



2nd CONFERENCE (ANNUAL MEETING)
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION «TRACECA»

2-ая КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ (ЕЖЕГОДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ)
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ «ТРАСЕКА»

Tashkent, April 24-25, 2002
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FINAL RESOLUTIONS

Intergovernmental Commission "TRACECA" at its Second Conference (Annual Meeting) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on April 24-25, 2002:

- Considered report of Chairman-in-Office of the IGC TRACECA, Minister of Transport and Communication of Georgia, Mr. Merab Adeishvili;
- Considered outcomes of implemented TRACECA projects during 2000-2001 and issues of further development of the Europe - the Caucasus - Asia international transport corridor and increasing its competitiveness;
- Discussed proposals for strengthening mutual cooperation between the Parties to the Basic Agreement;
- Taken into consideration the requirement to create the most favorable conditions for humanitarian goods and reconstruction materials, transported to Afghanistan;
- and in accordance with Article 8 (items 5, 6) of the "Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor"

ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS:

1. Humanitarian goods and reconstruction materials transported to Afghanistan

The increase in offers of humanitarian goods and reconstructions materials for Afghanistan from the international community urges the Parties of the Europe-Caucasus-Asia "TRACECA" international transport corridor to create the most favorable conditions for humanitarian goods and reconstruction materials transported to Afghanistan and to organize efficient monitoring to ensure their safety and security. **For these reasons it is to:**

1.1. Establish in each Party the Monitoring Groups, involving members of TRACECA National Commissions and jointly with the Permanent Secretariat of IGC TRACECA to render maximum assistance for transportation of the above-mentioned goods;

1.2. Recommend to the Parties to make the following amendment to Article 4 "Facilitation of International Transport", item 4 stipulated as follows:

" 4. For 3 years when the given amendment comes into force, the Parties have to ensure free issue of single/double entry visas for persons transporting and accompanying humanitarian goods transported to Afghanistan via the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia "TRACECA" international transport corridor"; In order to implement this, according to the Article 11 of the Basic Agreement, to instruct PS IGC TRACECA to agree with the parties and prepare the Final Protocol based upon the Addendum to the MLA for the subsequent signatory thereof by the Parties.

1.3. Support the "Declaration on Cooperation", adopted by the large freight forwarding companies in Frankfurt on 12th April, 2002 and the initiative of the UN World Food Program on test transportations of humanitarian goods and reconstruction materials to Afghanistan via TRACECA transport corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia. Provide for the implementation of the most favorable conditions for transportation of these goods.

1.4. Approve the recommendations of the Working Group and PS IGC TRACECA regarding the IGC TRACECA Action Plan aimed at the implementation of IGC TRACECA decision on providing most favorable conditions for transport of humanitarian aid and reconstruction materials to Afghanistan. To address to the European Commission to kindly consider the opportunity of funding of the abovementioned Action Plan.

2. Requirement to introduce “TRACECA Visa” and adopt a new Technical Annex to the Basic Agreement on simplification of customs procedures

Consider expedient to introduce on the territories of the Parties the “TRACECA Visa” system, providing for the use of unified documents for transit of goods via the Europe-Caucasus-Asia “TRACECA” transport Corridor. This measure will allow the identifying of TRACECA goods, simplifying administrative, customs and border-crossing procedures, shortening the time of goods transit and, on the other hand, ensuring the attendants of this transportation free of charge and simplified access to the territories of the Parties. **For this reasons it is to:**

2.1 Recommend to the Parties to adopt a new “Technical Annex on International Customs Transit Procedures in the TRACECA transport corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia for goods transported by railway with SMGS bill”. (*Annex: 2 IGC / FD 3*). In order to implement this, according to the Article 11 of the Basic Agreement, to instruct PS IGC TRACECA to agree with the parties and prepare the Final Protocol based upon the Addendum to the Basic Agreement for the subsequent signatory there of by the Parties.

2.2 For implementation of Article 3, Item c) and Article 8, Item 6, p. g of the Basic Agreement, **to recommend** the Parties to make an amendment to the Article 4 “Documentation procedures” of the “Technical Annex on Customs and Documentation Procedures to the Basic Agreement”, adding the fifth item as follows:

“5. Not to apply customs, bank guarantees, financial risk insurance policies, railway guarantees for transit of goods by railway transport”. In order to implement this, according to the Article 11 of the Basic Agreement, to instruct PS IGC TRACECA to find agreement with the parties and prepare the Final Protocol based upon the Addendum to the Basic Agreement to be subsequently signed by the Parties.

