

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

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Istanbul, 25 April 2006

NINTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BSEC PERMIS Headquarters, Istanbul - TURKEY Thursday, 11 May 2006, at 10:00 hrs

JOINT ECMT-IRU SURVEY ON TRUCK PARKING AREAS

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

The well known joint IRU and ECMT publication on "Truck Parking Areas in Europe" is reported to be updated by the IRU in its communiqué dated on 27 January 2006 (CTM/G6785/PKR).

The new version of the existing publication will be jointly developed by the ECMT and the IRU and the main objective being to give users updated information on *secure* and *civilised* truck parking areas.

In this regard, the BSEC-URTA Member Associations are also asked by the IRU, to provide information only on those truck parking areas, which are fulfilling some elementary compulsory criteria enlisted in the related IRU Questionnaire.

The Questionnaire also requires the associations to report if the existing parking areas in their respectful country, are sufficient in the conditions of the tightening rules on driver hours and traffic bans. The judgement of Member Associations as such, are foreseen to be further analyzed and results being submitted to the related governments and private sector in order to increase the number of secure and civilised truck parking areas, including in the BSEC region.

However, it is observed from another IRU letter dated on 1 March 2006 (CTM/G6785/ADD/PKR) that the mandatory criteria in the IRU Questionnaire could not be met not by many existing truck parking areas, particularly in the BSEC region. As a result, the BSEC-URTA Member Associations, now, are asked to propose adapted new criteria for the truck parking areas in their respectful country.

Such proposals by including the BSEC-URTA Member Associations, for adaptation of the existing criteria in the IRU Questionnaire to the country specific conditions, will be evaluated jointly by the ECMT and the IRU in order to find solutions, which suit existing country conditions without compromising the purpose of the new publication: reliability of its content from the security and quality point of view.

On the occasion of the Ninth Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly in Istanbul on 11 May 2006, the BSEC-URTA Member Associations are expected to note the abovementioned and to exchange views for further clarification of their expected next steps in order to contribute to the updated new version of this important joint publication by the ECMT and the IRU.

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