



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

DOC/GA16/WP/09

Istanbul, 12 October 2009

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

Conference Centre Varembe (CCV)  
Geneva – Switzerland  
Wednesday, 04 November 2009, at 15:00 hrs

**BSEC-URTA WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2010**

The BSEC-URTA Member Associations are kindly requested to review below the vision, mission, strategic objectives and 2010 working program of the BSEC-URTA, which will be approved by the 16<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 the 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 Road 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.

## WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2010

### Facilitation:

1. GRADUAL LIBERALIZATION OF BILATERAL AND TRANSIT ROAD TRANSPORT
  - a. Support the pilot implementation of the BSEC Permit in 2010 in cooperation with the BSEC-URTA Member Associations, the Permanent International Secretariat of the BSEC Organization (BSEC PERMIS), and the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods (SC.F) as well as the IRU.
  - b. Take note of any bottlenecks in usage of the BSEC Permit in 2010 and assist the BSEC PERMIS to make a detailed statistical analysis for consideration of the SC.F, which will make a final decision in the end of 2010 to continue or discontinue the BSEC Permit in the future.
  - c. Participate and contribute to the work of the newly created Ad Hoc Project Group on creation of a regional license system similar in nature with the ECMT License, which is composed of representatives of Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Serbia and Turkey.
  
2. SIMPLIFICATION OF VISA PROCEDURES FOR PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS
  - a. Cooperate with the BSEC-URTA Member Associations in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Serbia and Ukraine as a priority in order to have 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. Work together with the BSEC-URTA Member Associations in Albania, Armenia and Moldova, which are current signatories to the abovementioned Agreement, in order to make sure that the internal ratification procedures in these countries of the said agreement are completed as soon as possible.
  - c. Subject to successful results under aforementioned items, work together with the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU in order to plan and prepare as appropriate, the possible implementation phase of this Agreement upon its entry into force.
  - d. Search for a common 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.
  
3. INTERNATIONAL VEHICLE WEIGHT CERTIFICATE (IVWC)
  - a. Encourage and support the BSEC, the IRU and the UNECE activities, which aim implementation of the new Annex 8 to the International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982 in the BSEC region.
  - b. Emphasize the importance of quick implementation of this important facilitation tool during the meetings of the competent BSEC Organs: Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods (SC.F), Working Group on Transport (WG.T), Working Group on Customs (WG.C) and Meeting of the Ministers of Transport.
  - c. Work with the BSEC PERMIS and the SC.F Chairmanship in order to identify a short term Plan of Action to ensure progress in this connection.
  
4. SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES
  - a. Participate in the work of the WG.C.
  - b. Promote during the meetings of the competent BSEC bodies, the UNECE conventions on road transport and the WCO international agreements on development of standards and technical support for the harmonization of procedures governing the movement of people and goods.
  - c. Request the BSEC PERMIS to design and publish an electronic webpage on information about customs procedures and charges in the BSEC Member States with respect to international road transport of goods, and search how the IRU could assist the BSEC PERMIS in this connection.

## 5. HARMONIZATION OF CHARGES

- a. This subject is unfortunately not attached a priority by the BSEC Member States, yet. However, cooperate with the SC.F Chairmanship to keep this subject on the agenda of the future meetings of the SC.F, which could, at least, decide for conduct of a comparative regional analysis of the actual charges in the BSEC region as a first step.

## 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. Contribute to implementation of the MoU between the BSEC Organization and the IRU if and when possible.
- 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.

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

- a. Encourage participation of the new Secretary General of the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) in the future meetings and events of the BSEC-URTA and if possible, the IRU, on a reciprocal basis.

### **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. Make links on the BSEC-URTA web portal of the training instituted operated by the BSEC-URTA Member Associations under accreditation of the IRU Academy and publish their news as provided by the interested Associations.
- b. 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 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.
  - b. Support entry into force and implementation of the BSEC MoU on Motorways of the Sea.

**Lobbying and Promotion:**

1. COOPERATION BETWEEN TRANSPORT RELATED BSEC NGOS
  - a. Invite the transport related BSEC NGOS to an annual coordination meeting, which could be held in Istanbul, in principle, in the first quarter of 2010.
2. COOPERATION WITH THE BSEC PERMIS AND THE BSEC BC
  - a. Organize mutual working visits whenever necessary and make annual debriefings on activities and policy priorities of the BSEC-URTA.
3. COOPERATION WITH THE BSTDB
  - b. Make a working visit to the BSTDB Headquarters in Thessaloniki, Greece, in order to inform about the BSEC-URTA working programme and activities and to discuss opportunities for bilateral cooperation on the regional level.

**Good Examples:**

1. ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT
  - a. Make an electronic BSEC-URTA Membership Catalogue indicating the organisation chart by functions, management structure, services and contact details of each BSEC-URTA Member Association and Observers.
  - b. Subject to availability of sponsorship revenues, print the abovementioned Catalogue in English and Russian languages.
  - c. Continue to allow 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. Work for creation of a special BSEC Road Transport Webpage in cooperation with the BSEC PERMIS and the IRU.
  - b. 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.