

G3693 Istanbul, 3 April 2013

22nd MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Conference Hall, Vatra-Elita Hotel Chisinau- Moldova Wednesday, 3 October 2012, at 09:00 hrs

MINUTES

FIRST SESSION

I. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Vladimir Florea, President of the host Association AITA welcomed the participants and guests of the 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Chisinau and thanked the BSEC First Deputy Secretary General, H.E. Ambassador Ahmet Erozan, the Director of UNDP International Center for Private Sector in Development in Istanbul, Mrs. Simona Marinescu, the IRU Undersecretary General, Mr. Igor Rounov and IRU Consultant, Ambassador H.E. Leonidas Chrysanthopoulosfor their participation in the meeting.

Mr. Valeriu Ciubuc, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Transport and Road infrastructure welcomed distinguished guests for honouring with their participation and expressed his pleasure that AITA is hosting the 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

Mr. Tudor Dabija, Vice-Director of Department of the National Customs Administration extended his greetings to the participants of the meeting and expressed his pleasure to attend the meeting, as well.

COFFEE BREAK

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Vladimir Florea, as Chairman, invited participants to consider the adoption of the Agenda of the 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly (G3469/Corr.2).

The Agenda of the Meeting (G3469/Corr.2) was adopted, unanimously

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairman invited to consider the Minutes of the 21ST General Assembly.

Minutes of the 21ST Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly (G3470) were adopted, unanimously.

IV. ROAD TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN MOLDOVA

Mr. Andrei Popov, Deputy Minister of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova warmly welcomed all participants of the 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly. He made comprehensive presentation about the recent developments in the Road Transport System in Moldova and its relations with neighbouring countries on the road network.

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 evaluation of the progress made on the BSEC-URTA Priorities for 2012 and noted the partnership with the UNDP, IRU and BSEC for implementation of

a new BSEC Pilot Project on early introduction of the UNECE International Vehicle Weight Certificate in the BSEC Region and informed about signing MoU between UNDP and BSEC-URTA during the Meeting.

VI. BSEC-URTA REGIONAL OUTLOOK REPORT

The Chairman gave the floor to **Mr. Adrian Albu**, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General to present the BSEC-URTA Regional Outlook Report for the first half of 2012 (G3472).

According to the report, presented by *Mr. Adrian Albu*, the total road transport operations increased from 1,955,310 to 1,989,519 (1.8%) and the volume of trade within the BSEC increased by 13,2 % and the total BSEC foreign trade rose by 10,4 %. Average waiting times at at external BSEC borders in 2011-I was 444,3 minutes, which decreased almost more than half percent in 2012-I to 207,5 minutes. Although a big decrease is observed comparing to these years, especially between Romania and Ukraine, we can see a big increase between Russia-Ukraine. *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 **Mr. Albu** for his detailed presentation and opened the floor for comments and questions.

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

VII. ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE BSEC-URTA PRIORITIES IN 2012 (G3472)

The Chairman gave the floor to **Mr. Haydar Ozkan**, BSEC-URTA Secretary General, to make a presentation on the progress achieved regarding the main BSEC-URTA priorities in 2012 (G3472).

The Report highlighted that:

- The International Secretariat printed special brochure about the BSEC Permit in English and Russian languages
- All of the seven participating BSEC Member States sent their support letters to the BSEC PERMIS for transformation of the BSEC Permit Pilot Project into a permanent activity of the BSEC Organization. Also AsMAP UA noted the positive consideration of Ukraine to join the BSEC Permit project in the future, but according to AEBTRI, Bulgaria needs more time to join the BSEC Permit and joining Greece to the project depends on the OFAE's support.
- Turkey agreed to allow the BSEC Permit for empty entry of trucks,
- UNDP and BSEC-URTA agreed to sign a MoU on cooperation for implementation of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate in the BSEC region.

