

G2835

Istanbul, 20 April 2011

## 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Room B, Centre de Conférences Varembe (CCV)  
Geneva - Switzerland  
Wednesday, 03 November 2010, at 15:00 hrs

### MINUTES

#### FIRST SESSION

##### I. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

**Mr. Vladimir Florea**, BSEC-URTA President, welcomed the participants and guests of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Geneva and thanked Mr. Janusz Lacny, President of the International Road Transport Union (IRU), H.E. Ambassador Leonidas Chrysonthopolous, Secretary General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) for their participation in the meeting.

**Mr. Leonidas Chrysonthopolous**, Secretary General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC), extended his greetings to the participants of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly. He briefed about the recent developments within the BSEC Organization and underlined the importance of the Pilot Project on the issuing of the BSEC Transit Permit. He informed that at a meeting in Istanbul on 26 October 2010, the seven participating Member States of the Pilot Project made an assessment of the implementation of the project and expressed their common opinion that the project was a useful tool in facilitating the international transport of goods and that the term of its implementation should be extended. It was decided to submit the draft decision to the next meeting of the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held in Thessaloniki, on 26 November 2010. He also noted that the relevant draft decision had been disseminated among the BSEC Member States and he expressed his hopes that it would receive a careful and due consideration of the BSEC highest body. Finally, he wished everybody all success in the important work of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

**Mr. Janusz Lacny**, President of the International Road Transport Union (IRU) expressed his pleasure to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly and extended his greetings to the guests and participants of the meeting. He emphasized BSEC-URTA's achievements and its consistent work at national level to support common policy and objectives of the road transport industry. He extended his heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Vladimir Florea, President of the BSEC-URTA, for his devotion to his work, for his achievements and for his wise leadership.

**Mr. Konstantin Glukhenkiy**, Economic Affairs Officer of UNECE Transport Division warmly welcomed the participants of the meeting and thanked *H.E. Ambassador Leonidas Chrysonthopolous* for his kind invitation. He underlined that the UNECE and the BSEC-URTA share the same goals in facilitation of the road transport industry and its sustainable development. In conclusion, he wished everybody all success in the work of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

##### II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*The Chairman* welcomed the AsMAP UA's proposal to include a new agenda item related to the usage of x-ray equipment for inspecting vehicles at borders and ports.

*The Agenda of the Meeting (DOC/GA18/AG/10/Corrigendum2) was adopted, unanimously*

##### III. ADOPTION OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

*The Chairman* briefed on the Order of Business.

*The Order of Business of the Meeting (DOC/GA18/OB/10) was adopted, unanimously.*

#### IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*The Chairman* invited to consider the Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

*Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly (MIN/GA17/10) were adopted, unanimously.*

#### V. REPORT OF THE BSEC-URTA MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

*The Chairman* reported that the BSEC-URTA Management Council (MC) held its meeting prior to the General Assembly meeting. *The Chairman* briefed on the progress achieved regarding main BSEC-URTA objectives in 2011.

#### VI. BSEC-URTA REGIONAL OUTLOOK REPORT

**Mr. Adrian Albu**, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, presented the BSEC-URTA Regional Outlook Report for the first half of 2010 (REP/GA18/OUTLOOK/10).

**The Chairman** thanked Mr. Albu for his detailed presentation and opened the floor for comments and questions. After very substantial deliberations and detailed exchange of ideas on the problem of the waiting times at the BSEC borders, *the Chairman* requested all Member Associations once again to bring this very important issue of the waiting times to the attention of their competent authorities.

**The Chairman** thanked the participants for their active participation and contributions and passed to the next item of the Agenda.

#### VII. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BSEC-URTA PRIORITIES IN 2010

**The Chairman** gave the floor to *Mr. Adrian Albu*, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, to make a presentation on the progress achieved regarding the main BSEC-URTA priorities in 2010 (DOC/GA18/PRIORITY/10).

**Mr. Albu** briefly informed about:

- a) State of Affairs related with the signing and ratification of the BSEC Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Professional Lorry Drivers Nationals of BSEC Member States: Since the last meeting, there are no new signatories to this Agreement. Out of existing four signatories, Armenia and Moldova still need to ratify the Agreement. Despite letter campaigns in coordination with the Member Associations, no progress could be made. In this connection, the General Assembly stressed the importance for concerned countries to sign the Visa agreement as soon as possible. In this regard, the Member Associations were urged to re-assess the value of this agreement for the industry and insist with the request to their authorities for its signing, if not yet.
- b) The Pilot Project of the BSEC Permit: The seven Participating States held a special meeting in Istanbul on 26 October 2010 in order to review actual usage of the BSEC Permit in 2010 and decided to continue the BSEC Permit in 2011. During the meeting, some States recommended to include bilateral transport of goods under the coverage of the BSEC Permit. However, this idea was not adopted in the absence of support by Romania.
- c) Establishment of a Regional Licence System similar in nature to the ECMT Licence: As the BSEC Permit has entered into force, recently, and the pace of its development is rather slow, there is not a progress achieved for the BSEC License, yet. However, it is still targeted that the BSEC Permit will be transformed into the BSEC License if there is a general agreement among the participating BSEC Member States to this end in the future.
- d) International Vehicle Weight Certificate under the New Annex 8 to the International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods: No concrete progress was achieved, yet.

After substantial deliberations and detailed exchange of ideas on this agenda item, *the Chairman* gave the floor to *Mr. Leonid Kostyuchenko*, President of the Association of International Road Carriers of Ukraine (AsMAP UA). *Mr. Kostyuchenko* made a proposal for a new initiative in order to call for introduction of an international certificate for x-ray controls of trucks to ensure single x-ray check during a journey within the framework of a new multilateral agreement.

