



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

DOC/GA04/ICT/03

Istanbul, 17 October 2003

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN TRANSPORT AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
COOPERATION**

In compliance with decision (DEC/ICT/02) of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly at its second meeting in Tirana on 29 November 2003, *New Technologies in Transport and Opportunities for Cooperation* has become a standard agenda item as an indication of the priority given by the Member Associations to this fundamental subject, too, in addition to the subject of training.

As a result of such indication by the General Assembly, the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat took the initiative to organize BSEC-URTA Ad Hoc Group of Specialists on Technology in Istanbul on 5 June 2003, where the specialists had the opportunity to evaluate existing new technologies in road transport industry, level of use of technology in transport in the BSEC region as well as existing opportunities for cooperation (DOC/GA03/ITSG01/03).

Indeed, with closer and intensive contacts among BSEC-URTA Member Associations since its birth, certain project ideas already began to come up on bilateral or multilateral basis between different Associations dependent on their common interests and needs. As a result, today a number of technology projects already entered into stages of implementation. As a principle, BSEC-URTA International Secretariat always remains at disposal of concerned Associations and tries to play a facilitating function throughout such activities.

As a summary, the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat pursued its search and efforts for areas of cooperation as regards new technologies in transport as well as took active part in development of certain technology projects, which resulted concrete improvement and development under following main headings at the time of fourth meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly:-

1. BSEC Transport Portal and BSEC Transport Information Clearing Center;
2. Distant Professional Learning in Road Transport Industry;
3. Vehicle Tracking Systems;
4. Cooperation with Multinational Transport Technology Corporations.

**BSEC TRANSPORT PORTAL & BSEC TRANSPORT INFORMATION CLEARING CENTER**

BSEC-URTA web portal is published on [www.bsec-urta.org](http://www.bsec-urta.org).

BSEC-URTA International Secretariat renewed its outlook and contents using an expedient freeware in the market. The new design is very interactive with the users in terms of submitting their views, news, events, problems, etc. in the sphere of international road transport industry. In addition, any registered user can have access to BSEC-URTA documents archive, combined transport information pages as well as forums and discuss thereby the common problems of industry in the BSEC region (for details



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see Annex 1). Any interested personnel of the BSEC-URTA Member Associations, IRU, BSEC PERMIS and BSEC Related Bodies are entitled to have registered membership by online request from the Web Portal Administrator (Admin).

However, at this stage, BSEC-URTA International Secretariat looks forward to receiving cooperation and solidarity of all registered users as well as Member Associations in order to create a regional transport information clearing center, which is a subject falling under its existing projects as approved by the General Assembly.

BSEC-URTA International Secretariat plans to follow a step-by-step strategy to enrich the contents and design of BSEC-URTA portal by little but continuous contributions from each and every Member Association and registered portal users. That is why, a very simple Suggestion Form has already been prepared and attached hereinafter to collect first suggestions of the Member Associations on the occasion of Fourth Meeting of BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Baku on 30 October 2003.

### **DISTANT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING IN ROAD TRANSPORT INDUSTRY**

Internet and global communication networks are developing faster every day, leading to changes in all aspects of life. Distant learning is a rather new concept, which has turned to a serious alternative channel of training, including professional training.

World Bank, with leading sectoral partnership of IRU, has been pursuing for last couple of years a new program, named Global Facilitation Program, Distant Learning Initiative (GFP-DLI). Under this program, World Bank financed some pilot distant CPC learning programs in a number of South-East European countries, where IRU Academy offered its diploma to the graduates.

Parallel to the rising trends in professional training in the world, BSEC-URTA Member Associations AITA, ARTRI and UND have been studying on a joint project, recently (see DOC/GA04/TRAIN/03 project details). In their efforts, BSEC-URTA International Secretariat is trying to give its utmost contribution and taking initiatives to promote the project and to obtain financial support of BSEC Project Development Bank.

Since the initiating Associations have the intention to keep their project to participation of other Associations at design and execution period as well as to their use after project realization, there is a great potential for this very important cooperation project to provide regional benefits at later stages.

### **VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEMS**

Another rising technology for the international road transport industry is the vehicle tracking systems (VTS). These systems provide a great value added to the transport companies as far as customer account management, corporate management, financial management, performance management are concerned. In addition to such benefits on the company level, the system allows production, storage and analysis of sectoral data on macro levels.

Importance of implementation of VTS among International Road Transport Operators was highlighted by IRU in its Instruction on Preventive Measures against the Actions of Organized Crime to Be Put in Place by Each TIR Association and Each Holder of TIR Carnets (IRU Document CAD/G4311/MMM).

At the moment, there are some BSEC-URTA Member Associations, which invested or are investing in vehicle tracking systems for their member transport companies. At the moment there is a good level of information exchange in such Associations that also is paving the way for their closer collaboration and cooperation.



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BSEC-URTA International Secretariat is trying to facilitate all such information exchanges as well as cooperation and joint projects between the interested Member Associations, which include but not limited with:-

- (a) Information exchange between ASMAP and UND;
- (b) Strategy meetings and cooperation framework planning between ARTRI and UND;
- (c) Planning and execution of ANALTIR-VTS jointly by ANALTIR and UND;

It was reported to BSEC-URTA International Secretariat that there are also negotiations for cooperation between ARTRI and AITA.

Existing contacts and cooperation among the BSEC-URTA Member Associations suggest that VTS will continue to serve as an important common subject for the BSEC region in the future, too.

**COOPERATION WITH MULTINATIONAL TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGY CORPORATIONS**

BSEC region represents a very important economic area and a very strong international road transport industry collectively.

If Member Associations could join their capacity on general terms at least for areas of common interest such as technology, there can be cooperation with better conditions between the Associations and multinational transport technology corporations. In order to achieve this, the Member Associations should be able to determine common strategies and act together as much as possible.

BSEC-URTA International Secretariat recently received a proposal from Siemens VDO Automotive Company from Germany, which was represented on a high level in the latest BSEC-URTA Ad Hoc Specialist Group on Technology in Istanbul on 5 June 2003, to negotiate opportunities of cooperation as regards the whole or part of BSEC region.

Indifferent of its result, this proposal constitutes a good indication of the value added that BSEC-URTA platform can offer to its Member Associations and multinational corporations together in meeting the needs of international road transport industry more efficiently in all aspects. Therefore, BSEC-URTA International Secretariat is interested and open to requests of Member Associations to explore, stimulate and mobilize their common needs and help them to meet such needs together with multinational corporations on a regional framework.

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BSEC-URTA WEB PORTAL  
**SUGGESTION FORM**

[www.bsec-urta.org](http://www.bsec-urta.org)

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II – DESIGN OF WEB PORTAL

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III – SUGGESTED LINKS FROM YOUR COUNTRY TO PUBLISH ON WEB PORTAL

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IV - SUGGESTED TRANSFORMATION INFORMATION SOURCES ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY

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