



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA  
Sofia, Bulgaria, October 21, 2021

ПЯТНАДЦАТОЕ ЕЖЕГОДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ ТРАСЕКА  
г. София, Болгария, 21 октября 2021 г.

## FINAL RESOLUTIONS

**The Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) TRACECA** having held its Fifteenth Annual Meeting on 21 October 2021, in Sofia, the Republic of Bulgaria:

- discussed the issues in accordance with the adopted Agenda (**Appendix 1**);
  - heard the report of Mr Asset Assavbayev, Secretary General of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA (PS IGC TRACECA), on the activities of the PS IGC TRACECA for the period between the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Annual IGC Meetings;
  - heard the statements of the Parties to the “Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for the Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor” on the work done for the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the IGC TRACECA, implementation of the Strategy of the IGC TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor “Europe-the Caucasus-Asia” for 2016-2026 (Strategy), developed on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and proposals of the Parties;
  - considered the address by the Bulgarian Party on the priorities of implementation of the mandate of the Chairmanship in the Intergovernmental Commission;
  - examined financial, institutional, legal, conceptual and other issues vital for further development of the international transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA) and increase of its competitiveness;
- in accordance with Article 8 of the “Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for the Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor”

### ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS:

**1. On the realization of the Action Plan for 2018-2021 for implementation of the Strategy of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia for 2016-2026 developed on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and proposals of the MLA Parties.**

The IGC TRACECA Meeting heard the Report on the realization of the Action Plan for 2018-2021 for implementation of the Strategy of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia for 2016-2026 (Strategy), developed on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and proposals of the MLA Parties in 2020 (**Appendix 2**), prepared by the PS IGC TRACECA based on the reports of the MLA Parties.

The IGC TRACECA adopted this Report and positively evaluated the activities carried out by the MLA Parties regarding the achievement of aims and objectives of the Strategy for the reporting period.

**2. On approval of the Action Plan for 2022-2026 for implementation of the Strategy of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia for 2016-2026 developed on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and proposals of the Parties.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the Action Plan for 2022-2026 for implementation of the Strategy of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA for development of the international

transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia for 2016-2026 (Action Plan for 2022-2026), developed on the basis of the TRACECA Master Plan and proposals of the MLA Parties (**Appendix 3**).

The MLA Parties will take the necessary actions to implement this Action Plan for 2022-2026.

The IGC TRACECA charged the PS IGC TRACECA with the task of monitoring the realization of the TRACECA Action Plan for 2022-2026 and preparing an annual report on its execution.

### **3. On the realization by the MLA Parties of the priority actions for implementation of the “TRACECA Regional Action Strategy on Maritime Safety and Security and Environmental Protection for the period up to 2021”.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed the progress of realization by the MLA Parties of the priority actions for implementation of the TRACECA Regional Action Strategy on Maritime Safety and Security and Environmental Protection for the period up to 2021 (**Appendix 4**) and approved the information on the realization of its activities.

Taking into account the inclusion of the relevant activities of the TRACECA Regional Action Strategy on Maritime Safety and Security and Environmental Protection for the Period up to 2021 in the Action Plan for 2022-2026, the IGC TRACECA recognized the TRACECA Regional Action Strategy on Maritime Safety and Security and Environmental Protection for the period up to 2021 year fulfilled.

### **4. On monitoring the implementation of the IGC TRACECA decisions by the MLA Parties (review of outstanding decisions of the IGC) and the status of accession to the TRACECA international agreements.**

The IGC TRACECA heard and discussed the Information on the implementation of the Final Resolutions of the IGC TRACECA in the period 2010-2020 (**Appendix 5**) and the status of accession to the TRACECA international agreements (**Appendix 6**).

The IGC TRACECA:

- approved the Information on the implementation of the Final Resolutions of the IGC TRACECA in the period 2010-2020 and the proposal of the PS IGC TRACECA to remove items 1, 8 and 14 from the list of resolutions subject to monitoring;
- took note of the information on the work done by the Parties to accede to the TRACECA international agreements and recommended the MLA Parties, which have not acceded to the TRACECA international agreements, to consider the possibility of acceding to them;
- instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to continue the work on monitoring the implementation of the Final Resolutions of the IGC TRACECA and accession to the TRACECA international agreements.

### **5. On TRACECA multilateral permits.**

#### **5.1. On the results of the TRACECA permits system functioning for international road transport in 2020.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the information on the results of the TRACECA permits system functioning for international road transport in 2020 (**Appendix 7**), noting the importance of observing the annually assigned quotas for TRACECA multilateral permits.

The IGC TRACECA calls on the MLA Parties to join the permits system for further development of international road transport.

The member countries of the TRACECA permits system recognized the necessity for its further development through increasing the quota of TRACECA multilateral permits and the number of member countries.

#### **5.2. On making an amendment to the technical document “TRACECA Multilateral Permit” User Guide”.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the proposal on approving the new version of Appendix 2 to the technical document "TRACECA Multilateral Permit" User Guide (**Appendix 8**), prepared by the PS IGC TRACECA and member countries of the TRACECA permits system.

