



**Republika e Kosovës**  
**Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo**  
*Qeveria-Vlada-Government*

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*Prishtina, 14 September 2016*  
*Nr.ref. 100 / 2016*

Mr. Brendan Keirnan  
Head of Office in Prishtina  
UNOPS

**Su: IBM BCP permanent facilities - Approval by the Government of Kosovo**

Dear Mr. Keirnan,

Based on the Brussels Agreement on IBM reached on 2 December 2011 and the IBM technical protocol reached and signed on 24 February 2012, between the Republic of Kosovo and Republic of Serbia with the facilitation and guarantees the European Union, which provides for building of permanent facilities in the six border crossings between two states.

Having in mind that the Agreement provides for the Republic of Kosovo to be the hosting state of permanent facilities for three border crossing points, in Merdarë/Merdare, Bërnjak/Tabavije and Mutivodë/Mutivode.

Considering the fact that the IBM zones layouts are agreed and signed between all three parties with the reference to the marked dots at the border line. The location for the centre of the permanent BCP will be located, taking into account the terrain and technical considerations on the ground, as close as possible to the agreed and marked dots but within 200 meters. On this basis the contractor will prepare the design and plans for each BCP, which should follow the template of the Common Crossing Point (CCP) Model, under a single roof and built in line with EU standards.

Acknowledging the hard work done for accomplishing the project designs of three border crossings by the Project Board and particularly by UNOPS, as the implementing partner chosen by the EU.

Hereby, on behalf of the Government of Kosovo, I want to confirm the approval of the final project designs for border crossings in Merdarë/Merdare, Bërnjak/Tabavije and Mutivodë/Mutivode, which has been approved by the Project Board in the meeting of the 24 August 2016, including the minutes of the meeting that refers to all data required for the project design and the land size.

I also approve the agreed timeline for starting the construction work (sod cutting) in all three border crossings, in Merdarë/Merdare on 24 November 2016, Bërnjak/Tabavije on 20 December 2016 and Mutivodë/Mutivode on 15 December 2016.

Based on this approval which refers to the implementation of the Brussels Agreement on IBM, the technical approval of the three project designs will follow from The Ministry of Internal Affairs.

I remain confident that the whole process of implementation /construction of the permanent facilities will respect the EU standards of quality and effectiveness, as shown during the process of project designing.

I would like to thank you all stake holders, the European Union for facilitating and financing the IBM permanent facilities, The European Union office in Kosovo, the Ministry of Dialogue, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Kosovo Police, Kosovo Customs for extraordinary cooperation and effectiveness for bringing this process to the final stage of planning. This constructive cooperation is a guarantee for completing the implementation in the timely and quality manner.

I am looking forward to our joint work in implementation process.

Sincerely yours,



**Edita Tahiri**

Minister for Dialog

Chief Negotiator at the Brussels Dialogue

CC:

Angeline Eichhorst, Director for Europe, EEAS

Bernd Thran, EU facilitator on IBM

Skender Hyseni, Minister of Internal Affairs

Fitim Krasniqi, Permanent Secretary, Office of Primeminister

Project Board Members: Edita Tahiri, Chief negotiator at the Brussels Dialogue, Dren Zeka, coordinator of the IBM agreement, Libor Chlad, Deputy Head of Cooperation in the European Union Office, Driton Gashi, Secretary General of Ministry of Internal Affairs, Arben Çitaku, Secretary General of Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Shaban Guda, Director of Kosovo Border Police, Valdet Gjinovci, CEO of Food and Veterinary Agency, Bekim Mehmetaj, Head of IBM in Kosovo Customs, Alan Wilson, EU expert on IBM