



**TOBB**



# **Modernization of Border Crossing Points in Turkey: New Prospects for Silk Road Region and Joint Border Crossing Model**

**Astana, October, 2009**

## What is GTİ?

- GTİ is a private company incorporated in 2005 in order to modernize and operate border gates in Turkey.
- Totally owned by Turkish chambers and their federation, TOBB.
- Operations are based on PPP projects where economic benefit is greater than private profits.
- Border Gates are totally renewed.

## How GTI Operates?

- ☐ Operates with the model Build-Operate-Transfer → no burden for public treasury
- ☐ Build: all the investment by TOBB GTİ
- ☐ Operate: Operation of commercial facilities\*\*\*
- ☐ Transfer: Transfer of facilities to the public free of charge

**\*\*\* Operation of only commercial facilities; customs procedures are still undertaken by Customs Authorities**

## How GTİ Operates?

- ❑ Modernized and operating 6 border gates around Turkey.
  - ❑ İpsala (TR-Greece), Habur (TR-Iraq), Cilvegözü (TR-Syria), Sarp (TR-Georgia), Kapıkule (TR-Bulgaria), Hamzabeli (TR-Bulgaria)
- ❑ Commissioned to take over 9 additional border gates.
  - ❑ Dereköy, Esendere, Nusaybin, Dilucu, Akçakale, Öncüpınar, Yayladağı, Karkamış, Türkgözü



## Outcomes of the Projects

- Effective fight with smuggling and illegal traffic
- User satisfaction (driver, officer, passenger)
- More rapid and effective service
  - No more queues
  - Process time decreased from 30 minutes to 10 minutes

- Customs and Tourism Enterprises (GTİ)  
invested  
**\$190.000.000**  
to the modernization projects  
until now.
  - **\$17.000.000** tax  
has been paid to the government

## Highlights

- Huge investments by TOBB GTİ instead of the public budget
- Tax revenue for the public
- Only the commercial facilities are operated



# HABUR BORDER GATE (TR - IRAQ)

**Before Modernization**



**After Modernization**





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# CILVEGOZU BORDER GATE (TR - SYRIA)

**Before Modernization**



**After Modernization**



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## SARP BORDER GATE (TR - Georgia)

Before Modernization



After Modernization





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## KAPIKULE BORDER GATE (TR - Bulgaria)

