

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

REP/GA16/PERMIT/09/Corrigendum

Istanbul, 7 October 2009

SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BSEC PERMIT IN 2010

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

Background

The public-private roundtable on the implementation of the BSEC Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region (MoU-F) was held in Istanbul on 10 February 2009, with the participation of the representatives of the BSEC Member States, UNECE, IRU, and BSEC -URTA. During the meeting the representative of NEA Training and Research in Netherlands made a presentation on the results of a study undertaken by the NEA in order to identify alternative tools, projects and activities to implement all operative articles of the MoU-F.

Representatives of the Member States exchanged views on all alternative expert proposals as above but particularly extensive discussion took place on the matter of how to liberalize the bilateral and transit road transport of goods in the BSEC region, gradually. In this connection, the NEA study made the following three proposals for consideration of the BSEC Member States:-

- 1. Use bilateral road transport agreements on a systematic manner,
- 2. Create a BSEC Permit, which could be printed and distributed by the PERMIS and good for transit movement of trucks between the interested member states.
- 3. Develop a regional license system similar in nature to the ECMT licenses.

These alternative proposals are not necessarily for selection but they should be implemented among the interested Member States, simultaneously.

The BSEC Steering Committee on Facilitation of Road Transport (SC.F) on 11 February 2009 endorsed these proposals and requested the Member States to confirm to the BSEC PERMIS about their interest with the given three alternatives within two months.

It was decided that after this period is over, the PERMIS should convene an extraordinary meeting of the SC.F in order to evaluate and make decisions for certain actions by the PERMIS and set up project groups, if necessary, under each of these alternatives.

In order to facilitate this road map, SC.F mandated the PERMIS to prepare in consultation with the IRU and the BSEC-URTA, a template of the possible BSEC Permit and its suggested usage guidelines.

The extraordinary meeting of the SC.F took place in Istanbul on 9 September 2009.

The following countries informed the SC.F about their positions on the three alternatives as discussed at the previous meeting: the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Turkey. Each country position is given in the following table.

Country	Alternatives for Gradual Liberalization of Road Transpor		
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
	(Through Bilateral Agreements)	(Regional BSEC License)	(BSEC Permit for transit)
Republic of Albania	Yes	Yes	Yes
Republic of Armenia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Republic of Azerbaijan	No	No	No
Republic of Bulgaria	Yes	No	No
Georgia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hellenic Republic	Yes	No	No
Republic of Moldova	Yes	Yes	Yes
Romania	Yes	No	Yes
Russian Federation	Yes	No	No
Republic of Serbia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Republic of Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ukraine	-	-	-

The SC.F noted that the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Turkey are ready to join the implementation of a pilot BSEC Permit in 2010 on an experimental basis for one year.

The delegations of the Republic of Bulgaria, Hellenic Republic and the Russian Federation stated that the creation of a BSEC Permit as such is based on voluntary participation of interested Member States and therefore it is not binding for them.

During the meeting of the SC.F, the BSEC Member States willing to participate in the BSEC Permit Project considered the draft format and usage guidelines of the BSEC Permit and requested the PERMIS to produce their updated versions by the end of September 2009.

The BSEC PERMIS and the BSEC-URTA International Secretariat have worked out an updated Draft BSEC Permit and a User Guide for the BSEC Permit (see Annex 1), which will be finalized by the experts from the Participating Member States in their expected meeting in Istanbul. The BSEC-URTA recommended to the BSEC PERMIS to convene this meeting on 30 October 2009.

Roadmap for the Introduction of the "BSEC Permit" in 2010

The BSEC-URTA International Secretariat, in close cooperation with the IRU and the BSEC PERMIS, anticipates the next main activities and steps to be undertaken by these organisations and the Participating Member States as follows:-

Activity Description	Deadline
Collect proposals (amendments) of the Participating Member States about the Draft BSEC Permit and its Usage Rules.	02 October 2009
Informal Meeting of the BSEC Secretary General with the BSEC Ministers of Foreign Affairs in New York with the request of their support to the BSEC Permit pilot project.	23 October 2009
Translate the draft User Guide to the national languages of the Participating Member States.	30 October 2009

The BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs approves the decision of the Participating Member States to create the BSEC Permit from 1 January 2009.	2009
Finalise the graphic design of the BSEC Permit.	6 November 2009
Print the BSEC Permit and the Usage Guide in necessary amounts.	15 November 2009
Prepare and print the BSEC hologram to be attaches on the actual BSEC Permit as a security feature.	15 November 2009
Attach the holograms on each printed BSEC Permit.	20 November 2009
The BSEC PERMIS distributes the necessary amounts of the BSEC Permit and the Usage Guide to the diplomatic missions of each Participating Member State in Istanbul, Turkey.	20 November 2009
Delivery of the BSEC Permits and the Usage Guides to the Ministry of Transport of each Participating Member State through diplomatic channels.	1 December 2009
It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Transport of each Participating Member State to deliver these BSEC Permits and the Usage Guides to their competent national bodies in charge with delivering the BSEC Permit to the fleet operators registered in this country and controls of transit documents in the national border crossing points.	10 December 2009
Training of the national competent bodies.	18 December 2009
Distribution to the fleet operators.	After 18 December 2009
Entry into usage of the BSEC Permit among the Participating Member States.	1 January 2010

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BSEC PERMIT

Draft USER GUIDE

October 2009

Printed by the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) in partnership with the International Road Transport Union (IRU) and the Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region (BSEC-URTA)

GUIDE FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TRANSPORT OPERATORS ON THE USE OF THE BSEC PERMIT

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Preamble

On 25 June 1992, the Heads of State and Government of eleven countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine signed in Istanbul the Summit Declaration and the Bosphorus Statement giving birth to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). Later in April 2004, the Republic of Serbia became the 12th Member State of the Organization.

Since its inception, BSEC paid special attention to cooperation in transport focusing mainly on how to utilize effectively intra-region capacity and growing transit potential of the Black Sea region. In 1992, the BSEC established the Working Group on Transport, which has its regular meetings and it carries out its functions as a working organ of this cooperation.

The meetings of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States constitute *de-facto* a decision making regular high-level transport forum with its mechanism of implementation - working group, steering committeesand expert groups.

Besides, the work on actual facilitation of road transport of goods is going on under a special Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region (signed in Kyiv in 2002 and entered into force on 20 July 2006). The Steering Committee, which was established by the signatories Member States in accordance with this MoU, works on very important issues such as the simplification of visa procedures for professional truck drivers, gradual liberalization of bilateral and transit road transport, promotion and implementation of key UN conventions and international agreements, harmonization of social rules applicable to the crews of trucks, monitoring of border waiting times, introduction of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate, harmonization of charging policies, etc.

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. The BSEC Permit will be a single document printed and distributed by the BSEC PERMIS in an amount and according to the usage rules as agreed upon at the abovementioned meeting of the Steering Committee.

In this connection Participating Member States mandated the BSEC PERMIS to print 1,400 BSEC Permits and distribute 200 copies to each of the Participating Member States within November 2009.

It is the duty of competent authorities of each Participating Member State to deliver according to their own criteria, these BSEC Permits to their national transport operators.

The BSEC Permit is used for a single round trip only and the empty or loaded trucks holding such a BSEC Permit will be allowed during this single round trip to transit through the territories of all Participating Member States without having to present any other bilateral transit permit.

The 1,400 BSEC Permits will be printed and distributed by the BSEC PERMIS in November 2009, and stay in force from 1st January 2010 until 31st January 2011.

The BSEC PERMIS will monitor the usage of the BSEC Permits in 2010 and take note of any bottlenecks and make a detailed statistical analysis of the actual usage, which will be presented to the Steering Committee for detailed consideration. The Steering Committee then will make a final decision to continue or discontinue the BSEC Permit in the future.

This User Guide was prepared and printed in collaboration by the BSEC PERMIS, the IRU and the BSEC-URTA in order to provide detailed information about main principles and usage guide rules of the BSEC Permit, which will be created and implemented among the Participating Member States in 2010 as a Pilot Project.

