

G3695

Istanbul, 23 April 2013

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## 23<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Jumeirah Bilgah Beach Hotel  
Baku - Azerbaijan  
Thursday, 30 May 2013, at 09:00 hrs

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### ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE BSEC-URTA PRIORITIES IN 2013

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Since the 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly held in Chisinau, Moldova on 4 October 2012, the International Secretariat participated in events of importance for the industry, contributed to international gatherings and worked for promotion of the BSEC-URTA and its objectives.

A summary of these activities according to the BSEC-URTA strategic objectives, Working Program for 2013 and short-term priorities set by the BSEC-URTA Management Council is given in the attached table.

The BSEC-URTA priorities for 2013 are as follows:-

1. Further enlargement of the geographical coverage of the BSEC Permit and extension of its usage on a voluntary basis to the 3<sup>rd</sup> country transport.
2. Introduction in the region of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate under Annex 8 to the UN International Convention on Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982.
3. Promotion of Implementation of the TIR-EPD Green Lanes and Single Window on the main road transport corridors in the BSEC region.
4. Support the implementation of transport, auxiliary and logistic infrastructure development according to the IRU Model Highway Initiative (MHI) along the Black Sea Ring Highway.

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**BSEC-URTA ACTIVITY REPORT ON SHORT TERM PRIORITIES 2012 BETWEEN MAY 2012 AND OCTOBER 2012**

| STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE  | PRIORITY   | ACTIONS  | RESULTS   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Facilitation</b></p>   | <p>1. Further enlargement of the geographical coverage of the BSEC Permit and extension of its usage on a voluntary basis to the 3<sup>rd</sup> country transport.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintained contacts with AsMAP-UA and Ukrainian authorities for a favourable decision of the Government to join the BSEC Permit Project.</li> <br/> <li>- Maintained contacts with the Russian Federation authorities for a favourable decision to join the BSEC Permit Project.</li> <br/> <li>- Established contacts with the BSEC Permis and concerned countries in order to obtain their consent to extend the usage of the BSEC Permit on a voluntary basis to the 3<sup>rd</sup> country transport operations.</li> <br/> <li>- Maintained contacts with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey to ensure smooth transit of Armenian trucks holding the BSEC Permit, through the Turkish territory.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Informal meetings with representatives of Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Ukraine took place during the meeting of BSEC Working Group on Transport in Izmir on 27 November 2012 and during the Meeting of the BSEC Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport in Istanbul on 12 March 2013. There is a positive approach of the Ministry in this regard.</li> <br/> <li>- It was agreed that the leadership of AsMAP-UA will meet the top management of the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure before the 23<sup>rd</sup> BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Baku, expressing the association support to the BSEC Permit and proposing the Ministry to join the system.</li> <br/> <li>- On 24 April 2013, the Consulate General of the Russian Federation confirmed the position of its respectful authorities not to participate in the BSEC Permit in the immediate future.</li> <br/> <li>- During the Meeting of the BSEC Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport in Istanbul on 12 March 2013, Romania reiterated its readiness to expand the usage of the BSEC Permit to 3<sup>rd</sup> country transport operations. The other participants to the Project expressed the opinion that, for the time being only the transit and bilateral operations should be kept within the scope of the permit.</li> <br/> <li>- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Turkey informed the International Secretariat that Armenian hauliers holding a BSEC Permit are allowed to transit through the Turkish territory in 2013. In this regard a multiple entry visa could be granted to Armenian drivers at the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Tbilisi-Georgia</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Future actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue bilateral contacts with the AsMAP-UA and the competent authorities in Ukraine to obtain Ukraine participation in the BSEC Permit Project in 2014;</li> <li>- Continue bilateral contacts with the National Associations and their competent authorities in Bulgaria and Greece to encourage their participation in the BSEC Permit Project;</li> </ul> |  |  |   |

