

G5081

Istanbul, 4 September 2018



## 34<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Metropol Hotel Yerevan Yerevan – Armenia Friday, 5 October 2018, at 10:30 hrs

## **ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE BSEC-URTA PRIORITIES FOR 2018**

Since the 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly held in Grand Hotel in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018, 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 2018 and short-term priorities set by the BSEC-URTA Management Council is given in the attached table.

## BSEC-URTA ACTIVITY REPORT ON SHORT TERM PRIORITIES BETWEEN 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018 AND 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018

PRIORITY	ACTIONS	RESULTS
Increase and diversify BSEC- URTA revenues	Develop new Members / Observers / Donors / Sponsors;	Following contacts of BSEC-URTA President and the International Secretariat, IRU Member Associations THADA (Turkmenistan), ABBAT (Tajikistan) and ICCIMA (Iran) still consider becoming BSEC-URTA Observers.
		Upon the invitation of an initiative committee, a BSEC- URTA delegation together with an IRU delegation participated during 18-19 June in Beijing in a preliminary founding meeting of the Belt Road International Transport Alliance (BRITA) which bring together more than 240 stakeholders (international organizations, governmental bodies, academia, other private and public organizations)
	Develop commercial activities.	BSEC-URTA established an economic entity in the form of commercial enterprise within BSEC-URTA under the name "BSEC-URTA Karadeniz Ekonomik İşbrliği Karayolu Taşıma Dernekleri Birliği İktisadi İşletme" (Union of Road Transport Associations in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region (Economical Enterprise. BSEC- URTA). The legal registration of this economical branch of BSEC-URTA is in undergoing process with the Turkish Authorities.
		The <i>ad hoc</i> Working Party on Insurance held its 7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting in Istanbul on 27 July 2018. Interested insurance

		companies from the BSEC countries namely Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Turkey jointly elaborated a regional CMR+ product and decided to launch the product sales.
		The International Secretariat continued consultations with TOBB-UND Company in order to develop a business model for promoting its services on regional level.
Develop further and expand BSEC Permit to Eurasia	Meeting of competent BSEC organs;	A Meeting of the BSEC Steering Committee on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region scheduled to be held during 19-20 September 2018 in Samsun, Turkey and having one of agenda items consideration of the BSEC Permit development was postponed due to a low level of participation for middle November 2018.
	System expansion.	In 2018, the BSEC Permit system is based upon 500 permits per country, which are good for both bilateral and transit transport operations among and through territories of all 8 participating States.
		BSEC PERMIS and BSEC-URTA have already requested the participating BSEC Member States to consider allowing multiple trips and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Country transport operations in 2018.
		Already, 4 of the 8 participating countries, namely Romania, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova recognized on reciprocity basis the BSEC Permits good for 3 <sup>rd</sup> country transport operations in their territories.
		The Turkish MoT, TOBB and UND are prepared to propose the BSEC Steering Committee on Facilitation of Road Transport to consider in a positive manner development of the BSEC Permit system in an electronical format. Information on such initiative by the Turkish MoT was presented to the participants of the Seminar on development of e-transport related documents organized by UNECE-IRU-BSEC-URTA- BSEC in Baku on 5 September. At the same time Minister of Transport, Communications and High Technologies of Azerbaijan welcomed such initiative on introduction of an ePermit system in the BSEC region as it was presented by the IRU delegation during an official meeting with the minister.
		On the occasion of the Meeting of BSEC Ministers of Transport to be held in Baku on 25 October BSEC-URTA delegation will present ministers this Turkish initiative and will call on ministers endorsement of an ePermit Pilot Project to be implemented in 2019.
Support Working Party on Insurance developing BSEC CMR Insurance	Activities of the <i>ad hoc</i> Working Party on Insurance.	Istanbul on 27 July 2018.
		With support of the Chairperson, interested insurance companies from the region participated in the meeting in order to conclude development of a regional CMR+ product.

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Support Working Party on Border Crossing Problems in BSEC Region	Activities of the <i>ad</i> <i>hoc</i> Working Party on Border Crossing Problems in BSEC Region.	Member Associations and Observers nominated representatives to the WPBC. Survey on Border Crossings was held between the dates of 3 July – 3 September 2018. Summary analytic report based on data received from associations will be distributed on transport related meetings of BSEC and to other competent authorities.
Follow eTIR Pilot Projects	e-TIR Pilot Project between Turkey and Iran	After implementation with success of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage of the Project, the Customs authorities of Iran and Turkey continue accepting the coverage of e-guaranties issued for the transport operations between the two countries.
	e-TIR Pilot Project between Moldova and Ukraine.	AITA, Moldovan Customs Authority, AIRCU, Ukrainian Customs Authority and IRU held meetings on technical and organizational matters related to implementation of the Pilot Project.
	e-TIR connecting Ukraine with Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan.	Organized in partnership with IRU, State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan, BSEC, BSEC-URTA and ABADA a Seminar on International Trade and Transport Facilitation Trough Digitalization of TIR Procedures in Baku on 5 September 2018.
		Summary:
		<ul> <li>UNECE and IRU:</li> <li>Welcomed all delegates to the informal meeting.</li> <li>Reiterated that the «Batumi corridor project» will be managed within the Work plan established in the frame of the 5-years MoU signed by the two Organisations.</li> <li>Indicated that he Countries are invited to adopt the <i>Main Principles</i> of the project that are to be considered as «the application of greater facilities», as provided by Art. 49 of the TIR Convention.</li> <li>Azerbaijan:</li> <li>Raised the importance to computerize this corridor, especially considering its strategic location between EU and China.</li> <li>IT team is currently testing TIR-EPD. Target date for putting into production: 5 September 2018.</li> <li>Georgia:</li> <li>Engaged for this project the experts that worked in the group that worked on the Pilot GEO-TUR.</li> <li>Started working on the messages implementation. Target date for performing all the tests before putting into</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Production: end of Summer 2018.</li> <li>Informed that by confirming the Main Principles, the Letter became the legal basis in Georgia.</li> <li>Ukraine:</li> <li>Brought the Letter of Intent signed.</li> <li>Have put in place an operational experts group amongst the Association and Customs.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Made an eTIR fact finding mission (with UNECE and IRU, in May) to Turkey.</li> <li>Is still analysing the legal aspects in the light of the</li> </ul>

experience described by Georgia. •Demanded to have a presentation on how the Batumi corridor could work.
<b>IRU reported on behalf of Kazakhstan</b> that the messages are currently being implemented. Target date for completion: end Summer 2018. All delegations expressed the need to have a dedicated meeting with National legal and technical experts to address all outstanding questions, and establish an action plan.

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