In this regard, *Mr. Martin Marmy*, IRU Secretary General, expressed full support for adoption of an IRU Resolution in this connection at the next meeting of the IRU General Assembly in Geneva on 5 November 2010. After fruitful deliberations on this agenda item, *the Chairman* instructed the International Secretariat upon positive remarks of the BSEC Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, to make a written proposal on this issue to the BSEC PERMIS, which could be considered by the competent organs of the BSEC Organization, accordingly.

*The Chairman* thanked the participants for their active participation and contributions.

## COFFEE BREAK

### VIII. BSEC-URTA ACTIVITY REPORT

**Mr. Haydar Özkan**, BSEC-URTA Secretary General, presented a brief report about activities of the International Secretariat since the last meeting of the General Assembly in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 22 June 2010 (DOC/GA18/ACTIV/10).

**The Chairman** thanked the BSEC-URTA Secretary General for his report and successful work of the International Secretariat.

### IX. ECO-IRU SILK ROAD TRUCK CARAVAN 2010

**The Chairman** gave the floor to **Mr. Adrian Albu**, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, to inform the General Assembly about the ECO-IRU Silk Road Truck Caravan project jointly co-organised by the IRU and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). **Mr. Albu** briefly informed the General Assembly about the main results of the ECO-IRU Silk Road Truck Caravan and underlined that the Caravan findings and results of this scientific analysis will be presented to the competent ECO organs in order to assist in setting the right priorities to develop and further facilitate road transport in the ECO region.

*The General Assembly congratulated Mr. Albu for his devotion, fabulous achievement and successful realisation of this very important project by applauds.*

### X. TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BSEC-URTA IN 2011

**Mr. Haydar Özkan**, BSEC-URTA Secretary General, briefly informed the General Assembly about the special activities, which are planned to be realised in 2011 by the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat in cooperation with the Member Associations.

In this connection, *the Chairman* decided to recommend to the IRU Presidential Executive, to consider granting an IRU award to Messrs. Cetin Nuhoglu (Turkey), Adrian Albu (BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General) as well as Haydar Ozkan (BSEC-URTA Secretary General) for their historic role and fundamental contributions to the creation of the BSEC-URTA, which will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2011.

### XI. BSEC-URTA WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2011

**Mr. Haydar Özkan** presented the vision and the strategic objectives of the BSEC-URTA for 2011 and proposed a Working Programme for the next year.

*The BSEC-URTA Working Programme for 2011 (DOC/GA18/WP/10) was adopted, unanimously.*

### XII. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVER STATUS

**Mr. Haydar Özkan** informed that the Rosgosstrakh Insurance Company from Russia made its official application to become a BSEC-URTA Observer starting from 1 January 2011. *The General Assembly* granted Observer status to Rosgosstrakh for four years (2011-2014) with an annual contribution fee of € 10.000.

### XIII. FINANCIAL MATTERS

**Mr. Haydar Özkan**, BSEC-URTA Secretary General presented the draft BSEC-URTA Budget for 2011 to consideration and approval of the General Assembly.

*The BSEC-URTA Budget for 2011 (DOC/GA18/BUDG/10) was adopted, unanimously.*

### XIV. ELECTION OF BSEC-URTA PRESIDENT FOR 2011-2012 AND VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR 2011

**Mr. Haydar Ozkan**, BSEC-URTA General Assembly, informed about the nomination of Mr. Vladimir Florea from AITA for the position of the BSEC-URTA President for 2011-2012 and Messrs Herbert Hambarzumyan (AIRCA) and Halim Mete (TOBB) as Vice-Presidents for 2011. Taking note of the number of nominations, he proposed to elect new President and two Vice-Presidents by applauds.

*The General Assembly elected Mr. Florea as the BSEC-URTA President for 2011-2012, and Mr. Hambarzumyan and Mr. Mete as two BSEC-URTA Vice Presidents for 2011 by applauds, unanimously.*

**Mr. Florea** thanked the General Assembly for its trust in him and promised to do his utmost during his term of office for continuity of successful activities and realisation of various BSEC-URTA projects.

**Mr. Mete** expressed his gratitude to all participants of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly and congratulated **Mr. Vladimir Florea** on his re-election as BSEC-URTA President.

## XV. NEXT MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**The Chairman** acknowledged with gratitude the invitation of the ARTRI to host 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the General Assembly on 16 May 2011 in Bucharest.

*The invitation extended kindly by the ARTRI was adopted, unanimously.*

## XVI. BSEC-URTA CALENDAR FOR 2011 – FIRST HALF

*The BSEC-URTA Calendar (DOC/GA18/CAL/10) was adopted, unanimously.*

## XVII. MISCELLANEOUS

**Mr. Haydar Özkan**, BSEC-URTA General Assembly, noted with great pleasure that the IRU Presidential Executive accepted the BSEC-URTA proposal and decided to present at the meeting of the IRU General Assembly in Geneva on 5 November 2010 an IRU Award of Merit to the BSEC Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos for his strong leadership, dedication and continuous support to the road transport industry in the BSEC region, which ensured creation of the historic BSEC Permit.

## XVIII. DECISIONS OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**The Chairman** informed that the Secretariat will prepare summary of decisions of the meeting, which will be submitted to signature of the participants after the meeting

## XIX. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

**The Chairman**, in his closing remarks, thanked all the participants and Guests of Honour for their participation and active contributions to the work of the General Assembly and thanked the IRU for kindly providing the meeting room and necessary facilities for the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

On behalf of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly, *the Chairman* congratulated Ms. Elena Medvedeva from AsMAP UA on her birthday and expressed his best wishes.

*The 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly was closed, officially.*

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