

**REPORT OF THE  
STEERING COMMITTEE  
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BLACK SEA RING HIGHWAY**

**Third Meeting**

**Istanbul, 8-9 December 2009**

1. The Third Meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) on the Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway (BSRH) was held in Istanbul, on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Sergei POLESHCHUK, Deputy Head of the Federal Highway Agency, the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Members of the Steering Committee of the BSRH:  
  
Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Georgia  
Hellenic Republic  
Republic of Moldova  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Serbia  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine
4. The representatives of BSEC PERMIS, BSTDB, CEI and IRF also attended the meeting.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

5. The Draft Agenda of the meeting was discussed, amended and adopted. The Draft Agenda is attached as Annex II.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL COORDINATORS**

6. The Steering Committee noted that not all countries appointed a National Coordinator for the BSRH as it was foreseen by Article III Para.5 of the MoU. The Parties to the MoU were invited to inform the JPTS by 31 January 2010, about the nomination of the National Coordinators who will act as focal point for the project.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES**

7. All Parties to the MoU have informed the JPTS about the appointment of their representatives and alternates to the Steering Committee. They were also requested to confirm their contact details, to improve the communication channel with the JPTS.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ELABORATION OF A MAIN ROUTE AND ITS CONNECTIONS OF THE BSRH**

8. The terms of the ‘main route of the BSRH’ and ‘connections’ were discussed and adopted. It was decided to differentiate the roads into two categories:
  - **Main Route:** The Main Route of the Black Sea Ring Highway (BSRH) is a continuous strip enveloping the Black Sea area, binding sections of national road networks of the participating countries. This road should be brought to the international standards in accordance with the established general requirements.
  - **Connections:** Connections (branches) of the Black Sea Ring Highway (BSRH) are sections of national road networks of the participating countries, which provide connection of the main route of the BSRH with other major highways, major cities and transport hubs (ports, airports, intermodal nodes and freight centers etc.) of participating countries.
9. The JPTS prepared and distributed a draft map of the routes passing through the Member States, on the basis of the information presented by the countries. As several sections did not comply with the definition of the terms ‘main route’ and ‘connections’, the Steering Committee requested the JPTS to submit, the whole information regarding the correspondence of the passage of the main route to the definition of the main route of the BSRH, before 31 January 2010. The Steering Committee requested JPTS to organize the meetings of the interested parties concerned to take a decision regarding the passage of the main route through their territories before the next meeting. The Steering Committee requested the JPTS to provide information regarding the results of the work done by the next meeting.
10. The Steering Committee took into consideration the proposals of the participating states concerning BSRH routes and expressed its readiness to discuss the abovementioned issue at its next meeting.
11. At the same time, Ukraine reiterated its position concerning the route through its territory.
12. The Steering Committee invited the Republic of Armenia to send its information to the JPTS about BSRH routes passing through its territory.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION PLAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BLACK SEA RING HIGHWAY**

13. The Action Plan of the BSRH was discussed and adopted. The Action Plan as adopted is attached as Annex III.

**AGENDA ITEM 5.1: DEVELOPMENT OF THE BSRH WEBSITE**

14. The JPTS proceeded in the amendments decided in the last Steering Committee meeting, regarding the development of the BSRH website. The Steering Committee approved these modifications and the JPTS is authorized to upload the website on the Internet.
15. The Steering Committee also approved, as a basis, the Rules of Operation and Management Procedure of the BSRH website, prepared by the JPTS.
16. The delegations were asked to provide all the necessary information, including links to their national official websites, for the smooth operation of the BSRH website.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Information from the Member States on the state of the ratification of the MoU**

17. The delegations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey informed that the issue of the ratification of the MoU on the Coordinated Development of the BSRH is currently under the consideration of their parliaments.
18. The Secretary General of the CEI Executive Secretariat, Ambassador Ago, presented information on the CEI activities and the areas where BSEC-CEI synergy can be created. The text is attached as Annex IV.
19. The IRF representative informed about the IRF possibilities in providing expertise for the projects in the BSRH developments.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

20. The exact date and venue of the next Meeting of the Steering Committee should be determined proceeding from the realization of the decisions of the present meeting. The parties were invited to send to JPTS the proposals regarding the agenda of the next meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

21. The Steering Committee approved the above report and requested the JPTS to circulate it to all the Parties involved.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_