



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AND  
THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR  
EUROPE-THE CAUCASUS-ASIA  
ON TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Intergovernmental Commission of the Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia (IGC TRACECA) reaffirm their desire to work together in areas of transport development through the present Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

**II. PURPOSE OF ESCAP-IGC TRACECA COOPERATION**

2. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA have common mandates to promote transport development and plan to work together on the further development of transport corridors including the Euro-Asian Transport Linkages, as well as other transport infrastructure, facilitation and logistics issues.

**III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ESCAP-IGC TRACECA COOPERATION**

3. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA will be guided by the following general principles:
- (a) Long-term approaches to inclusive and sustainable development are needed;
  - (b) Full stakeholder participation should be encouraged; and
  - (c) Development policies and programmes should be results-oriented.

**IV. FOCUS OF ESCAP-IGC TRACECA JOINT ACTIVITIES**

4. The priority joint activities would include those listed in the Appendix to this MoU, which may be amended from time to time with the mutual written consent of the two organizations.

**V. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

5. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA recognize that effective cooperation depends on open, comprehensive and regular exchange of information at the institutional level. To the extent possible under the information disclosure policies of the two organizations, they agree to make appropriate arrangements to:



- (a) provide copies of publications and public documents related to transport of each organization to the other organization to be maintained as reference documents; and
- (b) give notice, through information posted on the websites of each organization, of:
  - conferences, seminars and workshops being organized or sponsored;
  - regional, country, sector and thematic policy/strategy documents;
  - programme and project approval documents; and
  - regional programme, country programme, sectoral, project and other evaluations.

#### **VI. RECIPROCAL INVITATIONS**

6. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA recognize that appropriate representation is important for the purpose of joint positioning and advocacy. They agree that invitations to the meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops relevant to cooperation in the priority areas set out in the appendix to this MoU will be sent where this is deemed appropriate by the inviting organization.

#### **VII. PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS**

7. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA recognize that it is important to convene periodic consultations to review what is being planned, what is being implemented, and what is being achieved in terms of results as well as to discuss new challenges, opportunities and problems related to the areas of cooperation under this MoU. They agree to hold such consultations periodically as required and not less than once every two years.

#### **VIII. FOCAL POINTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE MOU**

8. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA agree to designate the following as focal points for the activities under this MoU:

- (a) for ESCAP: Transport Division
- (b) for IGC TRACECA: Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA

#### **IX. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE MOU AND JOINT ACTIVITIES**

9. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA will prepare annually:

- (a) a list of all current operational cooperation activities and status of implementation;



- (b) a list with a brief description of all planned cooperation activities for the next year; and
- (c) an indicative list of planned cooperation activities for two subsequent years.

10. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA agree that:

- (a) the Parties will conduct a joint mid-term review of the implementation of this MoU and consider further cooperation activities.
- (b) these assessments will be reviewed by ESCAP and IGC TRACECA in considering further cooperation activities, including any necessary amendments to this MoU.

#### **X. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND USE OF INSTITUTIONAL EMBLEMS**

11. ESCAP and IGC TRACECA recognize that the involvement of both organizations in joint cooperation activities needs to be publicized. They agree that:

- (a) there will be public acknowledgment of the role and contribution of each organization to cooperation projects in all public information documentation related to such cooperation; and
- (b) the use of emblems of each organization in documentation related to cooperation will be in accord with the current policies of each organization concerning such usage.

#### **XI. TERM AND REVIEW OF THE MOU**

12. IGC TRACECA and ESCAP agree that:

- (a) the term of this MoU will be from the date of signature by both Parties and shall be valid for three years; and
- (b) this MoU may be renewed for another three years if both parties agree in writing on the renewal at least six months before the expiration date.

#### **XII. MISCELLANEOUS**

13. Any specific activities under this MoU shall be covered by a project document or written agreement.

14. This MoU may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.



15. This MoU may be terminated by either Party on six months notice in writing.

Done in two original copies in the English and Russian languages.

For the Economic and Social  
Commission for Asia and the Pacific

For the Intergovernmental Commission  
of the Transport Corridor Europe-the  
Caucasus-Asia

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Noeleen Heyzer  
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations  
and Executive Secretary of ESCAP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rustan Jenalinov  
Secretary-General

Bangkok, Thailand: 25 May 2009

Place and date of signature

Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan: 16 June 2009

Place and date of signature



## APPENDIX

### PRIORITY AREAS FOR ESCAP- IGC TRACECA COOPERATION

1. Development and operationalization of international transport corridors including TRACECA and the Euro-Asian Transport Linkages (EATL);
2. Promotion of investment in transport infrastructure including the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway Networks and intermodal interfaces (dry ports);
3. Simplification and harmonization of border-crossing documentation and procedures including the application of information and communication technology in international transport;
4. Promotion of effective operational practices and the improvement of the efficiency of intermodal transport and logistics;
5. Harmonization of transport tariff policies;
6. Development and maintenance of transport databases including Geographic Information System (GIS);
7. Promotion of policy measures for mitigating the environmental impact of international and transit transport;
8. Promotion of safety in the field of transport;
9. Development of effective strategies and programmes for human resources development in multimodal transport and logistics.