



**FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA**  
Baku / Republic of Azerbaijan, April 21-22, 2005

**ЧЕТВЕРТОЕ ЕЖЕГОДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ ТРАСЕКА**  
г. Баку / Азербайджанская Республика, 21-22 апреля 2005 г.

## **BAKU DECLARATION**

The Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) TRACECA, at its Fourth Annual Meeting (Conference) held on 21-22 April 2005 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan,

**Following** the aims of the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for the Development of Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia (hereinafter "Basic Agreement") and **guided by** its provisions,

**Affirming** its adherence to the earlier declared intentions to develop trade and economic relations in general, and transport communications in particular, between the regions of Europe, Black Sea, South Caucasus, Caspian Sea and Central Asia,

**Acknowledging** the importance of the TRACECA Programme and **appreciating** the support of the European Union being granted under the framework of this programme for over 10 years,

**Taking into account** the implementation of the new EU Neighborhood policy to commence in 2007,

**hereby DECLARES:**

Attainment of financial independence and sustainability is a decisive step towards further institutionalization and strengthening of the international prestige of the IGCTTRACECA;

IGC TRACECA will continue to coordinate activities, plans and events in the field of international trade and transport in the regions, and to cooperate with the European Community, particularly, to contribute to the implementation of the Platform of the EC Co-operation with its neighbouring countries;

The IGC TRACECA will contribute to approximation of transport policy carried out by the countries of the regions involved, and harmonization with the European legislation and international law; in order to improve the legal basis for international transport and modernise transport infrastructure

IGC TRACECA welcomes the joining of the Islamic State of Afghanistan to the Basic Agreement and congratulates this country on the full membership in the IGC TRACECA;

IGC TRACECA welcomes the willingness of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Republic of Pakistan to join the Basic Agreement, and will foster further enlargement of the organization;

Taking into account the increasing interest induced by the IGC TRACECA activities, the participants of the Fourth IGC TRACECA Conference decided to make forums of the IGC TRACECA more open and to endeavour to introduce the observer status for the interested states, thus promoting interaction and cooperation, aimed at further development of the international transport corridor Europe – Caucasus – Asia;

IGC TRACECA expresses its satisfaction with outcomes of the Baku Conference and acknowledges importance of the decisions made.

Participants of the Fourth Conference of the IGC TRACECA highly appreciate support of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Permanent Secretariat of IGC TRACECA and express their gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the high level of the organization of the Conference and hospitality received.