

**ROUND TABLE DEVOTED TO THE STUDY ON
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON
FACILITATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OF GOODS IN THE BSEC REGION**

Istanbul, 10 February 2009

Presentation by the NEA Transport Research and Training of a Study on the Implementation of Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region

At its first meeting the Steering Committee agreed that the gradual liberalization of transit, bilateral and the whole road transport market as foreseen under Objectives 1 and 2 should be a subject to a set of relevant technical and environmental criteria, similar to other practices in Europe, which should be elaborated and considered at the next Meeting of the Steering Committee.

The representative of IRU informed about the possibility to co-sponsor such a professional work if approved by competent organs of the BSEC and IRU.

Following these discussions PERMIS got in touch with the *NEA Transport Research and Training* which prepared and submitted its proposal for the project "A Regional Quota System for Road Transport Licenses in the Black Sea Area".

At the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the BSEC Region, held in Istanbul on 12-13 February 2008, PERMIS informed the participants about arrangements done for conduct of a study to be co-sponsored by IRU and PERMIS and carried out by the NEA Transport Research and Training.

The Steering Committee encouraged IRU and PERMIS to continue their work on the study and at the same time it underlined the necessity of a conceptual approach to the issue of introduction of a regional quota system. It was stressed that the study should be based on the clearly defined goals and experience of other organizations in this field, in particular, ECMT. Taking the above into consideration the Parties agreed to send by 15 March 2008 their proposals and recommendations, if any, regarding the above mentioned study to the NEA via PERMIS.

The Steering Committee suggested that once the study is prepared, it would be considered at one of its meetings or a round table organized for discussing the outcome of the study.

The study "BSEC Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods" was disseminated with the PERMIS Note Ref. No. BS/INFO. 2009.0001 of 5 January 2009. As it is mentioned in a letter of Mr. Menno M. Menist, NEA Managing Director, "The study report presents expert views on facilitation of road transport on the basis of the main provisions of the MoU and the problems identified. The alternatives are based on best practices and experiences in other regions as well as past experiences in similar fields. Where possible each alternative is presented with advantages and disadvantages in terms of implementation or expected outcome and effect."

Discussion on the presentation

The participants are expected to exchange views on the study.