

# South-East European Freight Forwarders Association (SEEFF)

Board Meeting, Belgrade, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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## TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO THE RELEVANT EU INSTITUTIONS and TO NATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDING ASSOCIATIONS

### DECLARATION

**Following** the mission of SEEFF to unite the efforts of national freight forwarding associations in South-Eastern Europe to ensure and maintain an adequate business environment for the activity of freight forwarders as well as transparency and fair competition in logistics and transport in general;

**Considering** the increasing influence of global trends and supply chain disruptions on the main directions and strategies for the development of the logistics sector in South-East Europe;

**Recognising** that the development of intermodal transport in Europe is crucial for the optimisation of transport corridors through our countries;

**Noting** that sustainability in the transport and logistics process and the use of electronic transport documents are the new reality accompanied by several challenges and opportunities;

**Bearing in mind** the deepening problem in recent years with the quantity and quality of employees in freight forwarding companies and the efforts being made to train and retain them through new flexible work options;

#### SEEFF:

**Appeals** on the EU and local authorities to provide strong support for the sector, especially for non-EU countries to ensure compliance with transport regulations;

**Encourages** national governments to invest in the construction of new infrastructure projects such as railways, ports, logistics centres, etc., which should be seen as their priority task;

**Recommends** that national freight forwarding associations continue their efforts to promote good sustainability practices in the transport sector and encourage their members to digitise their activities;

**Calls** on national associations and their members to work more closely with educational institutions to train more professionals to meet the needs of the sector, and to adopt standards for this training to ensure its effectiveness.

**Assures** member associations that they can always rely on the support of FIATA, CLECAT, and SEEFF in their efforts to jointly find solutions to the new global challenges the logistics branch is facing.

10<sup>th</sup> May 2024,  
Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

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*South-East European Freight Forwarders Association (SEEFF) was established for an unlimited period to address the problems in the transport sector and the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire for all countries in the region. Since 1996 SEEFF has involved freight forwarding branch associations from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, and Ukraine (listed in alphabetical order) and remains open for other countries from the region to join.*