

MIN/GA16/09

Istanbul, 21 May 2010

SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Geneva-Switzerland

Wednesday, 04 November 2009, at 15:00 hrs

MINUTES**I. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Vladimir Florea, BSEC-URTA President, welcomed the participants and guests to the 16th Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly and thanked H.E. Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, Secretary General of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), Mr. Martin Marmy, Secretary General of the International Road Transport Union (IRU), Ms. Virginia Tanase, Transport Division, UNECE, and Mr. Menno Menist, Managing Director, NEA Transport Research and Training, for their participation in the meeting.

H.E. Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, BSEC Secretary General, extended his greetings to the participants of the 16th Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly. He briefly informed about the recent developments within the BSEC Organization. He underlined that at its 4th meeting in Istanbul on 9 September 2009, the Steering Committee endorsed the decision of seven Member States namely Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Turkey to participate in a Pilot Project of the BSEC Permit on an experimental basis for one year. He expressed his deep gratitude to the IRU and the BSEC-URTA for their continuous contribution for realisation of this important technical work. Finally, he wished everybody all success in the important work of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly.

Mr. Martin Marmy, IRU Secretary General, expressed his pleasure to attend the 16th meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly. He underlined that the IRU also counts on the BSEC-URTA and its consistent work at national level to support common policy and objectives and to continue promoting and developing trade and road transport in the whole BSEC region as the main vehicle for successful economic cooperation, prosperity and peace. *Mr. Marmy* congratulated the BSEC-URTA and the BSEC on the implementation of a pilot BSEC Permit in 2010 on an experimental basis. He noted that the National Associations should attach a special importance to the BSEC Permit and make sure that the 2010 pilot project will not face any major bottlenecks in their countries.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda of the Meeting (DOC/GA16/AG/09) was adopted, unanimously.

III. ADOPTION OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chairman briefed on the Order of Business.

The Order of Business of the Meeting (DOC/GA16/OB/09) was adopted, unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairman invited to consider the Minutes of the 15th General Assembly.

Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly (MIN/GA15/09) were adopted, unanimously.

V. REPORT OF THE BSEC-URTA MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

The Chairman reported that the BSEC-URTA Management Council (MC) held its meeting prior to the General Assembly meeting. *The Chairman* briefed on the progress achieved regarding main BSEC-URTA objectives in 2009. Finally, he informed about the official application for BSEC-URTA Membership made by the National Union of Road Hauliers (UNTRR) from Romania.

VI. BSEC-URTA REGIONAL OUTLOOK REPORT

Mr. Adrian Albu, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, presented the BSEC-URTA Regional Outlook Report for 2009 (REP/GA16/OUTLOOK/09).

VII. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BSEC-URTA PRIORITIES IN 2009

The Chairman gave the floor to Mr. Adrian Albu, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, to make a presentation on the progress achieved regarding the main BSEC-URTA priorities in 2009.

Mr. Albu briefly informed about:

- a) State of Affaires related with the signing and ratification of the BSEC Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Professional Lorry Drivers Nationals of BSEC Member States (REP/GA16/BVPD/09);
- b) introduction of the "BSEC Permit" in 2010 (REP/GA16/PERMIT/09);
- c) establishment of a Regional Licence System similar in nature to the ECMT Licence (REP/GA16/LICENCE/09);
- d) conclusions of the UNECE Joint Seminar on Implementation of the New Annex 8 to the International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (REP/GA16/ICHFCG/09).

After very substantial deliberations and detailed exchange of ideas on this agenda item, the Chairman thanked the participants for their active participation and contributions and passed to the next item of the Agenda.

VIII. BSEC-URTA ACTIVITY REPORT

Mr. Haydar Özkan, BSEC-URTA Secretary General, presented a brief report about activities of the International Secretariat since the last meeting of the General Assembly in Yerevan on 12 May 2009 (DOC/GA16/ACTIV/09).

The Chairman thanked the BSEC-URTA Secretary General for his report and successful work of the International Secretariat.

