

## **MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE TRACECA BUSINESS COUNCIL**

The Main Provisions of the TRACECA Business Council (hereinafter - the Main Provisions) are approved by the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA (hereinafter – the IGC) as an official initiative to establish the TRACECA Business Council, and are used as fundamental principles in organizing its work.

### **I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The TRACECA Business Council (hereinafter - the BC) is a consultative and advisory body under the Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA (hereinafter - the PS IGC TRACECA), bringing together business circles, national associations of carriers and forwarders, carriers on various modes of transport, transport infrastructure operators and other organizations of the Parties to the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe–the Caucasus–Asia Corridor (hereinafter – the MLA), interested in the development of trade and economic relations, transport and communication links along the Europe–the Caucasus–Asia transport corridor (TRACECA).

2. The BC shall carry out its activity in accordance with the MLA, the Strategy of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA for development of the international transport corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia" and other documents adopted by the IGC.

3. The BC shall be established with the aim of forming and expressing the opinion and vision of business on the development of the TRACECA corridor, expanding economic cooperation within the framework of the MLA through elaboration of proposals for developing the routes of the TRACECA corridor, identifying bottlenecks and solutions for their elimination, establishing direct links and strengthening dialogue between representatives of the business community and state authorities on the development of carriage of goods by various modes of transport, reducing the cost of transportation, digitalization of processes and procedures, as well as raising the awareness of the participants in the transportation process about border crossing procedures and international transport. The BC can involve in its activities the leading experts in various areas of transport, trade, border crossing and/or trans-boundary investment projects in the region, etc.

4. The BC shall carry out its activity in close mutually beneficial cooperation with the IGC by participating in the formation of proposals on various issues and facilitation of the effective decision-making by the IGC, as well as the implementation of various joint measures and activities.

5. The PS IGC TRACECA shall perform organizational and administrative functions in relation to the BC activity, including the organization of its meetings via web conferencing, in accordance with the approved budget of the PS IGC TRACECA.

6. Applications for joining the BC shall be accepted by the Permanent Representatives (National Secretaries) of the MLA Parties and sent to the PS IGC TRACECA in the form of a list of representatives of business circles to be included in the BC.

### **II. BASIC ACTIVITIES**

7. Based on the aims of the BC's activity, its main objectives include:

- facilitation of public-private dialogue and collaboration aimed at further development of multimodal transport within the TRACECA corridor, which requires an increase in the level of interaction and coordination of all interested participants in order to ensure transport interoperability and develop the necessary infrastructure;

- involvement of representatives of the business community and stakeholders in solving problems to ensure efficient transport links in the TRACECA region;
- elaboration of proposals for the selection of priority transport infrastructure facilities, for the development of which it is advisable to use the public-private partnership mechanism;
- assistance in finding sources of financing, partners and other forms of participation for the implementation of the TRACECA investment projects, especially trans-boundary ones;
- initiating the solution of problems that hinder the attraction of investment in the TRACECA transport infrastructure and the increase in traffic flows;
- participation in the development of justifications and other technical documentation related to the implementation of investment projects;
- dissemination of information about regional investment opportunities and positive results of the implementation of infrastructure projects in the TRACECA region, stimulation of attraction of investments from various sources;
- promotion of initiatives of the PS IGC TRACECA at the national and international levels;
- active participation in the development of new initiatives and projects, including those aimed at simplification of border crossing procedures and performance of transport along the routes of the TRACECA corridor;
- coordination and promotion at the regional level of private initiatives for the development of piggyback transport and other initiatives aimed at the decarbonisation of cross-border freight traffic.

### **III. STRUCTURE AND PROCEDURE OF FUNCTIONING**

8. The BC participants are commercial and non-profit organizations representing any types of property and organizational forms interested in its activity.

9. Representatives of state authorities of the MLA Parties, regional economic integration organizations, business structures and their professional associations, international financial institutions and other interested organizations can take part in the work of the BC by invitation of the PS IGC TRACECA.

10. The PS IGC TRACECA shall participate in the BC work without the right to vote.

11. The Chairman of the BC shall be elected at the meeting by a majority of votes for one calendar year without a limit on the number of extensions and shall carry out his/her work to achieve the aims of the BC, as well as shall:

- make decisions on the formation of ad hoc working groups on the most problematic issues requiring long-term study, as well as on holding joint events (exhibitions, conferences, seminars, etc.);
- interact with the PS IGC TRACECA, as well as, in agreement with the PS IGC TRACECA, with the state authorities of the MLA countries, regional economic integration organizations, international financial institutions, business associations, etc.;
- organize the work on summarizing and analysing the proposals and materials received from the BC participants;
- act on behalf of the business representatives;
- inform the BC members about all decisions made, the progress and results of their implementation, provide other information on the BC issues;
- request information from the BC members necessary to ensure its work;
- formulate proposals for documents developed by the PS IGC TRACECA;
- formulate proposals for improvement of the BC work;

– ensure the interaction of the BC participants with the PS IGC TRACECA in order to achieve the goals of establishing the BC and to form consolidated decisions for the development of the TRACECA corridor.

12. The Chairman shall preside over the BC Meetings and ensure their conduct in accordance with the Main Provisions.

## **V. OTHER FORMS OF ACTIVITIES**

13. The BC in its activity may organize and hold at the expense of its participants in-person meetings, business forums, exhibitions, presentations, conferences and symposiums organized independently or within the framework of the IGC.

14. Information on the activity of the BC shall be posted on the website of the PS IGC TRACECA. The procedure for providing and using such information shall be regulated by agreements between the PS IGC TRACECA and the BC.

15. Upon agreement with the PS IGC TRACECA, representatives of the BC may participate in the meetings of the Working Groups, the PS IGC TRACECA and the IGC.

## **VI. FINAL PROVISIONS**

16. The Main Provisions shall be approved by the decision of the IGC, which is also authorized to make changes and additions to the Main Provisions, as well as to decide on the recognition of the Main Provisions as invalid.

17. The Main Provisions shall come into force from the date of their approval by the IGC.

18. If necessary, the BC shall adopt its own documents on issues that are not regulated by the Main Provisions and do not contradict them.