



SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA
Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, 16 June, 2009

СЕДЬМОЕ ЕЖЕГОДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННОЙ КОМИССИИ ТРАСЕКА
Иссык-Куль, Кыргызстан, 16 июня 2009г.

ISSYK-KUL DECLARATION

The Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) TRACECA having held its Seventh Annual Meeting (Conference) on 16 June 2009 in Issyk-Kul, the Kyrgyz Republic,

Following in its activity the principles and **guided** by the Articles of the Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (hereinafter referred to as MLA),

Basing on the Strategy of the IGC TRACECA for Development of the International Transport Corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia" for the period up to 2015, and the Statement of the Anniversary Conference of Ministers of Transport of the TRACECA Member States dated 4 December 2008, adopted in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter referred to as Anniversary Conference),

Highly **appreciating** the assistance of the European Commission rendered through Technical Assistance TRACECA projects, and **expressing** assurance of further fruitful cooperation with the European Union within the framework of the European Neighborhood Policy and the Strategy for a New Partnership between the EU and Central Asia,

Welcoming the accession of new states to TRACECA,

and further **welcoming** the new role of TRACECA and its commitment to build on the European South Eastern axis in order to establish an efficient transport corridor connecting Central Asia, the South Caucasus and the European Union, with the assistance of the European Commission, both through infrastructure development and through transport facilitation,

Declares the following:

IGC positively evaluates the activity of the Parties concerned with the implementation of the Action Plan for 2008-2009 within the framework of the Strategy of the IGC TRACECA for Development of the International Transport Corridor "Europe-the Caucasus-Asia" for the period up to 2015.

Taking into account a key role of multimodal transport and freight forwarding service in the development of the corridor, and at the same time acknowledging the necessity of further improvement of the regulatory-legal basis, IGC congratulates the MLA Parties with the signature of the Agreement on the Development of Multimodal Transport TRACECA (Agreement) and recommends for adoption or adaptation in their countries of the Model Law on Freight Forwarding Activity. The Republic of Bulgaria and Romania will consider the necessity of signing this Agreement after consultations with the European Commission.

IGC emphasizes the necessity of elaboration single competitive tariffs and creation of favorable conditions for the development of international transport along the TRACECA corridor with a view to attract additional traffic flows.

IGC welcomes the accession of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the MLA and congratulates this country with the full membership in IGC, and invites the interested states to accede to the MLA.

IGC declares that in the context of the current Conference the Lithuanian Republic is granted the status of observer in IGC on a consensus basis, and in this connection IGC congratulates this country with the participation in the IGC activities encouraging the participation of other states interested on closer cooperation with TRACECA.

Attaching importance to the development of cooperation with the international organizations IGC welcomes signature of the Memorandum of Understanding between the PS IGC TRACECA and the Permanent International Secretariat of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation at the Sixth Annual Meeting in Astana, the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation between the PS IGC TRACECA and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe signed during the Anniversary Conference in Baku and congratulates with the signature at the Conference of the Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as the Memorandum of Understanding with the Economic Cooperation Organization. The Parties emphasized that the implementation of the articles of these memoranda will ensure coordination of activities and consolidation of cooperation between the international organizations.

Acknowledging the importance of improving the capacity of the PS IGC TRACECA to effectively tackle new challenges in the context of development of the EU South Eastern Axis, the IGC TRACECA welcomes the mandate given to the new Secretary General to explore ways and means of such improvements, in close consultation with the European Commission, and to report back to the IGC within six months of his/her taking office.

IGC approves the outcomes of the Second Meeting of the Transport Infrastructure Working Group held on 18 February 2009 in Bucharest, Romania with support of the European Commission, and backs up the initiative on creation of the Investment Forum TRACECA in autumn 2009 with a view to identify and finance infrastructure projects of the TRACECA member-states.

Acknowledging the significance of the adopted decisions the IGC TRACECA expresses its satisfaction with the outcomes of the Seventh Annual Meeting.

Participants of the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA express their gratitude to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the high level of the Conference organization and hospitality received.