

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SIGNING THE BASIC MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPE-THE CAUCASUS-ASIA CORRIDOR МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ, ПОСВЯЩЕННАЯ 20-ЛЕТИЮ ПОДПИСАНИЯ ОСНОВНОГО МНОГОСТОРОННЕГО СОГЛАШЕНИЯ О МЕЖДУНАРОДНОМ ТРАНСПОРТЕ ПО РАЗВИТИЮ КОРИДОРА ЕВРОПА-КАВКАЗ-АЗИЯ

Baku, Azerbaijan, 6 December 2019

г. Баку, Азербайджан, 6 декабря 2019

## BAKU DECLARATION

We, the participants of the International Conference dedicated to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of signing the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor held on 6 December 2019, in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan,

**According** to the objectives and principles 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** the 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;

**Recognizing** the necessity of further developing the transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia;

**Guided** by the importance of the implementation of the measures promoting creation of a sound international transport network based on the best practices and advanced technologies for the purposes of trade facilitation and unimpeded connectivity in the TRACECA region;

**Asserting** the intention to expand the implementation of international transport agreements and conventions regarding customs and border-crossing procedures for the achievement of the MLA objectives;

## **Declare the following:**

The MLA expresses intention of the Parties to develop trade-economic relations and transport connectivity in the regions of Europe, the Black Sea, the South Caucasus, the Caspian Sea, the Persian Gulf and Central Asia;

TRACECA plays an important role in regional transport system, consolidation of multilateral mutually beneficial relations, and economic prosperity;

The MLA Parties consider it necessary to make efforts to develop transport connections along TRACECA as a safe, reliable transport corridor meeting the challenges of transport in the XXI century;

The participants of the Conference appreciate the efforts by the MLA Parties to implement the priority actions on facilitation of freight transportation, including the upgrade of infrastructure, creation of the legal basis and digitalization of the transportation process;

The MLA Parties emphasize the importance of further development and implementation of digital technologies in the field of transport.

The interested Parties of the MLA noted the expediency of implementing the electronic system of TRACECA permits with the view of optimizing the exchange, delivery and control of their use;

The MLA Parties consider it necessary to enhance the development of multimodal transport in the TRACECA region;

The MLA Parties recognize the necessity of strengthening cooperation with the European Commission with the view of coordinating the activities on the development and improvement of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia corridor;

TRACECA considers it necessary to invigorate cooperation with International Financial Organizations with the aim of fund raising for the implementation of infrastructure projects in the MLA member countries;

The participants of the TRACECA Conference express their gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the organization of the Conference at the high level and for the extended hospitality.