



UNION OF ROAD TRANSPORT ASSOCIATIONS IN THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION REGION
(BSEC-URTA)

DOC/GA04/ACTIV/03

Istanbul, 10 October 2003

FOURTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Baku – Azerbaijan
Thursday, 30 October 2003, at 10:00 hrs

BSEC-URTA ACTIVITY REPORT

(Information Paper Prepared by the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat)

Since Third Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly(06 June,2003), the International Secretariat pursued a series of contacts, participated in events of importance for the industry, contributed to international gatherings and exerted significant efforts to promote BSEC-URTA and its objectives:-

MONTH	DAYS	DESCRIPTION
JUNE	12-13	<p>Meeting of BSEC Ad Hoc Expert Group on Visa Simplification Procedures, Istanbul</p> <p>After signing of the BSEC Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region in Kyiv on 6 March 2002, the BSEC Ad Hoc Expert Group on Visa Simplification Procedures held its second meeting in Istanbul on 12-13 June 2003.</p> <p>Participating representatives of the BSEC Member States had conflicting ideas about readiness of existing text for signature whilst BSEC-URTA representatives requested opening of it to signature of the Member States as soon as possible.</p> <p>Ad Hoc Expert Group agreed to submit the Draft Agreement to the Committee of Senior Officials and asked for further instructions, if needed, which will hold its next meeting in Baku in October 2003. Subsequently, the Committee will decide either to approve the text for consideration of BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs or will revert it to Ad Hoc Group asking the latter continue its work on the wording.</p> <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/PROGR/03.</p>



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SEPTEMBER	01-02	<p>Meeting Between AEBTRI, ARTRI and UND on “Joint Development of a Distant Professional Learning Software for International Road Transportation Industry”, Istanbul</p> <p>With coordination of BSEC-URTA International Secretariat, delegations of ARTRI and UND together with an observer representative of AEBTRI, held a meeting in Istanbul, in order to develop together a sophisticated professional competency training software, which will be based on distant learning, computer aided, operating on the web, measuring the students within a simulated environment by means of simulation games, providing for student interaction and communication with the trainers and other students through a training portal including trial exams for the students.</p> <p>At the meeting, parties agreed to meet again soon in order to prepare detailed business plan, distribution of tasks and project budget. It is also the common agreement that the parties would like BSEC-URTA to promote the project in appropriate ways and platforms for recognition and support. The initiator Associations also have the will to keep the project open to active participation of any interested BSEC-URTA Member Associations.</p> <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/TRAIN/03.</p> <p>(P.S. Later, Moldovan Association AITA agreed to join this project whereas Bulgarian Association AEBTRI decided not to take an active part.)</p>
SEPTEMBER	09	<p>BSEC-URTA and BSTDB Meeting, Thessaloniki</p> <p>Representatives of BSEC-URTA and BSTDB met in the headquarters of Black Sea Trade & Development Bank in Thessaloniki on 9 September 2003, in order to consider possibility of a cooperation framework with a view to encouraging representatives of road transport sector to work out bankable project proposals for financing by the BSTDB. Conclusions of the meeting are as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) BSTDB acknowledged its readiness to continue organizing informative events for the road transport industry;2) BSTDB is ready to give financial support to bankable project proposals by the road transport sector;3) BSTDB management will consider and decide on the issue of giving a special training course for a BSEC-URTA personnel to help increase industrial awareness of the bank and give guidance to potential project ideas. <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/BSEC/03.</p>



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OCTOBER	01-02	<p>Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Transport, Baku</p> <p>Meeting of BSEC Working Group (WG) on Transport was held with active participation of BSEC-URTA International Secretariat in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan, on 1-2 October 2003. Conclusions of the meeting are as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. BSEC Project Development Fund: WG agreed to present to consideration of the Committee of Senior Officials the Distant Professional Learning Software Project of AITA, ARTRI and UND for funding.2. Operation and Interaction of Different Modes of Transport: Upon previous request of WG, BSEC-URTA prepared and submitted a paper on this matter.3. Multilateral Recognition of Diplomas, Certificates and Other Evidence of Formal Qualifications for Road Haulage Operator and Road Passenger Transport Operator: Upon initiatives of BSEC-URTA, WG considered this issue and took note of the draft Multilateral Agreement prepared by IRU. WG appreciated IRU's cooperation on this matter and agreed to ask BSEC PERMIS to gather opinions and comments of the Member States on the draft Agreement as well as their recommendations to the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to establish a relevant ad hoc Group of Experts. <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/TRAIN/03.</p>
OCTOBER	03	<p>Meeting of the Ministers of Transport from Countries of the Black and Caspian Seas Region – Baku</p> <p>The high level delegations of Ministries of Transport from the countries in the Black and Caspian Seas Region came together in Baku on 3 October 2003 within the framework of an official BSEC event. In the end of the meeting, the “Baku Declaration on the Development of Transport in the Black and Caspian Seas Region” was adopted, which constitutes an important set of priority action to eliminate problems of transport industry in our region.</p> <p>BSEC-URTA representative gave a speech during the meeting, too, on “Barriers in Road Transport in BSEC region” and underlined that it is of utmost importance for all Governments in the region to ensure removal of trade barriers with brave, consistent and coordinated action leading to liberalization and facilitation of road transport.</p> <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/BSEC/03.</p>



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OCTOBER	06-07	<p>Second IRU Euro-Asian Road Transport Conference, Teheran</p> <p>The second of a very important international IRU event regarding the road transport industry in the bigger geography of Euro-Asia was held in Teheran on 6-7 October 2003.</p> <p>BSEC-URTA took an active part in the Conference and its representative served as a panelist with a comprehensive presentation on strategies of cooperation between the national associations as regards improvement of combined transport for bigger synergy on account of the road transport industry.</p> <p>The Conference unanimously adopted a declaration at the end of the event that represents another important reference for attention and action of stakeholders and decision makers in the region of Euro-Asia.</p> <p>Detailed information on this meeting is available in DOC/GA04/IRU/03.</p>
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