Memorandum of Understanding between Economic Cooperation Organization and International Road Transport Union

The Economic Co-operation Organization (ECO) and the International Road Transport Union (IRU), hereinafter referred to as Parties,

Considering their common interests in promoting of sustainable development of international road transport among ECO member states and throughout the ECO region, as well as between the ECO region and other parts of the Eurasian landmass,

Recognizing that co-operation between IRU and ECO member states will ensure better coordination and efficient implementation of common strategies and activities in the field of transport,

Hereby agree to the following:

1. <u>Co-operative Relationship and Technical Assistance</u>

- i) Parties will exchange information, data and relevant documents, on a regular basis, on their annual calendar of events/meetings
- ii) The ECO Secretariat and the IRU shall invite each other to attend their relevant meetings in transport sector.
- iii) Parties, in their information exchange, will mainly address the following subjects:
 - elimination of barriers to international transport operations;
 - technical and operational matters comprising the development and harmonization of vehicle technical parameters and standards of road infrastructure;
 - improvement of border crossings including:
 - Joint projects on corridor studies and organization of demonstration caravans, improving security and safety on roads;
 - transit facilitation;
 - promotion of the implementation of the related UN Conventions.
- iv) Parties will work jointly towards proper implementation of the TIR Convention as well as United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Resolution 49 and relevant Recommendations of 20 October 1995 and 20 October 2000, taking into account the needs of national road transport associations and customs administrations.
- v) Parties will use the facilities of international/regional organizations/programs/projects in the field of international road transport related to the ECO region such as UN-SPECA,

Asian Highway network project, etc.

- vi) ECO and IRU will implement joint projects and will organize joint workshops/activities for the promotion of the above-mentioned objectives.
- vii) Parties will jointly organize donors' conferences/meetings to consider financing their joint projects in the ECO region.

2. Adoption, Entry into Force and Amendments

- i) The MoU's adoption and subsequent amendments shall require approval of the relevant decision making bodies of the Parties. It will enter into force upon signature by the Secretaries General/Authorized Representatives of the two organizations.
- ii) The MoU may be revoked within three months of notification sent by either Party. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual agreement between the parties and on the basis of the respective procedures of ECO and IRU.
- iii) No provision of this MoU shall be deemed to infringe upon the respective mandates of ECO and IRU in accordance with their relevant rules and procedures.

In witness, whereof, the Secretary General of IRU and the Director (T&C) of ECO have signed this MoU in two original copies in English language.

Signed at Istanbul-Turkey on 15 May, 2008.

For the Economic Cooperation Organization

Mohammad Mirzaei Kahagh Director For the International Road Transport Union

Martin Marmy Secretary General