The member countries of the TRACECA permits system delegated authority to their representatives to sign the corresponding decision at the next Meeting of the Permanent Representatives (National Secretaries) of the PS IGC TRACECA.

#### **6. On approval of the Harmonized Conditions for the Transport of Goods under the spread of the coronavirus infection pandemic (COVID-19).**

The IGC TRACECA, having positively assessed the efforts of the PS IGC TRACECA and the MLA Parties to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on international road transport of goods, approved the Harmonized Conditions for the Transport of Goods under the spread of the coronavirus infection pandemic (COVID-19) (**Appendix 9**).

The MLA Parties agreed to take the necessary measures to implement the provisions of the Harmonized Conditions for the Transport of Goods under the spread of the coronavirus infection (COVID-19) pandemic to ensure safe and uninterrupted freight traffic in the TRACECA countries.

#### **7. On approval of the draft Agreement on Single Transit Permit of TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the draft Agreement on Single Transit Permit of TRACECA (**Appendix 10**) and the desire of the interested MLA Parties to conclude it, and recommended that the interested MLA Parties take active measures to ensure its early signing.

#### **8. On approval of the Concept for the Development of Container Transport up to 2030.**

Realizing the importance of further development of container traffic, the IGC TRACECA approved the Concept for the Development of Container Transport in TRACECA Countries up to 2030 (**Appendix 11**) and recommended the MLA Parties to take measures to effectively implement the provisions set out in the Concept.

The IGC TRACECA instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to take measures to implement the provisions of the Concept and provide for annual monitoring the implementation of its recommendations based on the information given by the MLA Parties.

#### **9. On approval of the Methodology for Identification of the Routes of the International Transport Corridor TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the Methodology for Identification of the Routes of the International Transport Corridor TRACECA (**Appendix 12**).

The IGC TRACECA instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to focus its activities on the routes identified in accordance with the Methodology for Identification of the Routes of the International Transport Corridor TRACECA, as well as to update the map of TRACECA routes applied earlier.

#### **10. On border crossing procedures.**

##### **10.1 On approval of the Review of harmonization and simplification of border crossing procedures between the MLA member states.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the Review of harmonization and simplification of border crossing procedures between the MLA member states (**Appendix 13**) and recommended that the MLA Parties take measures to implement the recommendations envisaged in the Review.

##### **10.2 On approval of the Methodology of Evaluating Check Points.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the Methodology of Evaluating Check Points (**Appendix 14**).

The IGC TRACECA recommended that the PS IGC TRACECA together with the MLA Parties evaluate the road check points from 2022 and submit the results to the next Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting.

## **11. On the drafts of the Memorandums of Understanding.**

### **11.1. On approval of signing the Memorandum of Cooperation between the PS IGC TRACECA and the Association of Legal Entities “International Association “Trans-Caspian International Transport Route” (ALE “IA “TITR”).**

The IGC TRACECA approved the Memorandum of Cooperation between the PS IGC TRACECA and ALE “IA “TITR” (**Appendix 15**) for signing and instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to ensure the implementation of its provisions.

### **11.2. On approval of signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the PS IGC TRACECA and the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the PS IGC TRACECA and the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (**Appendix 16**) for signing and instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to ensure the implementation of its provisions.

### **11.3. On approval of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between the PS IGC TRACECA and the CAREC Institute.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the PS IGC TRACECA and the CAREC Institute (**Appendix 17**), signed on 10 September 2018, and instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to take necessary measures to develop mutually advantageous cooperation.

## **12. On regulatory documents.**

### **12.1. On approval of the Rules of Procedure of the IGC TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA approved a new version of the Rules of Procedure of the IGC TRACECA (**Appendix 18**) and declared the Rules of Procedure of the IGC TRACECA approved at the Sixth Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting as of 12-13 December 2007 to have lost force.

### **12.2. On approval of the Statute of the PS IGC TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA approved a new version of the Statute of the PS IGC TRACECA (**Appendix 19**) and declared the Statute of the PS IGC TRACECA approved at the Eighth Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting as of 13 October 2010 to have lost force.

### **12.3. On approval of the Internal Structure of the PS IGC TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA discussed and approved the Internal Structure of the PS IGC TRACECA (**Appendix 20**).

The IGC TRACECA entrusted the Secretary General of the PS IGC TRACECA with approving the staff list and job descriptions, as well as filling vacant positions, envisaged in the Internal Structure of the PS IGC TRACECA.

## **13. On digitalization of TRACECA.**

### **13.1. On approval of the Digital Concept of the International Transport Corridor TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA considered and approved the Digital Concept of the International Transport Corridor TRACECA (**Appendix 21**).

The IGC TRACECA recommended that the MLA Parties take measures to effectively implement the provisions of the Digital Concept and instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to ensure annual monitoring its implementation based on the information provided by the MLA Parties.

### **13.2. On digitalization of the multimodal transport along the TRACECA corridor and development of the Global Transit Document.**

The IGC TRACECA stressed the importance of further digitalization of international transport of goods along multimodal transport corridors, which was noted in the Resolution on Transport dated 29 July 2021, adopted at the 96th plenary meeting of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly.

