

Priorities in the field of transport during the Russian Chairmanship of the BEAC in the period 2015-2017

The main goal of the Russian Chairmanship of the BEAC in the field of transport is further development of the BEATA and establishment of the integrated transport system in the region, continuation of the work on the implementation of mutually beneficial initiatives with practical potential in the field of transport, infrastructure and logistics.

Complete optimisation of cross-border procedures in accordance with the best international practices and harmonisation of transportation documents is essential for effective and smooth functioning of the international transport network. It is crucial to follow a systematic approach to the northern areas' environmental protection while constructing, reconstructing and operating exploiting of transport infrastructure.

Russian chairmanship programme will be focused on implementation of mutually beneficial projects, presentation of the investment potential of the BEAC countries' transport systems, stimulation of investments attraction for major infrastructure projects realisation.

The key event of the Russian Chairmanship of the BEAC in the field of transport is the BEAC Transport Ministerial Meeting scheduled on 21 June 2016 in Arkhangelsk in cooperation with the Northern (Arctic) Federal University named after M.V. Lomonosov. In order to discuss the final documents ahead of the Ministerial Meeting it is planned to hold the meeting of the BEATA Steering Committee on 20 June 2016 in Arkhangelsk and several expert videoconferences.

The main priorities in the field of transport are as follows:

1. Continuation of the work started during the Norwegian and Finnish Chairmanships on the draft Joint Barents Transport Plan, aimed at building an efficient transport infrastructure and transport links in Northern Europe, designed according to the needs of the region's population, transport operators and industries\local economy, with climatic and geographical features taken into account.

2. Improvement of transport safety, implementation of global satellite navigation systems of emergency response in case of accidents on the emerging international motor routes of the Barents region, including Russian national automatic accident emergency response system "ERA-GLONASS", drafting proposals for its possible connection with the eCall System.

3. Professional training for the transport industry in the Arctic region, including shipping.

4. Strengthening of interaction between the BEAC working bodies, responsible for transport and tourism.