

## **Final Communique of the International Conference on the Restoration of the Historic Silk Route**

Baku

September 8, 1998

1. We, Heads of States and Governments, and of Delegations of participating countries and international organisations, gathered in Baku, express our great satisfaction with the progress achieved during the International Conference on the Restoration of the Historic Silk Route, organised by the Government of Azerbaijan on the initiative of both H.E. Mr. Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and H.E. Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, President of Georgia, and with support from the European Union.
2. The Conference resulted in the signature of the “The Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe - the Caucasus - Asia Corridor” by the following countries:

Republic of Armenia

Republic of Azerbaijan

Republic of Bulgaria

Georgia

Republic of Kazakhstan

Kyrgyz Republic

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Republic of Tajikistan

Republic of Turkey

Ukraine

Republic of Uzbekistan

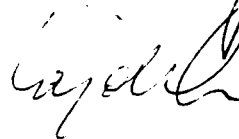
These countries have also adopted “The Baku Declaration”, in which they agree to undertake efforts to further international cooperation for development of the Europe - the Caucasus - Asia transport corridor.

3. We welcome the progress achieved towards further development of regional cooperation amongst the countries concerned and their integration into the world economy. We express our support for the efforts of countries of the region directed to the expansion of international trade and cooperation in the field of development of environmentally secure and cost effective infrastructures for transporting goods, including energy, to world markets.
4. We encourage the growing interest in the revival of the Historic Silk Route in particular through implementation of the TRACECA programme, and invite all interested States to pool their material and human resources to promote mutually beneficial cooperation for achievement of this objective.
5. We express our appreciation to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan for having hosted in Baku this International Conference and for the excellent organizational arrangements, and for the cordiality and hospitality extended to us by the Government and people of Azerbaijan.

For the Republic of Armenia



For the Republic of Austria  
(Presidency of the European Union)



For the Republic of Azerbaijan



For the Kingdom of Belgium



For the Republic of Bulgaria -



For the Republic of Finland



For the Republic of France

*M. Mitterrand*

For Georgia

*E. Shevardnadze*

For the Federal Republic of Germany

*K. Kohl*

For the Hellenic Republic

*K. Karamanlis*

For the Republic of Hungary

*I. János*

For the Italian Republic

*A. De Michelis*

For Japan

*T. Aso*

For the Republic of Kazakhstan

*N. Nazarbayev*

For the Kyrgyz Republic

*A. Atambaev*

For the Republic of Moldova

*I. Ioniuc*

For Mongolia

*P. Batt*

For the Kingdom of the Netherlands

*P. Balkenende*

For the Kingdom of Norway

*J. Bondevik*

For the Republic of Poland

*A. Giertych*

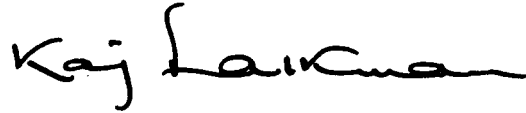
For Romania

*E. Bornea*

For the Kingdom of Spain



For the Kingdom of Sweden



For the Republic of Tajikistan



For the Republic of Turkey



For Ukraine



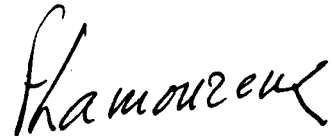
For the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland



For the Republic of Uzbekistan



For the Commission of the European Union



\* \* \*