

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT MINISTERIAL MEETING
(Beijing Joint Statement)
Adopted at Beijing, the People's Republic of China, 27th September, 2005**

The Ministers of Transport and the accredited representatives on behalf of the Ministers from the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Belarus, the People's Republic of China, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Turkey, Ukraine and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, invited by the Minister of Communications of the People's Republic of China (MOC), attended the Euro-Asian Transport Ministerial Meeting in Beijing on 27 September 2005 and the 3rd Euro-Asian Road Transport Conference on 26-27 September 2005 jointly hosted by MOC and the International Road Transport Union (IRU).

The International organizations and financial institutions including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the European Commission (EC) and the IRU were also represented in this Meeting.

Extensive and intensive discussions were conducted in a constructive and frank manner on the theme of *Enhance the Development and Cooperation regarding Euro-Asian Road Transport*.

THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT

The economic and trade development in Asia and Europe would be greatly enhanced by a strengthened mutual cooperation in road infrastructure and transport development and the establishment of a sound legal framework governing the facilitation of cross-border and transit transport and the removal of non-physical barriers in road transport caused by artificial and bureaucratic formalities blocking facilitated road transport in and between the countries in Asia and Europe, under the auspices of international organizations and financial institutions.

THE MINISTERS

- noting with satisfaction a tangible progress made in recent years in road infrastructure development on the Euro-Asian Continent and the solutions applied by the countries to promote road transport in this region providing a sound foundation for the further expansion of transport cooperation between Europe and Asia,
- being aware that the non-physical barriers still remain as major obstacles in the further development of road transport,
- bearing in mind the importance of road safety in ensuring Euro-Asian economic development and social well-being,
- recognizing the importance of the strengthened road transport cooperation between and among the countries in Asia and Europe, the harmonized development of road infrastructure and the formation of the Euro-Asian transport corridor and network in securing the transit transport,
- acknowledging the constructive role of the international organizations and financial institutions in promoting the development of road infrastructure and transport in and between Asia and Europe,
- being fully aware of the need to provide the landlocked countries with an access to road transport amenities for fostering the economic and trade development of these countries,

COMMIT THEMSELVES TO

1. **strengthen** the friendly and mutually-beneficial international cooperation in road infrastructure and transport development to promote the economic prosperity and social progress of Asia and Europe;
2. **step** up the efforts in developing road infrastructure to establish the Euro-Asian transport corridor so as to pave the way for the growth of road transport;
3. **encourage** the application by the countries concerned of the United Nations Conventions pertaining to the facilitation of international road transport and creating favorable cross-border and

transit transport conditions through the removal of non-physical barriers caused by artificial and bureaucratic formalities with a view to facilitating road transport between Asia and Europe;

4. **establish** an open and sustainable integrated transport system so as to provide safe, efficient, reliable and environmental-friendly freight and passenger transport services by road;

5. **take** measures to effectively eliminate the potential dangers to international road transport and improve the emergency response capability of road transport in the event of natural disaster, thus ensuring the security of human life and vehicles;

6. **explore** the possibility of setting up a mechanism for exchanges and communication on a regular basis of the latest information and advanced technology relating to road transport development among the countries;

7. **call** upon the relevant international organizations and financial institutions to provide assistance for the development of the Euro-Asian road transport corridor;

8. **request** the IRU to continue playing its active role in promoting international road transport.

The Ministers and representatives expressed their great appreciation to the Ministry of Communications of the People's Republic of China for arranging this Meeting and extended sincere gratitude to the hospitality bestowed on them.
