signed in Belgrade on 19 April 2007) and Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of the Motorways of the Sea at the BSEC Region (signed in Belgrade on 19 April 2007),

12. **PROVIDE** necessary support to fulfill the objectives mentioned above.

13. **SUPPORT** the proposal to finalize and to sign by the interested BSEC Member States the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Multimodal Ferry Lines in the Black Sea Region according to the decision of the previous Meeting of the Ministers of Transport held in Thessaloniki on 25 November 2014.

The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova for their warm hospitality extended to the delegations and the excellent organization of the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States in Chisinau.