



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

DEC/GA14/08

Geneva, 28 October 2008

FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

International Conference Centre-Room C, Geneva – Switzerland
Tuesday, 28 October 2008, at 12:30 hrs

DECISIONS¹

At its Fourteenth Meeting, held in Geneva on 28 October 2008, the BSEC-URTA General Assembly:

1. Thanked the Members of the IRU Liaison Committee with the CIS for the joint session organised with the BSEC-URTA in order to follow up its previous Resolution (RES/GA13/AETR/08) adopted in Moscow on 4 June 2008 and the action undertaken by their Members since the Yalta Conference with respect to the AETR Agreement, of which the Contracting Parties will convene under the UNECE SC.1 in Geneva on 29 October 2008. Decided that the BSEC-URTA will maintain its close cooperation with the IRU according to results of the SC.1 meeting in order to ensure that the industry concerns are taken into account by this competent UNECE body, which is requested to decide for postponing the start date of compulsory usage of digital tachographs in the non-EU Contracting Parties and ensuring that any EU social rules and secondary legislation can be incorporated in the AETR agreement only after agreement of all Contracting Parties,
2. Thanked the IRU for its generous arrangements with respect to the meeting venue and language services,
3. Thanked the Guests of Honour and invited personalities, who addressed the General Assembly and contributed to its work, for their kind participation and continuous support to the activities of the BSEC-URTA,
4. Adopted the Agenda (DOC/GA14/AG/08/Corrigendum) and Order of Business (DOC/GA14/OB/08) and approved the Minutes of its Thirteenth Meeting (MIN/GA13/07),
5. Noted the BSEC-URTA Activity Report (DOC/GA14/ACTIV/08) with appreciation,
6. Welcomed opening to signature and signing of the BSEC Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Lorry Drivers Nationals of BSEC Member States (Visa Agreement) in Tirana on 23 October 2008 and thanked the Albanian Chairmanship of the BSEC Organisation for its historic decision in this connection,
7. Noted, however, with disappointment that the Visa Agreement was signed in Tirana by only four countries: Albania, Armenia, Moldova and Turkey. Requested the Member Associations from non-signatory states, yet, to contact their competent authorities with the request of their signing this important regional agreement, too. Requested the International Secretariat to follow up and coordinate actions of the Members on this matter and present a progress report to the next meeting of the General Assembly,
8. Welcomed the information that the European Commission prepares to become a Contracting Party to the 1982 Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods together with its new Annex 8, which entered into force on 20 May 2008 and requested the International Secretariat to maintain its working contacts with the UNECE Secretariat in order to follow up any progress with respect to actual implementation of the new Annex 8 within the framework of its previous decision adopted in Moscow on 4 June 2008 about this matter (RES/GA13/H1982/08),

¹ Adopted unanimously unless otherwise stated.



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9. Noted that a BSEC Regional Study, which is co-sponsored by the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU, is just completed by the NEA. Reiterated its gratitude to the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU for realisation of this important technical work. The NEA report is aimed at assisting the BSEC Member States for efficient and actual implementation of the MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region (Facilitation MoU) by making alternative recommendations for adequate regional tools, projects and activities corresponding to certain objectives of the Contracting Parties, which are described under operative articles of the Facilitation MoU itself. Received together with the BSEC Executive Manager for Transport, a NEA briefing on this report and the expert recommendations therein. Requested the Member Associations to evaluate the report and provide written comments to the International Secretariat within ten days, which then would be forwarded to the experts to be taken into account in the final and official version of their report, which should be delivered to the BSEC PERMIS soon.
10. Welcomed the information that the Chairman-in-office of the Steering Committee of the Facilitation MoU and BSEC PERMIS will convene a public-private BSEC Round Table Meeting within 2008 in order to allow all stakeholders to consider the final version of the NEA report, thoroughly. Hoping that this meeting will contribute to catching a new regional momentum in implementation of the Facilitation MoU, invited all Member Associations to participate in this Round Table Meeting and to encourage participation of their competent authorities at the highest levels possible,
11. Reviewed the vision, mission and strategic objectives of the BSEC-URTA and adopted the BSEC-URTA Working Programme for 2009 (DOC/GA14/WP/08). In this respect, approved recommendation of the International Secretariat to create a BSEC-URTA Program Fund to support regional activities, projects and organisations of the Member Associations as well as the BSEC, the IRU and other leading regional and international organisations that involve at least three BSEC Member States. The BSEC-URTA Program Fund will be managed by the BSEC-URTA Secretary General and it will support two main themes at this stage: (a) Re-opening of the Silk Road, and (b) Facilitation of Road Transport,
12. Welcomed the official application made by the TOBB (Turkey) to become a BSEC-URTA Honorary Member starting from 1 January 2009. Noted that the TOBB is a full member of the IRU and acknowledged that it is the largest business organisation in Turkey, whose Honorary Membership could contribute greatly to the realisation of the BSEC-URTA objectives. In this connection, granted Honorary Membership status to the TOBB (Turkey) for indefinite period and with the same duties and rights as the BSEC-URTA full members under the BSEC-URTA Statutes and agreed that the TOBB will contribute by EUR 35.000 to the BSEC-URTA annual budgets,
13. Welcomed with deep appreciation that the IRU will increase its level of contribution to the BSEC-URTA budgets from EUR 35.000 to EUR 50.000 starting from 1 January 2009.
14. Taking into account its related official request, approved to lower the contribution of the UND to the BSEC-URTA budgets from EUR 24.000 to EUR 6.000. On this occasion, thanked the UND for its exceptionally high contributions to the BSEC-URTA annual budgets in the past, which ensured sustainability of the BSEC-URTA and its becoming a respected regional entity within the BSEC Organisation.
15. Adopted the BSEC-URTA Budget for 2009 (DOC/GA14/BUDG/08),
16. Elected Mr. Vladimir Florea (AITA) as its President for 2009-2010 and Messrs Gueorgui PETROV (AEBTRI) and Florinel Andrei (ARTRI) as its Vice-Presidents for 2009,
17. Welcomed and accepted AIRCA's kind invitation to host next meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Yerevan in Spring 2009, of which the exact dates will be announced by the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat in consultation with the AIRCA later,
18. Adopted the BSEC-URTA Calendar for first half of 2009 (DOC/GA14/CAL/08),
19. Adopted and undersigned these Decisions of the 14th meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Geneva on 28 October 2008.



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Vladimir FLOREA, BSEC-URTA President

(ANALTIR)
Eduard KASA

(AIRCA)
Herbert HAMBARDZUMYAN

(ABADA)
Tofiq NURULLAYEV

(AEBTRI)
Gueorgui PETROV

(GIRCA)
Alexander CHKHEIDZE

(AITA)
Vladimir FLOREA

(ARTRI)
Cristian SERBAN

(ASMAP)
Yuriy SUKHIN

OFAE
Apostolos KENANIDIS

(UND)
Izzet SALAH

(AIRCU)
Leonid KOSTYUCHENKO