

**MEMORANDUM
ON COOPERATION**

between

**the Permanent Secretariat
of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA
(PS IGC TRACECA)**

and

**the Association of Legal Entities
of the International Association “Trans-Caspian
International Transport Route”
(ALE IA TITR)**

Terms and abbreviations applied in the present Memorandum on Cooperation :

- **ALE “IA “TITR”** – Association of Legal Entities “International Association “Trans-Caspian International Transport Route”;
- **PS IGC TRACECA** – Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission of the transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia;
- **TITR Route** – Trans-Caspian International Transport Route extending through China, Kazakhstan, the water area of the Caspian Sea, Azerbaijan, Georgia and further to the European countries;
- **ITC TRACECA** – International Transport Corridor “Europe-the Caucasus-Asia”;
- **Multimodal transport** – is the transportation of goods performed with at least two different modes of transport, including railway and maritime.

Preamble

Noting that the Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Transport Corridor Europe – The Caucasus-Asia (hereinafter referred to as the PS IGC TRACECA) and the Association of Legal Entities “International Association “Trans-Caspian International Transport Route” (hereinafter referred to as the ALE IA TITR) hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Parties” and individually the “Party” – within the framework of TRACECA corridor routes and the TITR route,, have as common objective the sustainable development of transport;

Recognizing the considerable contribution of exchange of goods to the improvement of socio-economic conditions and the development of trade between countries and regions of Europe, the Caucasus and Asia;

In accordance with the objectives and activities of the Parties aimed at developing the international transport routes, attracting foreign trade goods and cargo turnover and reaffirming mutual desire to promote development of the existing potential for increasing the volumes of transported goods, including the increase of transit;

Noting common interest of the Parties in enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation with the view of promoting safety, security and sustainability of transport and increasing volumes of transported goods ;

Noting the Parties desire, in particular, to increase the bilateral exchange of information in all areas pertinent to transport as well as providing mutual support but not limited to that;

Taking into account the main directions and stages of the implementation of a coordinated transport policy and mutual interest in the implementation by the Parties of cooperation in the field of multimodal transport in order to create favorable conditions for the development of business activities and international cooperation in the field of transport, infrastructure and logistics as well as to increase freight flows along the TITR route, including the International Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia;

The Parties have reached understanding on the following issues:

Article 1. INTRODUCTION

The PS IGC TRACECA and the **ALE IA TITR** reaffirm their desire to work together in the field of transport development through the present Memorandum of Cooperation. Cooperation between the PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" shall be maintained in compliance with their existing provisions and statutory documentation as well as adhering to the rights and international obligations of the Parties.

Article 2. PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM

- a. The PS IGC TRACECA shall provide consulting and informational assistance to the ALE "IA" TITR" with the view of realizing perspective initiatives, ideas, or practices agreed between the Parties in order to increase freight traffic along the TITR route and along the transport corridor TRACECA in general.
- b. The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" have common mandates to promote transport development and plan to work together on the further development of international traffic, multimodal transport and transit along the TITR route and along the transport corridor TRACECA on the whole
- c. The PS IGC TRACECA shall make all efforts to enhance multimodal transport along the TITR route and along the TRACECA transport corridor on the whole.
- d. Other types of cooperation, agreed by the Parties where applicable ,

Article 3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR PS IGC TRACECA and ALE "IA "TITR" COOPERATION

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" will be guided by the following general principles:

- a. Application of long-term approaches to inclusive and sustainable development of the TITR route and along the TRACECA transport corridor on the whole;
- b. Development policies and programs of cooperation should be results-oriented.

Article 4. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Parties recognize common interests and agree on cooperation in the following areas:

- improved international transport along the TITR route within the ITC TRACECA, including multimodal transport ;
- simplification and harmonization of the existing and/or joint development of new border-crossing documentation and procedures including with the view of digitalizing and widely using the information and communication technology in international transport and the legal field,;
- identification and elimination of non-physical barriers (tariff, customs and technical) aimed at improving the quality and efficiency of international transport along the TITR route and the TRACECA transport corridor;
- promotion of transit potential realization of TRACECA member states, including the TITR route ;
- promoting the introduction of digital technologies and intelligent systems in the field of freight forwarding and logistic activities;
- development of initiatives to improve legal regulation in the field of international traffic, as well as in freight forwarding and logistic activity;

- securing and improving transport safety measures and promoting safety condition of cargo;
- promotion of policy measures for mitigating the environmental impact of international and transit transport;
- attracting investments, grants, subsidies from International Financial Institutions, donors and partners in the field of development with the view of priority development of multimodal transport in transport infrastructure, including intermodal transport;
- other areas of mutual interest.

