

**Memorandum of Understanding  
between the Crans Montana Forum and the Permanent Secretariat of the  
Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA**

The Crans Montana Forum, hereinafter referred to as the CMF, and the Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Transport Corridor Europe – the Caucasus – Asia, hereinafter referred to as the *PS IGC TRACECA*, jointly referred to as the *Parties*.

Basing on the objectives of the Parties and enshrined in the corresponding statutory documents of the Parties;

Recognizing a considerable contribution of maritime transport in the improvement of social-economic conditions and development of trade between the countries and regions of Europe, the Caucasus and Asia;

Noting common interest of the Parties in strengthening cooperation between them with the view of sustainable development of maritime traffic;

Having common mandates to promote transport development and plan to work together on the further development of transport corridors, as well as transport infrastructure, facilitation and logistics issues.

Reaffirm their desire to work together in the areas of transport development through the present Memorandum of Understanding (MoU);

Agreed on the following:

**Article 1. Areas of cooperation**

Recognizing common interests the Parties agreed on cooperation in the following areas:

- Development and operationalization of international transport corridors including TRACECA;
- Facilitation of the development of international transport and transit along the routes Europe-the Caucasus-Asia. Practical realization of public private partnership by establishing and maintaining an ongoing dialogue on maritime transport and by reaching coordination of actions between the international organizations, state bodies, maritime transporters and associations etc.
- Promotion of investments in transport infrastructure including the Asian Highway and Trans Asian Railway Networks and intermodal interlaces (dry ports);
- Simplification and harmonization of border-crossing documentation and procedures including the application of information and communication technology in international transport;

- Assistance to harmonization in observance of international normative-legal acts in maritime transport (providing assistance to TRACECA countries via targeted projects, courses, trainings, etc.);
- Promotion of effective operational practices and the improvement of the efficiency of intermodal transport and logistics;
- Harmonization of transport tariff policies;
- Promotion of policy measures for mitigating the environmental impact of international and transit transport;
- Promotion of safety in the field of transport;
- Development of effective strategies and programmes for human resources development in multimodal transport and logistics.

## **Article 2. Instruments for Cooperation**

For the purpose of implementation of the present Memorandum the Parties define the following instruments for cooperation:

- Exchange of information as well as of experience and knowledge, accumulated by the Parties in the corresponding fields of activity, through organization and arrangement of joint conferences, workshops, round tables, working groups, meetings and other activities on the issues being of mutual interest;
- Participation of the Parties' representatives in joint conferences, workshops, round tables, symposiums and other events in case of their evident expediency for both Parties. Each Party attends the event on the invitation of the other Party and in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Parties;
- Preparation of joint research projects, analytical reports and other projects of the Parties; Exchange of information on international indices of maritime traffic and forecasts for competing transport corridors with the view of determining the existing obstacles for development of this sector within our own jurisdictions or spheres of activity
- Joint activities regarding the attraction of public, international, and private investments in financing and operation of transport network including in maritime transport (*Implementation of projects of the Investment Forums TRACECA, etc.*);

## **Article 3. Exchange of Information**

The Parties 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, the latter agree to make appropriate arrangements to:

- a) provide copies of publications and public documents related to water transport between two organizations to be maintained as reference documents;
- 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;
  - regional programme, country programme, sectoral, project and other evaluations.
- c) receive and transmit by both Parties to each other all other transport related public documents, if requested and available.

#### **Article 4. Principles of Cooperation**

Within the framework of the present Memorandum the Parties are guided by generally accepted principles and norms of international law, applicable international agreements and establish cooperation on the principles of equality, mutual respect, openness and honesty.

#### **Article 5. Acknowledgements and Use of Institutional Emblems**

The Parties recognize that the involvement of both organizations in joint cooperation activities needs to be publicized. The Parties 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.

#### **Article 6. Focal Points for Management of the MoU**

The Parties agreed to designate the following representatives as focal points for the activities under this MoU:

- a) for the CMF: **Pierre-Emmanuel Quirin, President of the Crans Montana Forum**
- b) for the PS IGC TRACECA: **Mircea Ciopraga, Secretary General of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA**

#### **Article 7. Resolution of Disputes**

The disputes and disagreements between the Parties on the issues related to the scope of activity of the present Memorandum shall be resolved by means of negotiations or consultations.

#### **Article 8. Amendments and Additions**

Amendments and additions to the present Memorandum shall be made by separate protocols being an integral part of the present Memorandum.

### **Article 9. Term of Validity**

The present Memorandum shall be made for an indefinite period and shall be terminated in case of its cancellation by both Parties by mutual consent or by wish of one of the Parties via preliminary written notification of the other Party at least 30 days before the planned termination date.

### **Article 10. Restriction of Liabilities**

The present Memorandum shall not impose any material (financial) or legal liabilities on the Parties.

### **Article 11. Coming into Effect**

The present Memorandum comes into effect from the date of its signature by the authorized officials of the Parties.

Done in ..., ..., on ... 20 ... in two authentic copies, one for each Party, in the English and the Russian languages. Each copy has an equal legally binding force.

**For the Crans Montana Forum**

**For the Permanent Secretariat of the  
Intergovernmental Commission  
TRACECA**

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Pierre-Emmanuel Quirin – President

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Mircea Ciopraga – Secretary General