SEMINAR ON OVERCOMING BORDER CROSSING OBSTACLES
5-6 March 2009, Paris

EURASIA BUSINESS PLATFORM INITIATIVE

Eric STEWART
(US Chamber of Commerce)
Eurasia Business Platform

- Eurasia Business Platform was launched by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2006.

- The U.S. Chambers partners with its affiliated American Chambers of Commerce throughout the region on this effort.

- Eurasia Business Platform’s goal is to foster regional economic cooperation and secure trade facilitation across Eurasia.

- Eurasia Business Platform is a mechanism for the business community to have input with policy makers in Washington, DC, Eurasian governments, and within regional framework institutions like the SCO, GUAM and EurAsEC.
Key Eurasia Business Platform Projects

- Land Transport Options Study
- AmCham Investment and Trade Facilitation Survey
- Security and Trade Facilitation Study
THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES

LAND TRANSPORT OPTIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA: Commercial Feasibility Study

July 2006
Beijing to Brussels

- Maritime accounts for 85%
- Rail accounts for 3-4%
- Trucking accounts for <1%
AmCham Survey 2008

- 2008 AmCham Survey on Investment Climate, Transport, and Trade Facilitation

- Survey sent to almost 1000 businesses across Eurasia.

Key Results:
- 57% report current business climate as “good”

- 60% say the situation will continue to improve

- 75% report they must add additional human resources to deal with customs regulations.

- 61% report travel/transit times are slow due to poor road and rail conditions.

- Greater than half of all respondents say that with overall improvements in the business and investment climate, their business would improve by over 50%
Figure 16: Transport Security Assessment

- **Very good**: borders and customs checkpoints are sophisticated and reliable
- **Fair**: could use improvement
- **Poor**: border facilities are not adequate
- **Terrible**: borders are porous; illegal, dangerous and/or contraband material travels easily through borders

![Transport Security Assessment Chart]

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**Transport Security Assessment Chart**

- **Overall**
- **Armenia**
- **Azerbaijan**
- **Georgia**
- **Kazakhstan**
- **Kyrgyz Rep**
- **Turkey**
- **Ukraine**
Balancing Security and Trade Facilitation in the 21st Century Global Supply Chain:

A Study Evaluating International Agreements to Implement The SAFE Framework of Standards

April 2, 2008
More than 16,000 Agreements