Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on transit of passengers, goods and baggage, their safety and security on roads and railway lines of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the

Republic of Uzbekistan, further on referred to as "Parties",

in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Kazakhstan of 24 June 1992, Treaty on Establishment of Common Economic Zone between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Kazakhstan of 10 January 1994 as well as the basic documents of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

considering important to ensure common technological operation of roads and railway lines, and recognizing the utmost significance of the favorable development of

equal and mutually beneficial bilateral trade and economic relations,

recognizing the importance of the implementation of the common and agreed policy in the field of the development of international road and railway transport, as well as customs of the Parties.

taking into account the protection of the economic independence, expressing the adherence to the principles of free transit,

agreed on the following:

Article 1

Transit of goods through the territories of the Parties to the third countries, except for the CIS, by road vehicles of the Parties requires permits issued by the relevant authorities of the Parties and transport operators possessing TIR carnets or CMR.

Transit transportations by road vehicles of the Parties to the CIS do not require any

permits and are not subject to transit fees and payments.

Transportations on routes Uzbekistan-Kazakhstan-Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan-

Uzbekistan-Kazakhstan are not considered transit.

Each Party ensures favorable conditions for movement of road vehicles of the other Party, including those in transit to the third countries.

Article 2

Goods transported to the third countries from the territory of one of the Parties through the territory of the other Party are subject to customs formalities at the point of origin.

Article 3

The Parties recognize stamps, customs markings, customs documents and other relevant documents (bank, financial, etc.) of each other and exchange their samples.

Article 4

Goods in transit through the territories of the Parties are not subject to tax and duty collections, except for those imposed for custom registration.

Article 5

Goods of the Parties exported to the third countries will not be accepted for transit across the territories of the Parties and passage to the third countries if the goods are not registered by the customs of the exporting state.

Article 6

The Parties provide each other with lists of goods prohibited for export, import and transit on their territories in accordance with international regulations and national legislation.

Transportation of dangerous goods across the territory of a Party is exercised in accordance with international regulations under a special permit issued by relevant authorities, if not stipulated otherwise in a separate Agreement.

Article 7

The Parties, in view of mutual interests, will take all the necessary measures to support each other in the development of railway and road transportation under the most favourable conditions for processing of transit goods of the Parties, and also in relation to transportation of passengers and baggage.

Article 8

The Parties entrust the relevant authorities to consider the possibility of applying reduced tariffs or special rates to transportation of goods by rail transport.

Article 9

Periods of stay of road vehicles on the territory of the Parties are as stipulated in the national legislation. Permit is valid for the term of factual stay of road vehicle on the territory of the Party for direct and return journey.

Article 10

The Parties agreed on international transportation of goods across their respective territories in accordance with national legislation and existing rules.

Article 11

The Parties are committed to take necessary measures to ensure security of passengers, service personnel and safety of road vehicles, railway wagons, containers, as well as goods and baggage while transported on roads and railway lines of the Parties.

Each Party ensures safe and favorable conditions for passage of vehicles across the territory of the other Party, including those traveling to the third countries.

Article 12

Goods, baggage, hand luggage, currency, as well as personal belongings from one Party in transit through the territory of the other Party are not subject to customs examinations at border-crossing points unless there are reasons to suspect transportation of goods forbidden for import-export and transit.

Article 13

The Parties agreed to establish a Joint Interagency Commission on Road and Railway Transit comprising representatives the relevant authorities of the Parties, which will facilitate the implementation of the present Agreement as well as coordinate and control the realization of the relevant obligations.

To consider the implementation of the Agreement, the Joint Interagency Commission will meet by turn at Akmola and Tashkent, as suggested by the Parties.

Any disagreements related to the implementation or understanding of the Agreement will be considered by the Joint Interagency Commission through consultation and negotiations.

If no solution is found within the framework of the Joint Interagency Commission the disagreement will be considered by the Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation.

Article 14

With regard to issues not covered by the Agreement, they will be considered in line with the national legislation of the Parties, international norms, as well as agreements on international road and railway transit concluded between the Parties earlier.

Article 15

Additions and changes agreed upon by the Parties can be introduced in the Agreement, with related Protocols being integral parts of the Agreement.

The Parties committed not to take any negative actions concerning transit transportation of passengers, goods and luggage as established by the Agreement.

Article 16

The relevant authorities of the Parties responsible for implementation of the present Agreement are:

on the part of the Republic of Kazakhstan – Ministry of Transport and Communications, Customs Committee of the Ministry of Finance, Republican State Enterprise "Kazakhstan Temir Joly", Ministry of Interior, State Investigation Committee;

on the part of the Republic of Uzbekistan – State Railway Company "Uzbekiston Temir Yullary", "Uzavtotrans" corporation, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, State Customs Committee and Ministry of Interior.

The Parties will inform each other on any changes in the above listings.

Article 17

The present Agreement has no impact on the obligations of the Parties by other international treaties and agreements.

Article 18

The Agreement comes into force from the date of the last official notification by the Parties on completion of national procedures essential for introduction of the Agreement.

In case of breach of obligations stipulated by the Agreement by any Party, the Agreement is considered invalid in the established order.

The present Agreement is valid for the period of five years. The period of validity will be automatically extended for other five-year terms unless one of the Parties informs the other in writing on its intention to terminate the Agreement no less than six months prior to the expiry date of the Agreement.

Done at the city of Tashkent on March 27, 1998, in two copies, each in Kazakh, Uzbek and Russian languages, with all copies of equal value.

For all issues concerning the interpretation of the Agreement the Parties should refer to the text in Russian.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan

On behalf of the Government of Uzbekistan