



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

DOC/GA14/WP/08

Istanbul, 15 October 2008

## FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

International Conference Centre – Room 3, Geneva – Switzerland  
Tuesday, 28 October 2008, at 12:30 hrs

### BSEC-URTA WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2009

The BSEC-URTA Member Associations are kindly requested to review below the vision, mission, strategic objectives and 2009 working program of the BSEC-URTA, submitted to consideration and approval of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly:-

#### VISION

Common solutions for common problems.

#### MISSION

Solidarity is our strength.

#### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. **Facilitation.** Support major international transport corridors and work together with the BSEC Governments and the IRU as well as other regional cooperation processes, for facilitation of road transport by eliminating barriers and difficulties, removing and opposing any discriminatory measures and harmonizing or simplifying procedures and practices.
2. **IRU-BSEC Interaction.** Inform the IRU on regional problems and priorities regarding the road goods transport, channel its expertise, know how and guidance to the work of BSEC organs and related bodies.
3. **Re-opening of the Silk Road.** Support international activities and projects aimed at promoting re-opening of the Silk Road to modern truck, and develop contacts and cooperation in this connection, with the IRU Member Associations and other interested stakeholders from the countries along the historic Silk Routes, which are not represented in the BSEC Organisation.
4. **Professional Training.** Support the Member Associations to give professional training to national industry on international standards and encourage cooperation between the Member Associations in the field of professional training.
5. **Combined Transportation.** Support improvement of existing and development of new combined transportation services in the BSEC region.
6. **Lobbying and Promotion.** Organize with the Member Associations, IRU and BSEC Governments or contribute to the meetings, seminars, conferences, exhibitions and other types of events with a view to improving public image of road goods transport, protecting its common interests and creating new opportunities, particularly on the regional level.
7. **Good Examples.** Promote good examples and success stories among the Member Associations as well as their members and support roll out of best practices across the BSEC region.
8. **Information Sharing.** Make or contribute to regional researches and surveys about road transport industry in the BSEC region, and share available professional information with the BSEC fleet operators and Member Associations through the BSEC-URTA web portal.



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**WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2009**

**Facilitation:**

**1. SIMPLIFICATION OF VISAS FOR PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS**

- a. Cooperate with related Member Associations in order to ensure that their respectful countries join the BSEC Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Professional Lorry Drivers Nationals of the BSEC Member States, which was signed by Albania, Armenia, Moldova and Turkey in Tirana, on 23 October 2008.
- b. Follow up with related Member Associations that the signatory countries complete their internal procedures for ratification of this agreement as soon as possible.
- c. Work together with the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU in order to plan in advance and prepare as appropriate, the possible implementation phase of this Agreement upon its entry into force.
- d. Work for identifying a joint working strategy with the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU in order to obtain support of the European Commission for joining of the BSEC Member States, which are also the EU Members, in this Agreement.

**2. INTERNATIONAL VEHICLE WEIGHT CERTIFICATE (IVWC)**

- a. Follow up work of competent UNECE organs in charge for creation of the IVWC.
- b. Support IRU and UNECE activities, which aim implementation of the new Annex 8 to the UNECE 1982-International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods.
- c. Call on coordinated action of the BSEC Member States for quick implementation of this important facilitation tool, also by bearing in mind the related CIS experience, at the meetings of the Steering Committee of the BSEC MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods.

**3. SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES**

- a. Support work of the newly created BSEC Working Group on Customs in order to elaborate a regional Action Plan, which takes into account common regional objectives as laid out in the BSEC MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC region.
- b. Lobby for accession to and implementation by the BSEC Member States of UNECE conventions related to road transport and WCO international agreements on development of standards and technical support for the harmonization of procedures governing the movement of people and goods.
- c. Support the BSEC PERMIS and the Working Group on Customs to consider developing a regional website, where information could be published about customs procedures and charges in the BSEC Member States with respect to international road transport of goods.



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**4. HARMONIZATION OF CHARGES**

- a. Promote the idea of creating an official BSEC information system on road transport, which could be integrated with the abovementioned idea of a regional website, where country data could be published on road user charges and any other applicable charges and fees in the region.
- b. Follow up work of the Steering Committee of the BSEC MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods aimed at harmonizing charges and simplifying collection procedures.