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|  | <p>2) Introduction in the region of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate under Annex 8 to the UN International Convention on Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintained contacts and undertook bilateral meetings with the UNDP Centre in Istanbul as well as the IRU and the BSEC Secretariats in order to develop the IVWC Pilot Project</li> <br/> <li>- Initiated a communications campaign with National Associations and lobbied national authorities to join the IVWC Pilot Project.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNDP and IRU drafted and agreed upon a bilateral MoU including their cooperation on the implementation of the IVWC Pilot Project to be signed as soon as an appropriate date will be fixed, commonly.</li> <br/> <li>- UNDP, IRU and BSEC-URTA agreed upon a draft joint road map to develop and implement the new BSEC Pilot Project in partnership with the BSEC PERMIS and interested Member States during 2013, which was presented the meeting of the Task Force on 11 March 2013.</li> <br/> <li>- Following the meeting of the Task Force, the International Secretariat drafted in cooperation with the BSEC PERMIS a questionnaire on issues to be address under the preparatory stage of the Pilot Project, which was distributed to the BSEC countries.</li> <br/> <li>- Due to the continuous advocacy for creation of a Pilot Project for implementation of the IVWC in the BSEC region, the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of BSEC Member States in Istanbul on 16 December 2012 decided creation of a Task Force to set up a Roadmap for such Pilot Project.</li> <br/> <li>- The first meeting of the Task Force was held in Istanbul on 11 March 2013. Five BSEC Member States namely Armenia, Moldova, Romania, Russia and Serbia expressed their willingness to start the Pilot Project. Task Force agreed upon the road map for the BSEC Pilot Project presented by the implementing partners UNDP, IRU and BSEC-URTA. During April 2013, Albania and Georgia informed BSEC PERMIS on their readiness to participate to the IVWC Pilot Project.</li> <br/> <li>- During the meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Customs (WG-C) In Istanbul on 3-4 April 2013, the International Secretariat presented the Pilot Project and requested the meeting to support its implementation at national level.</li> <br/> <li>- On 22 April 2013 the International Secretariat met the General Consul of Ukraine in Istanbul, informed on the IVWC Pilot Project, handed over support documents for it and emphasized that actually Ukraine is a missing link in a chain of countries which are willing to implement the IVWC from a North-South corridor from Russia to Albanian Adriatic Sea shore and its connection to Italy. It was kindly requested information of Ukrainian authorities on the BSEC-URTA and IRU support to the IVWC Pilot Project and the hope that Ukraine will consider in positive manner participation to the project.</li> </ul> |
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|   |   |   | - On 24 April 2013 the representative of the General Consulate of Russian Federation in Istanbul visited the International Secretariat and informed on the readiness of the Ministry of Transport to participate the IVWC Pilot Project. In this regard an official letter will be sent soon to the BSEC PERMIS.   |
| <b>Future actions:</b>  |   |   |  |
| a) Preparatory stage (8 months)   |   |   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assignment of a National Focal Point in each participating state;</li> <li>- Assignment of an International Technical Expert jointly by UNDP, IRU and BSEC-URTA;</li> <li>- Fact finding and information sharing activities during country visits;</li> <li>- Appointment of national issuing authority in each country;</li> <li>- Technical adjustments and capacity building activities;</li> </ul> |   |   |  |
| b) Implementation stage (3 months)  |   |   |  |
| c) First evaluation report (1 month)  |   |   |  |
|   | 3) Promotion of Implementation of the TIR-EPD Green Lanes and Single Window on the main road transport corridors in the BSEC region.  | - In coordination with the IRU, established contacts and undertook bilateral meetings with the National Associations and national authorities in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine.   | -The Green Lanes at the main border of Serbia with Bulgaria (Kalotina - Gradina) and Turkey with Bulgaria (Kapikule - Captan Andreevo) are designed. The Green Lane at Kalotina-Gradina is expected to become operational on the Serbian side, soon.   |
| <b>Future actions:</b>  |   |   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue bilateral contacts with the National Associations and their competent authorities in Bulgaria, Greece, Ukraine to encourage implementation of Green Lanes concept at their main border crossing points;</li> <li>- Continue bilateral contacts for implementation of the TIR EPD in Albania, Armenia, Georgia and Greece</li> </ul>   |   |   |  |
|   | 4) Support the implementation of transport, auxiliary and logistic infrastructure development according to the IRU Model Highway Initiative (MHI) along the Black Sea Ring Highway. | - In coordination with the IRU participated and promoted the Model Highway Initiative in all meetings of BSEC organs and other international organizations, with special emphasize on the newly launched project between Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey on implementation of the Model on Baku-Tbilisi-Batumi-Trabzon Motorway section. | -Information was presented to the BSEC Working Group on Customs Matters – Istanbul, 15 November 2012 on finalization by Egnatia Odos, the technical secretariat for the Black Sea Ring Highway, of the prefeasibility study on Implementation of the Model Highway Initiative for Baku-Tbilisi-Batumi-Trabzon Motorway section and on the readiness of governments of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to sign a joint statement in this regard..<br><br>- During the International Conference on Prospects of Trade and Transport in the Black Sea, Central Asia and Middle East regions, |

