

TWELFTH MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA Odessa, Ukraine, 1 June 2016

ДВЕНАДЦАТОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ ТРАСЕКА г. Одесса, Украина, 1 июня 2016

ODESSA DECLARATION

The Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) TRACECA having held its Twelfth Annual Meeting (Conference) on 1 June 2016, in Odessa, Ukraine,

Following in its activity the principles and **striving** to effectively promote the solution of the objectives specified in the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (hereinafter referred to as the MLA);

Acknowledging its commitment to the provisions of the Brussels Declaration of 1993 and the Baku Summit Declaration of 1998, as well as sharing the aspirations of the Parties expressed in the Decisions and Declarations of the IGC TRACECA adopted at its previous meetings,

Guided by the validity of further development of the international transport corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia" on the basis of modern technological and logistic methods and approaches for the purposes of trade facilitation;

Highly appreciating the assistance of the European Commission rendered through Technical Assistance TRACECA projects, and expressing assurance of further fruitful cooperation with the European Union with the view of developing the transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia;

Recognizing the necessity of developing the TRACECA corridor;

Being convinced, that effective and secure transport communications of the corridor should be based on approximation of the national legislations with international transport agreements and conventions; simplification and harmonization of transport-customs and other border-crossing procedures primarily in transit traffic;

As well as, **welcoming** the determination of the Parties to the Basic Agreement to make efforts towards developing the TRACECA corridor,

Declares the following:

IGC positively appreciates the activity of the Parties concerned with the implementation of the Strategy of the IGC TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia" for the period up to 2015;

IGC underlines the efforts of the Parties to the Basic Agreement for the continuation of coordinated transport policies on the enhancement of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia corridor within the framework of the adoption of the Strategy of the IGC TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor for the period 2016-2026 elaborated on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and to be implemented in close cooperation with the European Union and TRACECA Parties.

IGC encourages the endeavors of the countries to increase the number of the border crossing points between signatory countries for the sake of further development of the international road traffic along the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia corridor and facilitating the access to international market of road transportation;

IGC appreciates the outcomes of the realization of the Plan of Measures for the Implementation of the Concept of Development of International Road Traffic along the Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia, Increase of Competitiveness and Attractiveness of TRACECA Road Routes;

IGC appreciates efforts of the Parties to implement the priority actions on the implementation of measures within the TRACECA Regional Action Strategy on maritime Safety and Security and Environmental Protection for the period up to 2021;

IGC supports the aspiration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to accede to the Basic Multilateral Agreement TRACECA;

Acknowledging the significance of the decisions made, the IGC TRACECA expresses its satisfaction with the outcomes of its Twelfth Annual Meeting;

Participants of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the IGC TRACECA express their gratitude to the Government of Ukraine for the assistance in organizing the Conference at the high level and for the extended hospitality.