Chapter 1: Definitions

The definitions of the terms are as follows:

- **BSEC:** The Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.
- **Member Country**: A country, which is member of the BSEC Organization.
- Non Member Country: A country, which is not member of the BSEC Organization.
- Participating Member State: Any country, which is member of the BSEC Organization and participates in the BSEC Transit Permit Project.
- **Registration Country**: The country, where the subject vehicle is registered as mentioned on the registration plate of the vehicle.
- **BSEC Permit**: The licence, which is valid for a single round journey in transit through the territories of Participating Member Stat and has a specific validity period.
- **Competent Authority**: The Authority in a Participating Member State, which is authorized to carry out activities related to the present BSEC Permit.
- **Multilateral character**: The possibility of using the BSEC Permit for runs through Participating Member States, other than the country of establishment of the transport company.
- International carriage: A journey by a laden or unladen vehicle, whose points of departure or arrival are in two different countries, with transit through one or more Member or non-Member countries; in the latter case, the BSEC Permit is obviously not valid on the territory of the non-member country.
- Transport for hire or reward: A transport operation performed by a transport undertaking for remuneration.
- **Transport for own account**: Transport that is not for hire or reward, certified by documents on board the vehicle.
- **Third Country Transport:** Transport of a good from a country, which is not the Registration Country of the vehicle to a country other than the Registration Country.
- **Cabotage**: A road transport operation, where goods are loaded and unloaded at two separate points within one country by a vehicle, which is registered in another country.
- Transport undertaking (transport operator, carrier, haulier): Any individual or corporate entity exercising the profession of international carrier of goods by road and who is duly authorised to perform international transport operations by the competent authority in the country of establishment.
- Transit: A journey across the territory of a country in which goods are neither loaded nor unloaded.
- Vehicle: A motor vehicle registered in a Member country, or a combination of coupled vehicles in which at least the motor vehicle is registered in a Member country and exclusively intended for the carriage of goods. The vehicle can be the property of the transport undertaking or can be put at its disposal through a hiring or leasing contract.
- **Hired vehicle**: Any vehicle, which, for remuneration and for a given period, is held by an undertaking that engages in the carriage of goods by road for hire or reward or for its own account by virtue of a hiring or leasing contract with the undertaking that owns the vehicle.
- **Contingent**: the number of licences made available every year to a Participating Member State. The principles for the calculation of this contingent are set up by the BSEC Steering Committee for Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region.
- **PERMIS**: the Permanent International Secretariat of the BSEC Organization.
- State (Country) of establishment: Participating Member State, where the haulier/haulage company is legally established.
- IRU: The International Road Transport Union.
- BSEC-URTA: The Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region.

Chapter 2: Issuance and limits

The BSEC Permits is a multilateral licence for the international carriage of goods by road for hire or reward by transport undertakings established in a Participating Member State, the transport operations being performed in transit through the territory of several Participating Member States by vehicles registered in a Participating Member State. The BSEC Permit do not allow Third Country Transport operations. The BSEC Permit does not allow Cabotage. The BSEC Permit is printed and issued by the PERMIS. The BSEC Permit is printed bilingual in English and Russian languages. When a journey is undertaken using a coupled combination of vehicles, the BSEC Permit is obtained from the competent Authority in the country in which the tractor is registered. The BSEC Permit covers the coupled combination of vehicles, even if the trailer or the semi-trailer is not registered in the name of the holder of the transport licence, or is registered in another Member Country. If goods are transported via a BSEC country where the use of the BSEC Permit is restricted, the said country may be transited with a bilateral license, ECMT license or some other means of transport (including rolling road) according to the bilateral arrangements agreed upon by the authorities of the subject country and the country of registration.

Chapter 3: Usage

A BSEC Permit may be used by only one vehicle (coupled combination of vehicles). It has to be carried on board the vehicle during a full round trip. It does not exempt the carrier from requirements relating to any other authorisations for the carriage of exceptional loads in terms of size or weight or for specific categories of goods (for example, dangerous goods). A BSEC Permit may be used for vehicles hired or leased without a driver, by the transport undertaking to which it has been issued. The vehicle must be at the exclusive disposal of the undertaking using it when hired and must be driven by the staff of this undertaking. The BSEC Permit may not be transferred by an undertaking to a third party.

Chapter 4: Validity and withdrawal

The BSEC Permit is valid for one calendar year from 1st January to 31 December of the year marked inside the box "Validity" on the front page. However, any remaining permits shall stay in use and be accepted by the Participating Member States until 31 January of the next calendar year. The BSEC Permits are invalid if the following mandatory particulars are not entered on them indelibly: name or business name and full address of the transport undertaking, signature and stamp of the body issuing the licence, validity year, date of issue of the licence. The BSEC Permits known as lost, replaced but found later are not valid anymore. In cases where a BSEC Permit is lost or stolen, the issuing Authority or body must be notified by the holder, immediately. In this regard the issuing authority or body will notify the BSEC PERMIS, which will circulate this information to the other Participating Member States as soon as possible.