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|  |  |  | <p>organized by the IRU with the support of BSEC-URTA, in Izmir on 28 November 2012, representatives of governments of Azerbaijan , Georgia and Turkey signed a joint statement on Implementation of the Model Highway Initiative for Baku-Tbilisi-Batumi-Trabzon Motorway section.</p> <p>- A detailed presentation of the prefeasibility study on Implementation of the Model Highway Initiative for Baku-Tbilisi-Batumi-Trabzon Motorway was done during the 5<sup>th</sup> International Silk Road Customs Administrations Cooperation Forum, in Istanbul on 29-30 November 2012, where representatives of National Customs of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey signed a joint statement in this regard.</p> <p>- In coordination with the IRU, the Model Highway concept was presented to the ECO High Level Group on establishment of the Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Road Transport Corridor, Tehran on 4-5 February 2013. The meeting agreed to apply the Model on the mentioned corridor and requested further technical assistance in this regard.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Future actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Participate in the next meetings of the Working Group on the Model Highway Initiative established between Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey, BSEC and IRU</i></li> <li>- <i>Further promote the Model Highway for the North part of the Black Sea Ring Highway section between Moldova, Ukraine and Russian Federation</i></li> </ul> |  |  |  |

**BSEC PERMIT STATISTICS AS OF 30 April 2013**

| Country        | Beginning Date of National Distribution | Fee (if applicable) | Amount of BSEC Permits used as of 30 April 2013 | Remainder   | Number of issued permits per country |
|----------------|---|---------------------|---|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Albania</i> |   |                     | 36  | 214         | 250                                  |
| <i>Armenia</i> |   |                     | 0   | 250         | 250                                  |
| <i>Georgia</i> |   |                     | 1   | 249         | 250                                  |
| <i>Moldova</i> | 01.01.2013                              |                     | 250   | 0           | 250                                  |
| <i>Romania</i> |   |                     | 34  | 216         | 250                                  |
| <i>Serbia</i>  | 01.01.2013                              |                     | 70  | 180         | 250                                  |
| <i>Turkey</i>  | 15.03.2013                              |                     | 250   | 0           | 250                                  |
| <b>Total</b>   |   |                     | <b>641</b>                                      | <b>1109</b> | <b>1750</b>                          |

