



**PRESS RELEASE ON THE  
SEMINAR ON “INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TRANSPORT FACILITATION  
THROUGH DIGITALISATION”  
(Baku, 5 September 2018)**

In accordance with the Calendar of Events of the Azerbaijani BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office, the Seminar on “*International trade and transport facilitation through digitalization*” took place in Baku on 5 September 2018, co-organized by IRU, BSEC-URTA and UNECE and hosted by the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The aim of the seminar was to share experiences gained within the framework of the eTIR pilot projects that are taking place in the Black Sea region and to identify the means for digitalizing the TIR procedure in further intermodal TIR corridors.

Organized in a number of separate sessions, the Seminar was attended by over 60 participants, including senior customs officials, TIR associations and representatives of international organizations. The BSEC PERMIS was represented by Mr. Kanan Murtuzov, Executive Manager.

Participants shared experiences and expressed their views on what should be the further steps to be taken in international trade and transport facilitation to make cooperation between the stakeholders more efficient. The participants also analyzed the results and expansion of pilot projects between Turkey and Iran, Georgia and Turkey, Turkey and Ukraine and along the corridor linking Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan.

During his address the representative of the BSEC PERMIS informed participants on the ongoing activities within the BSEC Organization in the trade, customs and transport sectors, on the work done to prepare the Trade Facilitation Strategy for the BSEC Region, as well as on BSEC’s efforts for the development of proper infrastructure and for the facilitation of road transport of goods, the BSEC Permit System etc.

At the end of the Seminar a number of relevant conclusions and recommendations were made by participants, the implementation of which can advance cooperation among the countries of the region by achieving sustainability in transport and trade.

Based on the above conclusions and recommendations the BSEC PERMIS put forward a number of relevant proposals to its Member States.