Article 5. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" recognize that effective cooperation depends on the exchange of information at the institutional level, with the exception of confidential information containing business secret. To the extent possible under the information disclosure policies, the Parties agree if available to make appropriate arrangements to:

- a. provide copies of publications and public documents related to traffic to be executed as reference documents;
- b. give notice, through information posted on the websites of each Party, of:
 - conferences, seminars and workshops being organized: regional, public , sector ones;
 - thematic policy/strategy documents;
 - program and project approval documents;
 - regional program, state program, sectoral, project and other evaluations.
- c. provide mutual assistance for application of preferences, if necessary, and technical assistance with the view of developing and implementing advanced technologies in the carriage of goods along the Parties routes.

Article 6. RECIPROCAL INVITATIONS

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" with the view of providing support and further developing of the TITR route and the transport corridor TRACECA on the whole, may send the invitations to the meetings, conferences, workshops and other events being important for cooperation in priority areas in compliance with the purposes of the present Memorandum.; Hold joint measures (conferences, meetings, etc.) in order to solve the relevant issues of developing transport, forwarding and logistic activities along the TITR route and along the TRACECA transport corridor on the whole;

The representative of the PS IGC TRACECA (NS of TRACECA in Kazakhstan) is a member of the Board of the ALE "IA "TITR" to provide the on-line communication between the PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR";

Participate in the events held by the Parties in the event of their evident expediency and other types of cooperation agreed by the Parties, where applicable.

Article 7. FOCAL POINTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE MEMORANDUM

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" agree to designate the following officials as focal points for the activities under this Memorandum:

- a. for the PS IGC TRACECA: **Secretary General of the PS IGC TRACECA**
- b. for the ALE "IA "TITR" : **Secretary General of IA "TITR"**

Article 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND USE OF INSTITUTIONAL EMBLEMS

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" agree that:

- a. There will be public acknowledgment of the role and contribution of each Party to cooperation projects in running of all or a part of the events arranged for the purposes of the present Memorandum, of all public information documentation related to such cooperation,
- b. The use of emblems of each Party in documentation related to cooperation will be in accord with the Parties in every particular case concerning such usage.

Article 9. DURATION OF THE MEMORANDUM

The PS IGC TRACECA and the ALE "IA "TITR" agree that:

- a. The duration of this Memorandum shall begin from the date of signature by both Parties and shall be valid for three years; and
- b. This Memorandum may be renewed for another three years unless either of the Parties notified in writing on the termination of the Memorandum at least three months before the expiration of its validity period .
- c. This Memorandum may be amended only by written request of either Party and written mutual agreement of the Parties. The amendments to this Memorandum will be documented in the Protocol constituting an integral part of this Memorandum.
- d. This Protocol on amendments will enter into force on the date of its signature by the Parties

Article 10. MISCELLANEOUS

This Memorandum and its executive arrangements will not prejudice the performance of obligations arising out of the other international, multilateral or bilateral agreements which have been or will be signed and approved by the Parties;

Any specific activities under this Memorandum shall be covered by project documents and/or individual written agreements;

This Memorandum of Cooperation is not an international treaty, does not create rights and obligations regulated by international law or does not entail any legal consequences for any of the Parties.

This Memorandum may be terminated by either Party on three months' prior notice in writing.
The Memorandum of Cooperation will enter into force after approval by the authorized bodies
Done in 2 original copies, in the English and Russian languages.

For the Permanent Secretariat of the
Intergovernmental Commission
TRACECA (PS IGC TRACECA)

– Secretary General

For the Association of Legal Entities
“International Association “Trans-Caspian
International Transport Route”
(ALE “IA TITR”)

Rakhmetollah Kudaybergenov –
Secretary General