**5. GRADUAL LIBERALIZATION OF BILATERAL AND TRANSIT ROAD TRANSPORT**

- a. Follow up conclusions of the BSEC Round Table Meeting organised by the Steering Committee in Istanbul in November 2008, in order to consider recommendations of international experts on alternative ways and activities to implement the BSEC MoU on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods.
- b. Taking into account abovementioned conclusions and expressed country positions, work together with the Steering Committee, the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU in order to find a common methodology and means, which would lead the interested BSEC Member States to gradual regional liberalization of bilateral and transit road transport in the BSEC region.
- c. Promote to the Steering Committee and the BSEC PERMIS, the idea of allowing interested non-BSEC countries to join in such regional methodology or means with a view to creating mutual benefits.
- d. Coordinate efforts of the BSEC-URTA Member Associations in order to ensure that their national authorities adopt a common supportive position regarding the future of the ECMT Quota System and its distribution criteria, which will be revised in 2010.

**6. BSEC-URTA FACILITATION PROGRAM**

- a. Support regional projects and activities involving three or more BSEC-URTA Member Associations or BSEC Member Countries, in principle, the BSEC, the IRU and interested leading international and regional organizations, which are aimed at promoting or supporting the abovementioned BSEC-URTA objectives as regards the facilitation of road transport in the BSEC region.

**IRU-BSEC Interaction:**

**1. IRU-BSEC COOPERATION**

- a. Continue contributing to implementation of the MoU between the BSEC Organization and the IRU.
- b. Coordinate participation of the BSEC Secretary General or his delegates to take part in the events organised by the IRU and BSEC-URTA and vice versa.



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**2. IRU-BSEC BUSINESS COUNCIL COOPERATION**

- a. Coordinate participation of the Secretary General of BSEC Business Council in the IRU and BSEC-URTA events and on a reciprocal basis of the IRU and BSEC-URTA representatives in the BSEC BC events.

**Re-opening of the Silk Road:**

**1. BSEC-URTA SILK ROAD PROGRAM**

- a. Support regional projects and activities involving three or more BSEC-URTA Member Associations or BSEC Member Countries, in principle, the BSEC, the IRU and interested leading international and regional organizations, which are aimed at promoting or supporting the re-opening of the historic Silk Road across the BSEC region.

**Professional Training:**

**1. IMPROVEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SERVICES**

- a. Assist interested Member Associations to develop or diversify professional training services according to experiences of other training institutes in the BSEC region, which are accredited by the IRU Academy.

**2. COOPERATION AT THE BSEC LEVEL**

- a. Encourage the BSEC Member States to revitalize any efforts for mutual recognition of diplomas and certificates issued for professional training of drivers and transport managers in the BSEC region, which meet international standards set for such training products and services particularly in terms of quality and content.

**Combined Transportation:**

**1. IMPROVEMENT OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

- a. Support entry into force and implementation of the BSEC MoU on Motorways of the Sea.
- b. Support specific cooperation with the sister BSEC NGOs BASPA, BINSAs and BRASS, for elaboration and implementation of joint activities, studies or projects, which are aimed at developing and improving ro-ro services from the user perspective, who are the BSEC transport operators, mainly.

**Lobbying and Promotion:**

**1. COOPERATION BETWEEN TRANSPORT RELATED BSEC NGOS**

- a. Subject to continued mutual interest and determination, implement the MoU signed in Antalya on the 24 November 2006 by the BSEC-URTA and the transport related BSEC NGOS: BINSAs, BRASS and BASPA.



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- b. Support third parties, which would like to create new regional NGOs in the BSEC region according to similar format and experiences of the BSEC-URTA.

**2. COOPERATION WITH BSEC PERMIS AND BSEC BC**

- a. Organize mutual working visits whenever necessary and annual debriefings on activities and policy priorities of the BSEC-URTA.

**Good Examples:**

**1. ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT**

- a. Encourage the host Associations to present about their organizational structure, operations, services and activities as well as their best practices on the occasion of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly meetings.

**Information Sharing:**

**1. BSEC-URTA WEB PORTAL**

- a. Publish the BSEC-URTA official documents on the portal and keep it updated with professional news and regional developments.

**2. REGIONAL TRANSPORT STATISTICS**

- a. Update the BSEC-URTA Regional Outlook Report according to information provided by the Member Associations about industry performance and market developments as well as any other information obtained from various other sources particularly with respect to foreign trade and border crossing waiting times.

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