IX. BSEC-URTA WORKING PROGRAMME FOR 2010

Mr. Haydar Özkan presented the vision and the strategic objectives of the BSEC-URTA for 2010 and proposed a Working Programme for the next year.

The BSEC-URTA Working Programme for 2010 (DOC/GA16/WP/09) was adopted, unanimously.

SECOND SESSION: Second Sitting

X. AMENDMENT OF THE ARTICLE 8 OF THE BSEC-URTA STATUTES

Mr. Haydar Özkan, BSEC-URTA Secretary General, submitted to the consideration and adoption of the 16th Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly, the following amendment to the BSEC-URTA Statutes in compliance with the decision of the last meeting of the BSEC-URTA Management Council:

"Old Paragraph 1 of the Article 8 of the BSEC-URTA Statutes:

At meetings of BSEC-URTA, each Member has, at its disposal, six (6) votes, whatever the number of delegates present. In case, there is more than one Member per country, six votes per country will be divided among themselves by the members of BSEC-URTA.

New Paragraph 1 of the Article 8 of the BSEC-URTA Statutes:

At meetings of BSEC-URTA, each Member has, at its disposal, six (6) votes, whatever the number of delegates present."

After substantial deliberations and detailed exchange of ideas on this agenda item, the BSEC-URTA General Assembly decided not to amend Paragraph 1 of the BSEC-URTA Statutes, which was proposed by the Management Council under the related working document (STATUTES/GA16/09/Amendments).

XI. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVER STATUS

The General Assembly unanimously decided to renew the Observer status of the MT and Ingosstrakh Russia for five years from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2014 with an annual contribution of EUR 2.000 and EUR 5.000, respectively.

Mr. Haydar Özkan informed that the National Union of Road Hauliers from Romania (UNTRR) made its official application to become a BSEC-URTA Member starting from 1 January 2010. *The General Assembly* granted Membership status to the UNTRR and agreed that the UNTRR will contribute by EUR 6.000 to the BSEC-URTA annual budgets.

XII. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Mr. Adrian Albu, BSEC-URTA Deputy Secretary General, presented the draft BSEC-URTA Budget for 2010 to consideration and approval of the General Assembly.

The BSEC-URTA Budget for 2010 (DOC/GA16/BUDG/09) was adopted, unanimously.

XIII. ELECTION OF BSEC-URTA VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR 2010 AND SECRETARY GENERAL FOR 2010-2013

The Chairman informed about the nomination of Messrs Tofiq Nurullayev (ABADA) and Evgeny Moskvichev (ASMAP) for the position of the BSEC-URTA Vice-President for 2010 and Mr. Haydar Özkan as its Secretary General from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013. Taking note of the number of nominations, he proposed to elect new Vice-Presidents and renew the term of office of Secretary General by applause.

The General Assembly elected Messrs Tofiq Nurullayev (ABADA) and Evgeny Moskvichev (ASMAP) as two BSEC-URTA Vice Presidents for 2010 and renewed the term of office of Mr. Haydar Özkan as the BSEC-URTA Secretary General for 2010-2013 by applause, unanimously.

XIV. NEXT MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairman acknowledged with gratitude the invitation of the GIRCA to host 17th meeting of the General Assembly in Tbilisi in spring 2010. He informed that, subject to approval of the General Assembly, the exact date of the next meeting should be communicated by the Secretariat in consultation with the GIRCA, officially.

The invitation extended kindly by the GIRCA was adopted, unanimously.

XV. BSEC-URTA CALENDAR FOR 2010 – FIRST HALF

The BSEC-URTA Calendar (DOC/GA16/CAL/09) was adopted, unanimously.

XVI. DECISIONS OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairman informed that the Secretariat will prepare summary of decisions of the meeting, which will be submitted to signature of the participants after the meeting.

XVII. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman, in his closing remarks, thanked all the participants and Guests of Honour for their participation and active contributions to the work of the General Assembly.

The 16th meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly was closed, officially.