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PRESS RELEASE ON TRANSPORT EVENTS IN ODESSA

The 16th International Conference "International Road Transport - Problems, Solutions and Development" (8-9 September 2015) and the 9th International Container Summit (10-11 September 2015) which are among the activities included in the BSEC calendar of events, were held in Odessa.

The International Conference was co-chaired by Mr. Leonid KOSTYUCHENKO, President of AsMAP of Ukraine, and Mr. Umberto de PRETTO, Secretary General of the International Road Transport Union.

It brought together the representatives of governments, international organizations, academic and business circles from the BSEC Member States and beyond, combining both high-level and expert participation, to address the interrelated issues of transport policy needs and the relevant actions needed in that regard. Some of the main themes were related to cooperation with the UNECE, IRU, BSEC, BSEC-URTA and other international organizations.

Mr. Vladimir FLOREA, BSEC-URTA President and Mr. Adrian ALBU, Deputy Secretary General of BSEC-URTA, acquainted the participants with the state of affairs related to BSEC transport projects under the Memorandum of Understanding on the Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region.

The 9th International Container Summit was organized by the Ports of Ukraine Publishing House, with the support of BSEC Sectoral Dialogue Partners BASPA and BINSAs.

The Summit, which was opened by the address of H.E. Mr. Andriy PIVOVARSKY, Minister for Infrastructure of Ukraine, brought together governmental officials, representatives of the world's largest container shipping lines, global container terminal operators, top-managers and representatives of ports, stevedoring companies, manufacturers of container handling equipment, transport and freight forwarding companies.

The participants discussed the impact of global trends on the state of container transportation market in the Black Sea region and beyond, competition among the shipping companies and

container terminal operators, the potential of rail container transport as well as modern technologies of container handling, among others.

Mr. Yevgen KOZIY, Project Coordinator of the BSEC PERMIS, addressed the participants at the opening ceremonies of both events on behalf of H.E. Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.