During discussions, the meeting decided that the International Secretariat should take future actions:

- Continue bilateral contacts with the National Associations and their competent authorities in Bulgaria, Greece and Ukraine to encourage their participation in the BSEC Permit Project.
- Continue contacts with all BSEC-URTA Member Associations, in particular in Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine, to obtain the support of their authorities to participate in the new BSEC Pilot Project on implementation of the IVWC across their territories.
- Take part and propose a Pilot Project on implementation of the IVWC to the next meeting of the BSEC Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport and the BSEC Transport Ministerial Meeting in Izmir on 26 and 28 November 2012.
- Elaborate a joint BSEC-URTA/IRU Academy Plan of Action for 2013-2014 about achieving regional compliance with the ITF Quality Charter, which is even expected to influence the distribution criteria of the ECMT licences in the near future.

The General Assembly noted the Activity Report on the BSEC-URTA Priorities in 2012 (G3472) with appreciation.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Ozkan for the presentation of the report and passed to the next agenda item.

VIII. COOPERATION WITH THE UNDP-IRU-BSEC FOR A NEW BSEC PILOT PROJECT ON THE UNECE INTERNATIONAL VEHICLE WEIGHT CERTIFICATE

The Chairman gave the floor to **M-me Simona Marinescu**, the Director of UNDP International Center for Private Sector in Development in Istanbul, who made a comprehensive presentation on the Introduction of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate in the BSEC Region. Following the presentation, a Memorandum of Understanding between UNDP and BSEC-URTA was signed by BSEC-URTA President, **Mr. Vladimir Florea** and the Director of UNDP International Center for Private Sector in Development in Istanbul, **M-me Simona Marinescu**.

The Meeting welcomed the partnership with the UNDP, IRU and BSEC for implementation of a new BSEC Pilot Project on early introduction of the UNECE International Vehicle Weight Certificate in the BSEC region, and supported the launch of this Pilot Project on the occasion of the Meeting of Ministers of Transport of BSEC Member States in Izmir, Turkey on 28 November 2012.

The Chairman gave the floor to **Mr. Umberto de Pretto**, IRU Deputy Secretary General, who made a comprehensive presentation of the *Scientific Study on External Ionising Radiation Exposure during Cargo/Vehicle Radiographic Inspections*', pointing on study methodology, study results and study recommendations. The study was presented to the IRU General Assembly in Geneva on 27 April 2012 and was supported by an IRU Resolution in this regard.

IX. BSEC-URTA WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2013

Mr. Haydar Ozkan presented the vision, the strategic objectives of the BSEC-URTA and its priorities for 2013 (G3474).

The Meeting reviewed the strategic objectives of the BSEC-URTA and decided that "Transport Infrastructure Development", should be also included, BSEC-URTA targeting "to work together with the BSEC, its Related Bodies, the IRU and Governments to apply the Model Highway Initiative (MHI) principles to the Black Sea Ring Highway.

TOBB expressed readiness to support the implementation of abovementioned new Strategic Objective at the highest governmental level in Turkey.

The BSEC-URTA Working Programme for 2013 (G3474) was adopted with the abovementioned changes.

X. IRU ACADEMY VIEW ON ITF QUALITY CHARTER

The Chairman gave the floor to **Mr. Sergey Taran**, Director of CIPTI (AITA Training Center) who made on behalf of the IRU Academy, a presentation on ITF Quality Charter to be adopted by the next Meeting of ITF Ministers of Transport on 24 May 2013 in Leipzig.

XI. THE SMART MOVE AND THE OMNIBUS AGREEMENT

Mr. Oleg Kamberski, IRU Head Passenger and Taxis made a presentation on the "Smart Move" Programme and the OmniBus Agreement. His proposal to consider the possibility of regularly addressing in the future passenger transport issues within its work programme was supported by the Meeting. Furthermore Mr. Kamberski underlined the usefulness of proposing the creation of a BSEC public-private

Smart Move High Level Groups to work out a vision and concrete recommendations on how to facilitate passenger transport by bus and coach in the region in short-medium and long term.