Chapter 5: Mutual assistance

Participating Member States are to give each other mutual support in applying the provisions governing the use of the BSEC Permits, monitoring their observance and penalising any infringements. In order to facilitate the process of mutual assistance, it is the duty of each Participating Member State to inform its concerned competent authorities about introduction, template and usage rules of the BSEC Permit, appropriately.

The BSEC PERMIS in collaboration with the BSEC-URTA and the IRU will assist the Participating Member States wherever necessary and facilitate their mutual assistance as above.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION ЧЕРНОМОРСКАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОМУ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВУ



No 1234567890

JOURNEY AUTHORIZATION / PA3PEWEHUE HA PEŬC (outward and return / выезд за границу и возврат)

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY ROAD ПО МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЙ АВТОМОБИЛЬНОЙ ПЕРЕВОЗКЕ ГРУЗОВ

COUNTRY / CTPAHA

VALIDITY / СРОК ДЕЙСТВИЯ

ALBANIA

This authorization is issued to / Данное разрешение выдано

2010

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На международнуютр	ранзитную перевозку грузов че	igh Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Turkey рез, Албанию, Армению, Грузию, Молдову, Румынию, Сербию и Турцию номер транспортного средства
(coupled combination	/ комбинации)	
Issued at Выдан	Date	Signature / Stamp of Authority Issuing Authorization Подпись и печать организации, выдавшей разрешение

e or reward by transport undertakings established in a BSEC Member country, the transport operations be C Permits do not allow Third Country Transport operations. BSEC Permits do not allow Cabotage. BSEC Per ing a coupled combination of vehicles, the Permit is obtained from the competent Authority in the country itered in the name of the holder of the transport (icence, or is registered in another Member country. If good cense, ECMT license or some other means of transport (including rolling road) according to the bilateral and the country of the country is the country of the cou

Country/Страна Outward / Выезд Return / Возврат **ALBANIA ARMENIA GEORGIA MOLDOVA ROMANIA SERBIA** TURKEY Restrictions: Romania: this BSEC permit is valid over the Romanian territory if the user is at least EURO3 vehicle Particulars referring to the BSEC Permit here given in the official languages other than Russian and English, of the countries concerned: AL Ky dokument - i firmosur dhe i vulosur ne faqen 1 nga autoritetet kompetente- lejon transportuesin te kaloje tranzit ne territorin e shteteve anetare pjesemarrese, te permendura ne faqen 1, gjate nje operacioni transporti vajtje/ardhje me nje mjet te vetem ose nje kombinim mjetesh, me ose pa ngarkese. ARM Մույն փաստաթուղթը, որը պետք է 1-ին էջում ստորագրված և կնքված լինի իրավասու մարժինների կողմից, փոխադրողին՝ 1-ին էջում նշված մասնակից անդամ-պետության տարածքով, բեռնված կամ դատարկ, մեկ ավտոտրանսպորտային միջոցով կամ համակցված ավտոտրանսպորտային միջոցներով այնտեղ և ետ փոխադրման ժամանակ տարանցման թույլտվություն է տալիս GE "წინამდებარე ლიკუშენტი - ხელმოწერილი და დადასტურებული უფლებამოსილი ორგანოების მიერ I-ლ გეერდზე, უფლებას აძლევს გადამზიდავებს განახორციელონ ტრანზიტი I-ლ გეერდზე აღნიშნული მონაწილე წევრი ქვექნების ტერიტორიაზე, სატრანსპორტო ოპერაციის განმავლობაში, გზობაზე იქვო და აქეთ, დატეირთული ან დაუტეორთვი ავტოსატრანსპორტო საშუალებით."

R Birinci sayfada usulüne uygun olarak yetkili mercilerce imzalanmış ve mühürlenmiş olan bu belge, taşımacıya, birinci sayfada yer alan katılımcı üye ülkelerin topraklarından yüklü veya yüksüz olarak, tek bir araç veya araç kombinasyonu ile gidiş/dönüş olmak üzere transit geçişe izin verir.

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Annex 2: Model of the BSEC Hologram