**Participation of BSEC Member States to UNECE Road Transport Agreements/Conventions**  
Status as of 01 May 2013

|  | Nr. | UNECE<br>Convent. / Road Transport                  | BSEC Member States |          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|--|-----|---|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|  |     |   | AL                 | AR       | AZ        | BG        | GE        | GR        | MD        | RO        | RU        | SRB       | TR        | UA        |
| Infrast  | 1   | Construction Traffic Arteries, 1950                 |                    |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
|  | 2   | E Road Network, 1975                                | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 3   | E Comb. Tr. Network, 1991                           | X                  |          |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
| Road traffic and road safety   | 4   | Road Traffic, 1949                                  | X                  |          |           | X         | X         | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |
|  | 5   | Road Traffic, 1968                                  | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 6   | Prot. Road Signs & Signals, 1949                    |                    |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         | X         |           |           |
|  | 7   | Road Signs & Signals, 1968                          | X                  |          | X         | X         | X         | X         |           | X         | X         |           |           | X         |
|  | 8   | Suppl. 1968 Conv. Road Traffic, 1971                | X                  |          | X         | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 9   | Suppl. 1968 Road Signs & Signals, 1971              | X                  |          | X         | X         | X         | X         |           | X         | X         | X         |           | X         |
|  | 10  | Weights and Dimens, 1950                            |                    |          |           |           |           |           | X         |           |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 11  | Suppl. 1949 Conv & Protocol, 1950                   |                    |          |           |           |           |           | X         |           |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 12  | Road Markings, 1957                                 | X                  |          |           | X         |           |           |           | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
|  | 13  | Protocol Road Markings, 1973                        | X                  |          | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |           | X         | X         |           | X         |
|  | 14  | Issue & Validity of Driving Permits                 |                    |          |           | X         |           |           |           |           |           | X         |           |           |
| Vehic  | 15  | Vehicle Regulations, 1958                           | X                  |          | X         | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 16  | Tech. Inspect. Vehicles, 1997                       | X                  |          |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |           | X         |
|  | 17  | Global Vehicles Reg., 1998                          |                    |          | X         |           |           |           | X         | X         | X         |           | X         |           |
| Other legal instruments  | 18  | Work of Crews Intl. Road Transport(AETR), 1970      | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 19  | Tax Priv Road Vehic, 1956                           | X                  |          |           |           |           |           | X         | X         |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 20  | Taxation Road Passengers Vehicles, 1956             | X                  |          |           |           |           |           |           | X         |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 21  | Tax Road Goods Vehic, 1956                          |                    |          |           |           |           |           |           | X         |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 22  | Contract Road Goods Transport(CMR), 1956            | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |
|  | 23  | Protocol to CMR, 1978                               | X                  | X        |           |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |           | X         | X         |
|  | 24  | Contract Passengers and Lugg. Road Trans(CVR), 1973 |                    |          |           |           |           |           | X         |           |           | X         |           | X         |
|  | 25  | Protocol to CVR, 1978                               |                    |          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 26  | Econ. Reg. Road Trans, 1954                         |                    |          |           |           |           | X         |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Border crossing facilitation   | 27  | Touring Facilities, 1954                            |                    |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |
|  | 28  | Protocol Touring Facilities, 54                     |                    |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |
|  | 29  | Temp. Imp. Priv. Road Vehicles, 1954                | X                  |          |           | X         |           |           |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |
|  | 30  | TIR Convention, 1959                                | X                  |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         |           | X         |           |
|  | 31  | TIR Convention, 1975                                | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 32  | Temp. Imp. Commercial Vehicles, 1956                |                    |          | X         | X         |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
|  | 33  | Customs Cont Conv, 1956                             |                    |          |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         |           | X         |           |           |
|  | 34  | Customs Cont Conv, 1972                             |                    | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 35  | Customs Treatment Pallets, 1960                     | X                  |          |           | X         |           |           |           | X         |           | X         | X         |           |
|  | 36  | Harmonization Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982      | X                  | X        | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 37  | Customs Pool Cont, 1994                             |                    |          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Danger. Goods  | 38  | Dang. Goods by Roads(ADR), 1957                     | X                  |          | X         | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
|  | 39  | Protocol to ADR, 1993                               | X                  |          |           | X         |           | X         | X         | X         | X         |           |           |           |
|  | 40  | Liab. Dang. Goods-CRTD, 1989                        |                    |          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|  | 41  | Perishab. Foodstuff-ATP, 1970                       | X                  |          | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         | X         |
| <b>BSEC Member State participation to UNECE Road Transport related Conventions</b> |     |   | <b>24</b>          | <b>8</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>17</b> |

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**BSEC-URTA Calendar of Events*****I – BSEC-URTA Events – 2013 Second Half***

| EVENT   | PLACE | DATE            |
|---|-------|-----------------|
| 1. 32 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of BSEC-URTA Management Council | Kiev  | 21 October 2013 |
| 2. 24 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of BSEC-URTA General Assembly   | Kiev  | 22 October 2013 |

***II – Events Organized By Other Parties- 2013 Second Half***

| EVENT  | PLACE   | DATE *            |
|--|---------|-------------------|
| 1. 3 <sup>rd</sup> EU - IRU Road Transport Conference                            | Vilnius | 16 September 2013 |
| 2. IRU Transport Council CTM   | Geneva  | 7 November 2013   |
| 3. IRU General Assembly  | Geneva  | 8 November 2013   |
| 4. BSEC Steering Committee on Facilitation of Road Transport                     | TBC     |                   |
| 5. BSEC Steering Committee on Coordinated Development of Black Sea Ring Highway  | TBC     |                   |
| 6. BSEC Working Group on Transport   | Yerevan |                   |
| 7. Meeting of BSEC Ministers of Transport  | Yerevan |                   |
| 8. BSEC Working Group on Customs   | TBC     |                   |
| 9. Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials                             | Yerevan |                   |
| 10. Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of BSEC Member States | Yerevan |                   |

\* The Calendar of the BSEC Meetings will be set and announced by the BSEC Chairmanship in office (Armenia) in July 2013.

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