









Bucharest, 20-21 October 2015

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

DECLARATION OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE ON PROSPECTS OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT IN THE BSEC REGION

"New opportunities for better transport connectivities" (Bucharest, Romania, 21 October, 2015)

The Ministers of Transport of the Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) met in Bucharest on 21 October 2015, on the occasion of the BSEC Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT all the Declarations that have been adopted by the Ministers of Transport in the BSEC region,

CONSIDERING that transport cooperation contributes to sustainable economic growth in the region,

RECOGNIZING the high potential and strategic role of the BSEC Region, which imply a major economic significance of the BSEC transport system,

NOTING the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Memoranda on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC region, on the Development of the Motorways of the Sea and on the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway,

WELCOMING the implementation of the project for Issuing BSEC Transit Permits towards the facilitation of the implementation of the international transport of goods in the BSEC region, the implementation of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate, as well as the activities within the Task Force on studying possibilities regarding cooperation on intermodal transportation in the Black Sea region,

STRESSING that further progress regarding the close cooperation between BSEC and the EU, as well as with other international and regional organizations or institutions, will encourage the coordinated development of regional transport systems as well as the interconnections between the transport network of the BSEC Region and the Trans - European Transport Network,

WILLING TO CONTINUE the development of the intermodal transport within the Black Sea region, an area of fundamental importance for developing competitive alternatives to road transport,

BEING AWARE that the extension of the use of the BSEC permits and the adoption of similar conditions of access to the profession and market are in the benefit of the regional trade and of all BSEC Member States,

ACKNOWLEDGING the constant need to exchange information among the BSEC Member States in all aspects foreseeing the increase of quality and reliability of transport services rendered,

SUPPORTING the enhanced contribution brought by the BSEC Member States and the BSEC Sectoral Dialogue Partners or Partner Organizations to the awareness of the necessity to better attract market – oriented entities in projects dedicated to improve transport connections in the BSEC Region,

HAVE AGREED TO:

- 1. **CONTINUE** to strive for the proper implementation of the Memoranda on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC region, on the Development of the Motorways of the Sea and the Coordinated Development of on the Black Sea Ring Highway, as well as the BSEC projects already started.
- 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 meetings at executive and working levels between the BSEC PERMIS and Related Bodies with their counterparts in the EU institutions,
- 4. **ENCOURAGE** further joint efforts to promote 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;
- 5. **SUPPORT** the setting up of a viable network of intermodal terminals as logistic platforms, instrumental in developing intermodality, as mentioned in the Thessaloniki Joint Declaration adopted on 25 November 2014.
- 6. **ENCOURAGE** the activity of the Task Force on studying possibilities regarding cooperation on intermodal transportation in the Black Sea region.
- 7. **INCREASE** the potential of the organisation for mutual cooperation by eliminating the existing administrative barriers regarding transport flow in the Black Sea region, in order to create an integrated transport market,
- 8. **CALL** the BSEC Member States to join the Project on the BSEC Permit and to develop it, being aware of the utility of the Project, recognised as such by the Member States concerned.
- 9. **INTENSIFY** the exchange of information on good practices by the BSEC Member States regarding specific services rendered within different modes of transport, aiming to improve and harmonize quality standards;
- 10.**ENCOURAGE** the setting up of clusters meant to bring together best knowledge and expertise of both public and private transport specialists from the BSEC Member States, BSEC Sectoral Dialogue Partners and Partner Organizations in the process of developing viable and market-oriented solutions for BSEC regional transport.
- 11.**PROVIDE** political support necessary to fulfil the objectives mentioned above.

The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Ministry of Transport of Romania for its contribution to the promotion of transport in the BSEC region, for the warm hospitality extended to the delegations and the excellent organization of the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States in Bucharest.