



Annex III to BS/TM/R(2006)2

**JOINT DECLARATION
ON COOPERATION IN THE SPHERE OF TRANSPORT
IN THE BSEC REGION**

The participants of the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization held in Sochi, on 27 September 2006, within the framework of the Russian Federation Chairmanship in the BSEC,

Realizing that transport is one of the key elements of trade, economic, cultural, scientific and technical development of the BSEC Member States,

Reiterating the significance of the development of regional contacts of the BSEC Member States in the sphere of transport system and infrastructure,

Taking into consideration that the cooperation in the sphere of transport should be based on the amicable, constructive and mutually beneficial relations,

Emphasizing that the elimination of administrative barriers is an essential part of the development of relations between the BSEC Member States in transport sphere,

Giving a great importance to the providing of transport security and safety in all modes of transport,

Taking into account the necessity of the development of multimodal transport connections and logistic centers,

Acknowledging that the attraction of investments promotes the development of the BSEC Member States transport system and infrastructure,

Confirming the necessity to build a constructive active dialogue with other international organizations and regional institutions in order to coordinate the efforts in achieving common goals and avoid duplication of actions,

Conducting their activity in accordance with the Transport Action Plan for the Organization of the BSEC, approved at the Working Group on Transport (Istanbul, 8-9 November 2005),

Aiming at full and timely implementation of the Joint Declarations adopted by the participants of the Meetings of the Ministers of Transport of BSEC,

Have agreed

1. To endorse the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of the Motorways of the Sea in the BSEC region as finalized by the Working Group on Transport and recommend that it be signed, if possible, during the Russian Chairmanship;

2. To endorse the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway that will be finalized by the Committee of Senior Officials;

3. To commence the implementation of the MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region, which entered into force on 20 July 2006, taking into consideration norms of national legislation and commitments stemming from international agreements;

4. To promote the organization of regional training seminars and conferences aimed at exchange of experience and best practices among experts of the BSEC Member States and other states and international organizations in the sphere of transport;

5. To promote the development of transport corridors passing through the Black Sea region;

To encourage the Member States to actively participate within the BSEC framework in the follow up activities of the TEM and TER Master Plan and the joint UNECE-UNESCAP project in developing Euro-Asian transport links;

6. To speed up the work of BSEC Member States related to the re-establishment and development of the regular ferry passenger and passenger-cargo services between the Black Sea ports;

To pay particular attention to sea port transport points infrastructure development and harmonization of port formalities in the Black Sea region;

7. To speed up the work of BSEC Member States on providing transport safety;

To define goals and joint actions plan and to coordinate efforts with other international organizations and states in the sphere of transport security;

To pay special attention to the improvement of BSEC Member States activity coordination on the problem of safety and security provisions in the sphere of air transport;

8. To encourage the creation of new and the upgrading of existing logistics centers with the purpose of improving intermodal transport connections and services among BSEC Members states and in order to further help the national economies to enhance their competitiveness in global trade;

9. To promote public-private partnerships and encourage the participation of both national and foreign investors for the development of infrastructure projects in the BSEC region;

10. To welcome the signing of the MoU between the Organization of the BSEC and the International Road Transport Union aimed at cooperation for the development and facilitation of road transport in the BSEC region.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the Russian Federation for the hospitality and arrangements of the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the Organization of the BSEC.
