

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA
Astana / Republic of Kazakhstan, December 12 – 13, 2007

ШЕСТОЕ ЕЖЕГОДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ ТРАСЕКА г. Астана / Республика Казахстан, 12 – 13 декабря 2007 г.

PROTOCOL ON AMENDMENTS TO THE BASIC MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPE – THE CAUCASUS- ASIA CORRIDOR IN RESPECT OF THE NEW STATUS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND ROMANIA ACCEDED TO THE EU ON 1 JANUARY 2007

In accordance with Article 11 ("Presentation of Amendments and Additions") of the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (hereinafter referred to as the Basic Agreement),

In view of the new status of two parties, the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania, which became EU member states as of 1 January 2007.

The Parties agreed to incorporate the following amendments to the Basic Agreement and its Technical Annexes:

- I. From the date of entry into force of the present Protocol, the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania withdraw from the following provisions:
 - points 2 and 3 of the **Protocol on Amendments to the Basic Agreement on International Transport** for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (signed at the III Conference of the IGC TRACECA, on 9 October, 2003, Yerevan, the Republic of Armenia)
 - point 4 of the Protocol on Amendments to the Basic Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (the Technical Annex on the International Customs Transit Procedures in the Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia for the carriage of goods by rail using the "SMGS" Railway Bill to the Basic Agreement)
 - article 8 of the Technical Annex on International Road Transport to the Basic Agreement
 - the Technical Annex on Customs and Documentation Procedures to the Basic Agreement.
- II. From the date of entry into force of the present Protocol, the Republic of Bulgaria withdraws from the provisions of the Appendix 2 to the Technical Annex on International Railway Transport to the Basic Agreement.
 - III. The parties agreed to make the following amendments:
- 1. To Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Basic Agreement, by adding a new sentence stipulated as follows:

"These provisions shall not apply to advantages granted by the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in virtue of their membership in the European Union to the Member States of this Union or to any third country".

2. To Article 9 of the Technical Annex on International Commercial Maritime Navigation to the Basic Agreement, by adding a new paragraph 4, stipulated as follows:

"The provisions of this Article shall not apply to advantages granted by the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in virtue of their membership in the European Union to Member States of this Union or to any third country".

- 3. To point 3 in Appendix 1 to the Technical Annex on International Railway Transport to the Basic Agreement, by replacing the wording «National Company Bulgarian State Railways» with «Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Bulgaria».
- IV. The Parties agree that the Parties to the Basic Agreement, which are members of the European Union, participate in the further development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia transport corridor only where it is fully in compliance with the European law.

The provisions of the Basic Agreement and its Technical Annexes will not be applied between the Parties to the Basic Agreement, which are members of the European Union.

In case of any future amendments to the Basic Agreement and/or its Technical Annexes these countries shall preserve the right of expressing their position towards non-participation on a case-by-case basis. In these cases the norm of consensus envisaged by Article 8, paragraph 2 of the Basic Agreement shall not be applied while adopting the decisions.

This Protocol shall enter into force in accordance with Articles 11 ("Presentation of Amendments and Additions") and 13 ("Entry into force") of the Basic Agreement.

The Protocol shall be opened for signature on 13 December 2007 in Astana, thereafter at the Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission of TRACECA.

Done in Astana on 13 December 2007 in one original copy in English and Russian, both of them being equally authentic.

In witness whereof, the undersigned Heads of Delegations or their plenipotentiaries have signed this Protocol.

For the Republic of Armenia

For Romania

For the Republic of Bulgaria

For the Republic of Azerbaijan

For the Republic of Tajikistan

For the Republic of Moldova

For Georgia

For the Republic of Turkey

For the Republic of Kazakhstan

For Ukraine

For the Kyrgyz Republic

For the Republic of Uzbekistan