Before Modernization

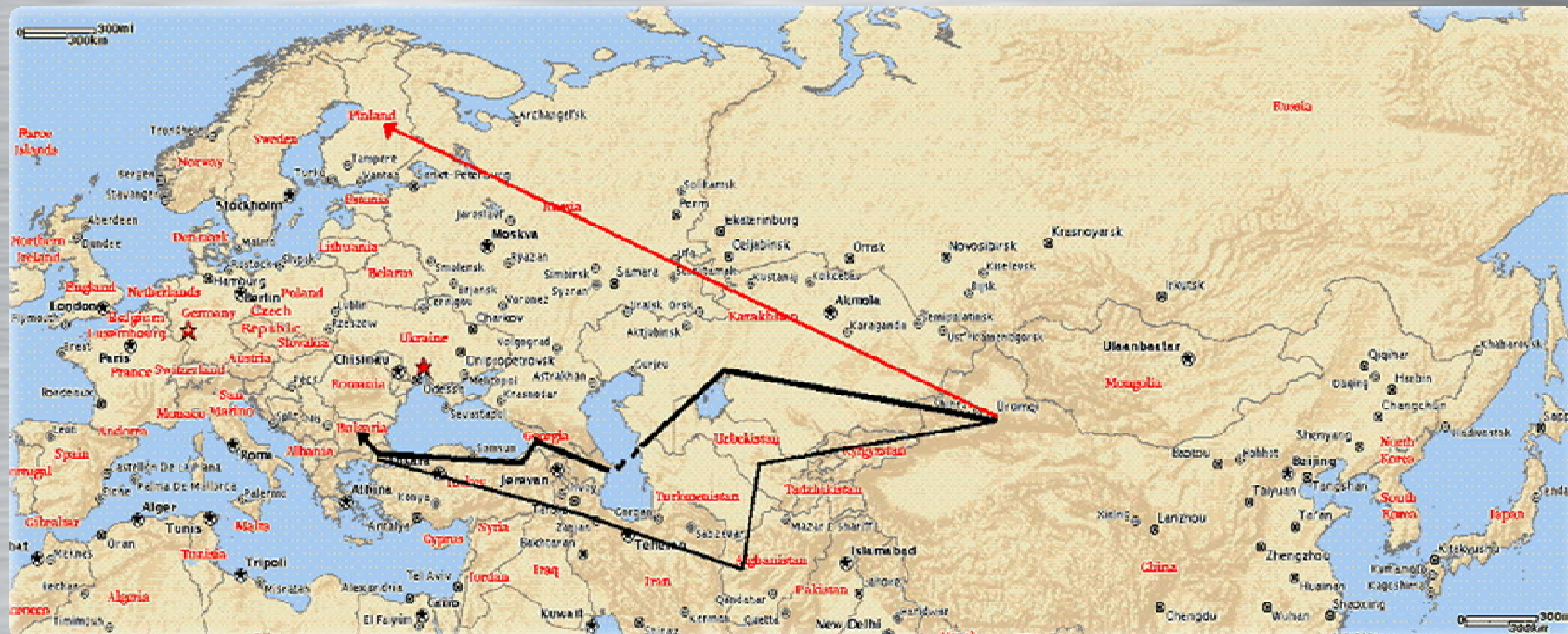


After Modernization



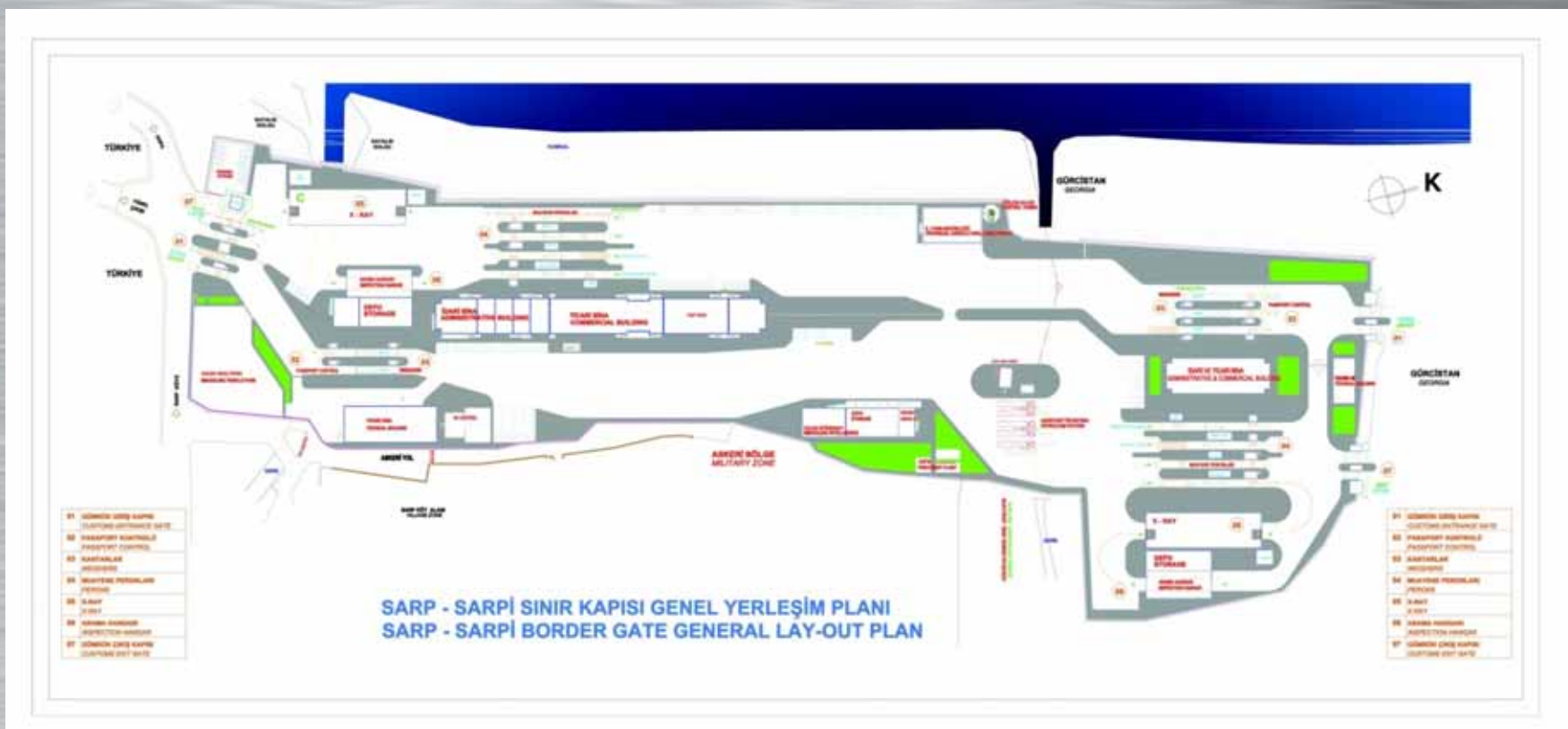


# The Revitalization of Silk Road – Alternative Routes



## First Step for the Facilitation of Border– Crossings

- Turkey – Georgia Joint Border Crossing Model



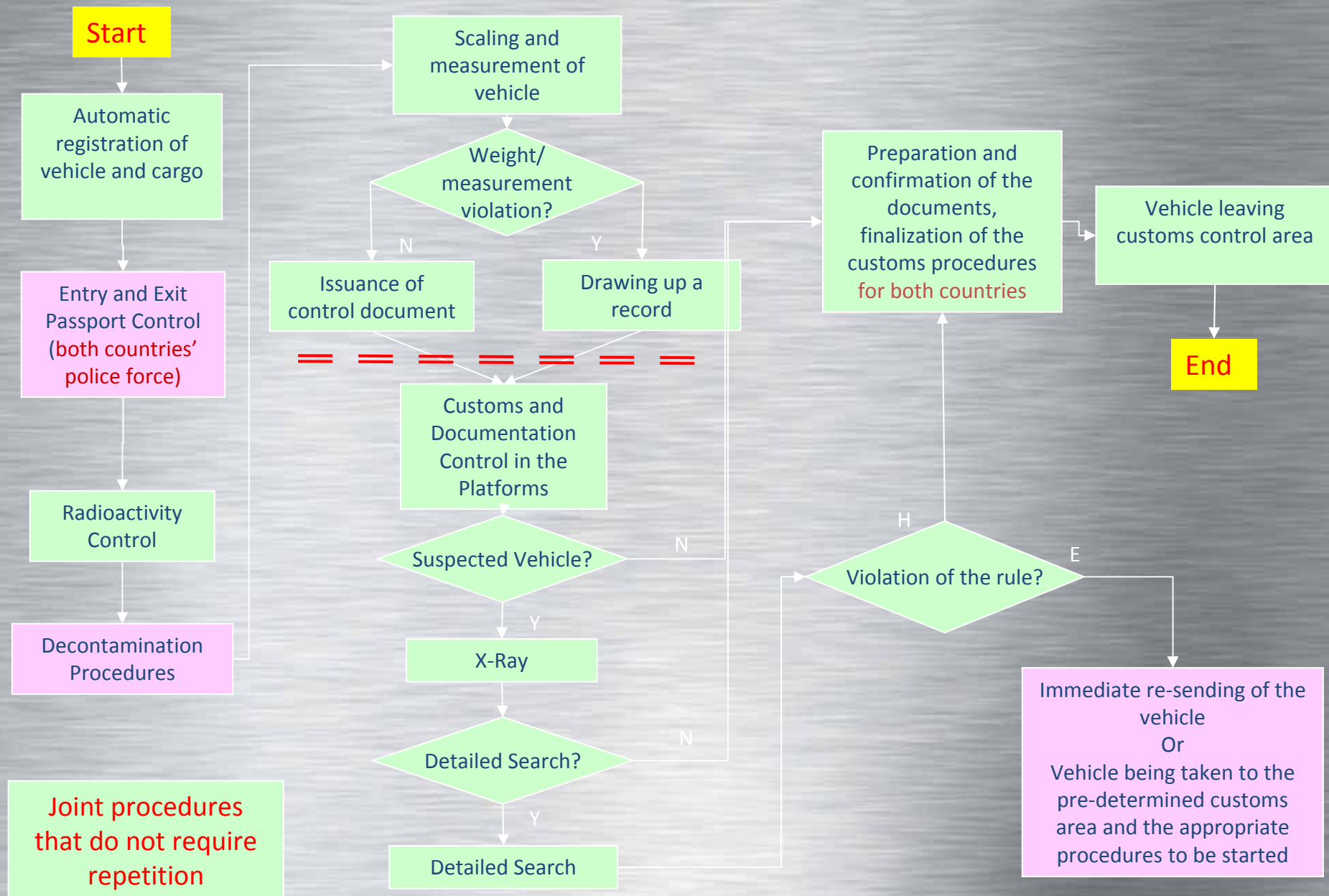


## What is Joint Border Crossing Model? (JBCM)

- One border gate area but two teams from both countries acting together.
- Objective is to **eliminate redundancies**:
  - Joint control of certificates. No duplications.
  - Relevant checks done by just incoming country's authorities
  - E-customs and data-sharing between authorities
- Modernization of the custom facilities are to be financed by GTİ



# Flow diagram for JBCM



## Why JBCM?

- In the next 5 years, demand over border crossing points is expected to increase extremely
  - More **efficient** crossings will also stimulate demand
- Joint Border Crossing Model is the ideal solution to meet the increasing demand
  - With the realization of the project, **60-70 % of decrease** in the **BORDER WAITING TIME** is expected.
  - Capacity will increase threefold.
- Investment and operational **costs** are significantly **lower**.
- Joint model is the most suitable model for many of the Silk Road countries.

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**Thank You...**