Memorandum of Understanding between the International Road Federation and the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA

The International Road Federation (hereinafter referred to as "IRF") and the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA (hereafter referred to as "IGC TRACECA")

Taking into consideration,

Shared objectives to promote and support every effort towards the development of multilateral regional cooperation in the transport field on the basis of international law;

Common involvement in promoting intra-regional and interregional trade facilitation and wish to avoid duplication of work and to maximize complementarities and the use of available resources as well as to work closer together for the safety, stability, prosperity and strengthening cooperation in transport field;

Desirous of entering into a Memorandum of Understanding for this purpose;

Agreed on the following:

Article 1 Areas of cooperation

The IRF and the IGC TRACECA will cooperate in:

- 1.1 development of international transport corridors;
- 1.2 development and promotion of technical standards and effective operational practices for efficient international transport and trade (best practices);
- 1.3 facilitation of cross-border movement of people and goods;
- 1.4 human resources development, including staff training programmes;
- 1.5 technology and information transfer;
- 1.6 market analysis and transit tariffs;

and in other related areas upon mutual consent.

Article 2 Consultations and cooperation on substantive issues

- 2.1 The IRF and the IGC TRACECA will hold periodic consultations on the issues of bi-lateral cooperation.
- 2.2 The IRF and the IGC TRACECA will discuss opportunities of the joint undertaking of projects on matters of mutual interest, including those aimed at institutional capacity building, as well as studies, seminars, workshops, etc., subject to appropriate organizational and financial arrangements.
- 2.3 Wherever feasible, they will seek complementarities and synergy of their efforts for the attainment of their respective objectives in the transport field in accordance with their respective mandates.
- 2.4 Following a request from the members of IRF and the state parties to the IGC TRACECA, the Secretariats will mutually share their expertise on transport issues and transport facilitation information.

Article 3 Exchange of information and documentation

- 3.1 The IRF and the IGC TRACECA will exchange information on their activities with further rendering such information to the members and state parties respectively.
- 3.2 An exchange of primary and analytical information and unofficial consultations of experts on professional issues will be carried out.
- 3.3 The exchange of information will be organized through established channels, including Internet, by placing information on respective web pages.

Article 4 Participation in the meetings

In the spirit of reciprocity, the IRF and the IGC TRACECA will inform each other of their meetings concerning issues of mutual interest. Without prejudice to the established rules and procedures of the IRF and the IGC TRACECA, the Director General of the IRF and Secretary General of the PS IGC TRACECA or the officials of both Secretariats - the IRF and the IGC TRACECA, will be allowed to participate in the meetings of the IRF and IGC TRACECA.

Article 5 Concluding Provisions

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding set out the shared objectives from the proposed cooperation, but are not intended to be legally binding for either organisation. These provisions may be subject to amendments by mutual agreement and on the basis of the respective procedures of the IRF and of the IGC TRACECA.

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled by direct negotiations.

None of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will be deemed to waive the privileges and immunities of the IRF or of the IGC of TRACECA, nor infringe upon the respective mandates of both the IRF and the IGC TRACECA Secretariats, in accordance with their relevant rules and procedures.

The Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force upon its signing by the Director General of the IRF and the Secretary General of the PS IGC TRACECA for an indefinite duration and may be terminated at any time by either party by giving the other party three months' written notice.

Signed in Sofia this 3 day of May (month) 2006 in two equally authentic copies in the English language.

Anthony Pearce

Director General

For International Road Federation

Julian Treame

Lyudmila Trenkova

Secretary General

For Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA