

**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**of the Ministers of transport and of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic,**  
**Republic of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**  
**on creation of the Model Highway in Central Asia**

**Taking into consideration** high potential of motorway Pol-e-Xomri - Nizhny Panj – Dushanbe – Jirgatal – Karamyk – Sarytash – Osh – Bishkek – Kordai, and motorway Khorgos – Almaty – Kordai – Shimkent – Kyzylorda (road corridor “Western Europe – Western China”) for development of mutually beneficial regional trade and international tourism as well as Euro-Asian transit transport linkages;

**Given** the necessity of creating conditions for road safety improvement, in view of implementation of the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020), initiated by the UN General Assembly Resolution 64/255;

**Aiming** to stimulate attraction of international cargo traffic to national transport communications by creation of high quality ancillary roadside infrastructure, which meets all modern International standards;

**Emphasizing** the development of transit road transport operations and effective contribution to the tasks outlined in the Almaty Programme of Action adopted on 29 August 2003 by the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation (Almaty, the Republic of Kazakhstan);

**Relying** on the Action Plans in the area of transport and infrastructure development, adopted in the framework of the TRACECA Intergovernmental Commission and Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC collaboration), as well as on the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network;

**Praising** the results of the Prefeasibility study on creation of the Model Highway in Central Asia, developed with financial and technical assistance of the International Road Transport Union (IRU),

Agreed on the following:

1. The Parties fully support TRACECA and IRU efforts aimed at trade and road transport facilitation in Central Asia and are ready to undertake necessary coordinated actions to realise the IRU Model Highway Initiative (MHI) on the motorways Pol-eXomri - Nizhny Panj – Dushanbe – Jirgatal – Karamyk – Sarytash – Osh – Bishkek – Kordai, and Khorgos – Almaty – Kordai – Shimkent – Kyzylorda, crossing the territories of the four participating countries.
2. The Parties agreed with the necessity to develop in the near future a comprehensive Feasibility Study for the IRU Model Highway Initiative (MHI) and expressed readiness to address the leading international financial institutions, international organizations and regional development banks in order to consider the possibility of allocating a technical grant for preparation of the Feasibility Study.

3. The Parties agreed to create a Working group including representatives of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, TRACECA and IRU for monitoring of realisation of the IRU Model Highway Initiative (MHI), as well as timely preparation of recommendations and drafting the Intergovernmental Agreement on creation of the Model Highway in Central Asia.

Ministry of transport and  
civil aviation of the  
Islamic Republic of  
Afghanistan

Ministry of transport and  
communications of the  
Kyrgyz Republic

Ministry of transport of  
the Republic of  
Tajikistan