3. “TRACECA Coefficients” and ways of improving competitiveness

To take into account the successful development of the initiative of the Permanent Secretariat of IGC TRACECA concerning the introduction of “TRACECA Coefficient” for railway and sea transport, as well as results of the activity done in the sphere of improvement of the tariff policy coordination to reduce international and transit transportation costs in the Europe-Caucasus-Asia “TRACECA” transport corridor:

3.1 To recommend to the Parties to make the following amendment to the Appendix 2 to “Technical Annex on International Railway Transport”:

“c) to apply VAT zero-rate on railway transport services in international and transit railway connection, including transportation, forwarding, loading/unloading and storage services”; In order to implement this, according to the Article 11 of the Basic Agreement, to instruct PS IGC TRACECA to find agreement with the parties and prepare the Final Protocol based upon the Addendum to the Basic Agreement to be subsequently signed by the Parties.

3.2 To approve establishment of a special Working Group to work out coordinated tariff policy of railways, sea ports and shipping companies in the Europe-Caucasus-Asia “TRACECA” transport corridor and charge the Permanent Secretariat with facilitation of tasks set by the Working Group.

4. “TRACECA Hot Line”

Approve the establishment of the concept for the project “TRACECA Common Information System”, which has to include a special part on support and logistics of “TRACECA Hot Line” common system, proposed by the Permanent Secretariat of IGC TRACECA, and request the European Commission to facilitate priority financing of this project.

5. Development of Sea Transport

Considered pending issues of sea transport, port charges, tariffs on freight operation, goods traffic, as well as navigation safety and environment protection, for reasons to improve competitiveness of transportations by sea transport in the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia “TRACECA” transport corridor, and adopted **“Decision on development of Sea Transport”** (*Annex: 2 IGC / FD 4*).

6. Consideration of the proposals additionally introduced on development of road transportation via TRACECA Corridor

Recommend to the Parties of the Basic Multilateral Agreement to consider the proposal of Turkey on development of road transportation via TRACECA corridor and to instruct IGC TRACECA to draft and agreed document to be subsequently adopted by the IGC TRACECA.

7. Legal Working Group within IGC TRACECA

Approve the proposal of the establishment of the Legal Working Group within IGC TRACECA with the task to elaborate Rules of Procedures for IGC TRACECA to be finally adopted on the next IGC TRACECA Conference.

8. Secretary-General of the IGC TRACECA

In accordance with Article 3 of the Statute of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA the members of the IGC elected Mr. Abdurashid Tagirov as Secretary-General of the IGC TRACECA.

9. Executive Secretary of the Permanent Secretariat

IGC TRACECA adopted the decision to add the Statutes of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA and invoked the position of Executive Secretary of the Permanent Secretariat, at the same time to eliminate the post of Deputy Secretary-General.

Members of the IGC TRACECA elected Mr. Zviad Kvatchantiradze as Executive Secretary of the Permanent Secretariat for the term of 3 years.

IGC TRACECA will determine authorities and functions of the Executive Secretary of the Permanent Secretariat, along the way, until the final approval of the Statutes of the Permanent Secretariat and the Rules of Procedures of the IGC TRACECA.

10. Next Conference (Annual Meeting) of the IGC TRACECA

In accordance with Rules of Procedure of IGC TRACECA the 2nd Conference of the IGC TRACECA recommended to summon the next IGC TRACECA Conference (Annual meeting) in Yerevan, Republic of Armenia, in 2003.

11. Approval of the Final Communiqué and the Tashkent Declaration

Adopt the Final Communiqué of the 2nd IGC TRACECA Conference (*Annex: 2 IGC /FD 5 /* and the Tashkent Declaration (*Annex: 2 IGC / FD 6*)

The Final Resolutions have been adopted on the consensus of Parties of the Basic Agreement at the 2nd Conference (Annual Meeting) of the Intergovernmental Commission "TRACECA" in Tashkent, April 25, 2002.