The IGC TRACECA heard the information of the PS IGC TRACECA on the work done on the Global Transit Document (GTrD™) jointly with the International Centre for Transport Diplomacy (ICTD) and the Intergovernmental Council of Road Administrators (ICRA), and noted the importance of the activity carried out in 2020-2021 and aimed at the development of the Global Transit Document, which was highly appreciated by the annual UNECE Forum on Trade Facilitation and Harmonization of Electronic Data Exchange, held in Odessa (Ukraine) on May 26-28, 2021.

The IGC TRACECA appealed to the interested MLA Parties to develop, together with the PS IGC TRACECA, ICTD and ICRA by the end of 2021, a specific plan for the implementation of a pilot project using GTrD™ on the TRACECA corridor routes and to start its implementation at the beginning of 2022.

The IGC TRACECA with a view to possible applying of GTrD™ as a single multimodal document within the framework of the Agreement on the Development of Multimodal Transport TRACECA instructed the PS IGC TRACECA to analyse the results obtained following the pilot project using GTrD™ and submit the results of the work done at the next Annual Meeting of the IGC TRACECA.

### **14. On financing the PS IGC TRACECA.**

#### **14.1. On approval of the Rules for formation and execution of the budget of the PS IGC TRACECA.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the Rules for formation and execution of the budget of the PS IGC TRACECA (**Appendix 22**) and declared the Temporary Regulations for the Work of the Auditing Team of the PS IGC TRACECA approved at the Fifth Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting as of 2-3 May 2006 to have lost force.

The IGC TRACECA instructed the PS IGC TRACECA and the MLA Parties to ensure the implementation of the Rules for formation and execution of the budget of the PS IGC TRACECA.

#### **14.2. On Financial Reports on Budget Execution by the PS IGC TRACECA for 2019 and 2020. Reports of the Auditing Teams on the Execution of the PS IGC TRACECA Budget for 2019 and 2020.**

The IGC TRACECA, in compliance with point 11, Article 5 of the Agreement on Joint Financing of the PS IGC TRACECA, adopted the Financial Reports on Budget Execution by the PS IGC TRACECA for 2019 and 2020 (**Appendices 23-24**).

The IGC TRACECA, in compliance with point 14, Article 5 of the Agreement on Joint Financing of the PS IGC TRACECA, adopted the Reports of the Auditing Teams on the Execution of the PS IGC TRACECA Budget for 2019 and 2020 (**Appendices 25-26**).

#### **14.3. On drafts of the PS IGC TRACECA Budget for 2021 and 2022.**

The IGC TRACECA adopted and approved the budgets of the PS IGC TRACECA for 2021 and 2022 (**Appendices 27-28**), prepared in compliance with points 1-7 of Article 5 of the Agreement on Joint Financing of the PS IGC TRACECA.

#### **14.4. Nomination of the Auditing Team composition on the execution of the PS IGC TRACECA Budget for 2021 and 2022.**

In compliance with point 12 of Article 5 of the Agreement on Joint Financing of the PS IGC TRACECA and point 3 of Article 3 of the Temporary Regulations for the Work of the Auditing Team of the PS IGC TRACECA, and taking into consideration that the Chairmanship of the IGC TRACECA will pass from the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Bulgaria, the IGC TRACECA nominated the following composition of the Auditing Team on the execution of the PS IGC TRACECA budget for:

2021 – one representative each from the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Kazakhstan;

2022 – one representative each from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Moldova (in case of holding the next Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting in 2022) or from the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Kazakhstan (in case of holding the next Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting in 2023).

#### **14.5. On determining the size of the annual contribution amount of the MLA Parties.**

For the provision of the PS IGC TRACECA budget for 2021-2023, the contribution of the MLA Parties shall be determined in equal shares of 60 000 (sixty thousand) euros from each MLA Party.

The IGC TRACECA recommended that the MLA Parties transfer the contributions in accordance with point 1 of Article 4 of the Agreement on Joint Financing of the PS IGC TRACECA and appealed to the MLA Parties with a request to pay their outstanding contributions to the PS IGC TRACECA budget.

The IGC TRACECA instructed the PS IGC TRACECA, together with the MLA Parties, to develop proposals for determining the mechanism for funds accounting (for the MLA Parties who fully paid annual contributions) that had not previously been paid from the budget of the PS IGC TRACECA for the functioning of the National Secretariats (salaries and office expenses) due to the national legislative restrictions and submit them for consideration at the next IGC TRACECA Meeting.

#### **15. On approval of the TRACECA Award Rules.**

The IGC TRACECA approved the TRACECA Award Rules (**Appendix 29**) and instructed the PS IGC TRACECA and the MLA Parties to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Rules.

#### **16. Information on the Sixteenth Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting.**

In accordance with the MLA and the Rules of Procedure of the IGC TRACECA, the next Sixteenth Annual IGC TRACECA Meeting will be held in Georgia in 2022. The exact date of the Meeting will be provided by Georgian Party additional.

**The present Final Resolutions of the IGC TRACECA were adopted by consensus of the MLA Parties on 21 October 2021, at the Fifteenth Meeting of the IGC TRACECA, in Sofia, the Republic of Bulgaria.**

Chairman of the IGC TRACECA