XII. APPLICATION FOR OBSERVER STATUS

The Chairman informed that the Association of Macedonian Enterprises for Road International Transport (AMERIT) applied for the status of BSEC-URTA Observer and the Management Council has postponed the evaluation of this application to its next Meeting. The meeting also noted the statement of the representative of OFAE that the name of the country of AMERIT must be read according to the international practice and the UN rules as "Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)".

XIII. FINANCIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Haydar Özkan, BSEC-URTA Secretary General presented the draft BSEC-URTA Budget for 2013 to consideration and approval of the General Assembly.

The BSEC-URTA Budget for 2013 (G3475) was adopted, unanimously.

Amended the BSEC-URTA Statutes by adopting a new Article 14 as follows:-

new Article 14 – Audit

At its spring session, the BSEC-URTA General Assembly shall elect three Auditors out of its members with the term of office of two years. The Auditors shall conduct internal audit of implementation of the BSEC-URTA budgets in the current and next financial year after election.

Auditors will be elected with at least 2/3 majority of the BSEC-URTA Member Associations.

The Auditors shall visit the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat in February to make a site audit of the BSEC-URTA accounts, accounting records and expense documentation relating with the previous financial year.

The Report of Auditors will be submitted to the forthcoming Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

Should the General Assembly decide, an external audit can be conducted in conformity with the international standards.

Amended the BSEC-URTA Financial Regulations Section IX Audit, Article 1, as follows:-

Section IX Audit

Article 1

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Auditors will be elected with at least 2/3 majority of the BSEC-URTA Member Associations.

XIV. ELECTION OF THE BSEC-URTA PRESIDENT FOR 2013-2014 AND VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR 2013

Mr. Haydar Ozkan informed about the nomination of Mr. Herbert Hambardzumyan (AIRCA) and Mr. Cahit Soysal (UND) as the BSEC-URTA Vice-Presidents for 2013, unanimously.

Mr. Ioannis Petridis (OFAE) and Mr. Vladimir Florea (AITA) were nominated for the position of the President of the BSEC-URTA and secret ballot took place among the Member states participants.

The Meeting elected Mr. Vladimir Florea (AITA) as its President for 2013-2014 by majority of votes.

Upon nomination by the BSEC-URTA President elected Mr. Radu Dinescu (UNTRR) as the BSEC-URTA Deputy President for 2013-2014 according to the BSEC-URTA Statutes Article 9, Paragraph 2.

XV. NEXT MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairman gave the floor to *Mr. Haydar Ozkan*, who informed the General Assembly on the kind invitation of AsMAP UA for holding the 23rd Meeting of BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Kiev in May 2013. The General Assembly welcomed with pleasure and accepted the generous invitation of AsMAP UA.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

Under this Agenda the Meeting considered the letter of OFAE dated on 26 September 2012, about a reported BSEC-URTA Delegation, which met various authorities in the Hellenic Republic without prior notification to OFAE. Understood that the subject delegation was indeed an IRU Delegation, which was attended by Mr. Adrian Albu in his independent and personal capacity as an IRU Senior Expert. Furthermore, the meeting evaluated that the letter of OFAE therefore was based on misinformation. However, taking the opportunity Mr. Vladimir Florea emphasized that it is a very important rule that the BSEC-URTA delegations shall only visit national authorities in prior coordination with the concerned BSEC-URTA Member Association(s).

XVII. DECISIONS OF THE 22nd 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.

XVIII. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman, in his closing remarks, thanked all the participants and Guests of Honor for their participation and active contributions to the work of the General Assembly.

Mr. Haydar Ozkan, Secretary General of the BSEC-URTA thanked AITA for kindly providing the meeting room and necessary facilities and for successful organization of the 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly as well as for the very warm hospitality extended to all participants. *Mr. Haydar Ozkan* also congratulated AITA and through AITA the Moldovan road transport operators on the occasion of the AITA's 20th Anniversary.

The 22nd Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly was closed, officially.

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