



Conditions for Receiving Schengen Visas for Professional Drivers

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Trade and tourism - impossible without road transport!

- Trucks & Coaches are the major carriers!
- Driven by **professional drivers** - neither illegal immigrants nor clandestine workers
 - They belong to a special category of visa applicant
 - They should be given preferential treatment for visas (like seamen or pilots)



Present State

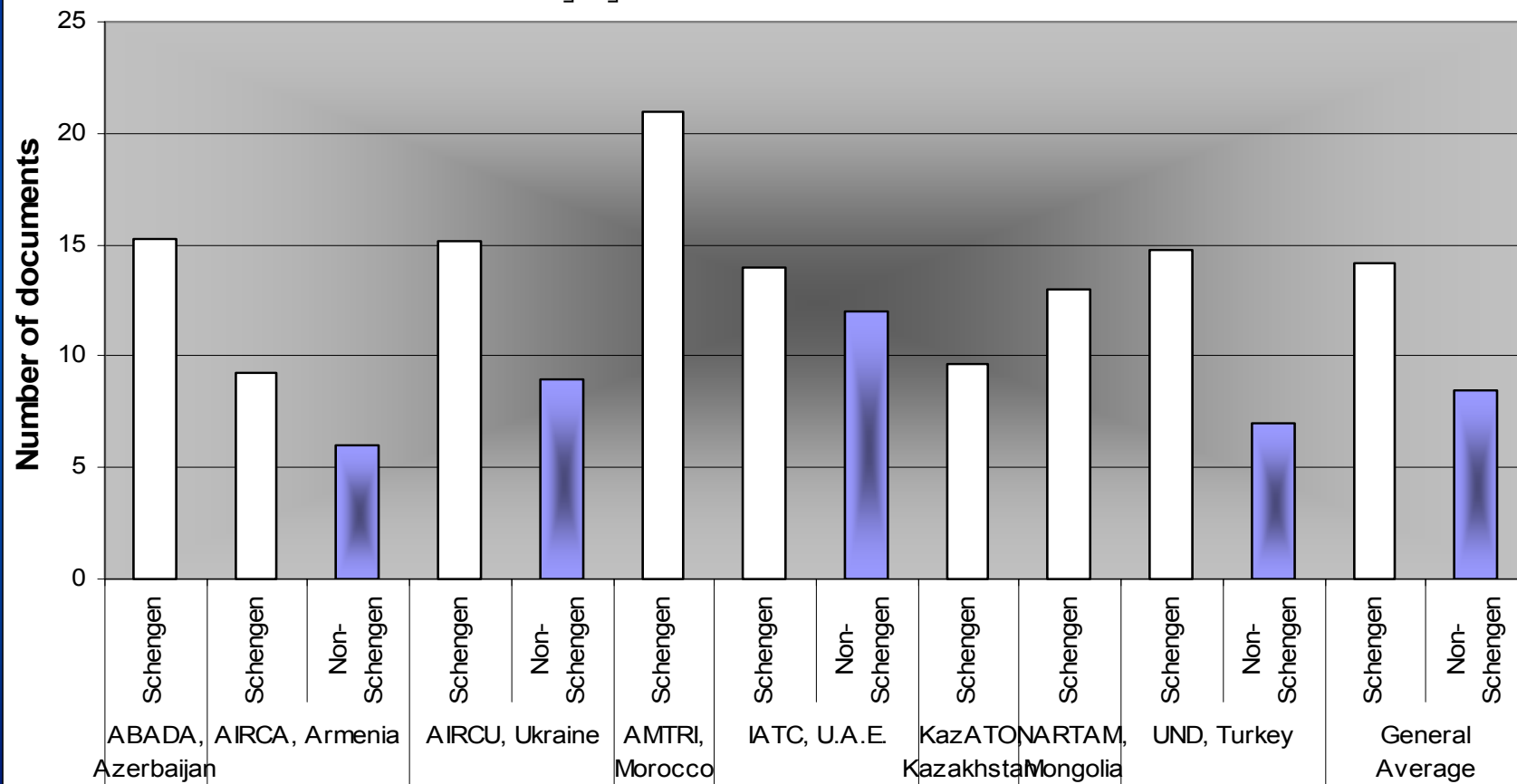
- Some harmonisation of issuing Schengen visas to professional drivers has recently taken place, in particular regarding visa fees, *however*
 - the number of application documents is still too high,
 - processing time is still too long,
 - procedures are still too cumbersome.



Progress Needed

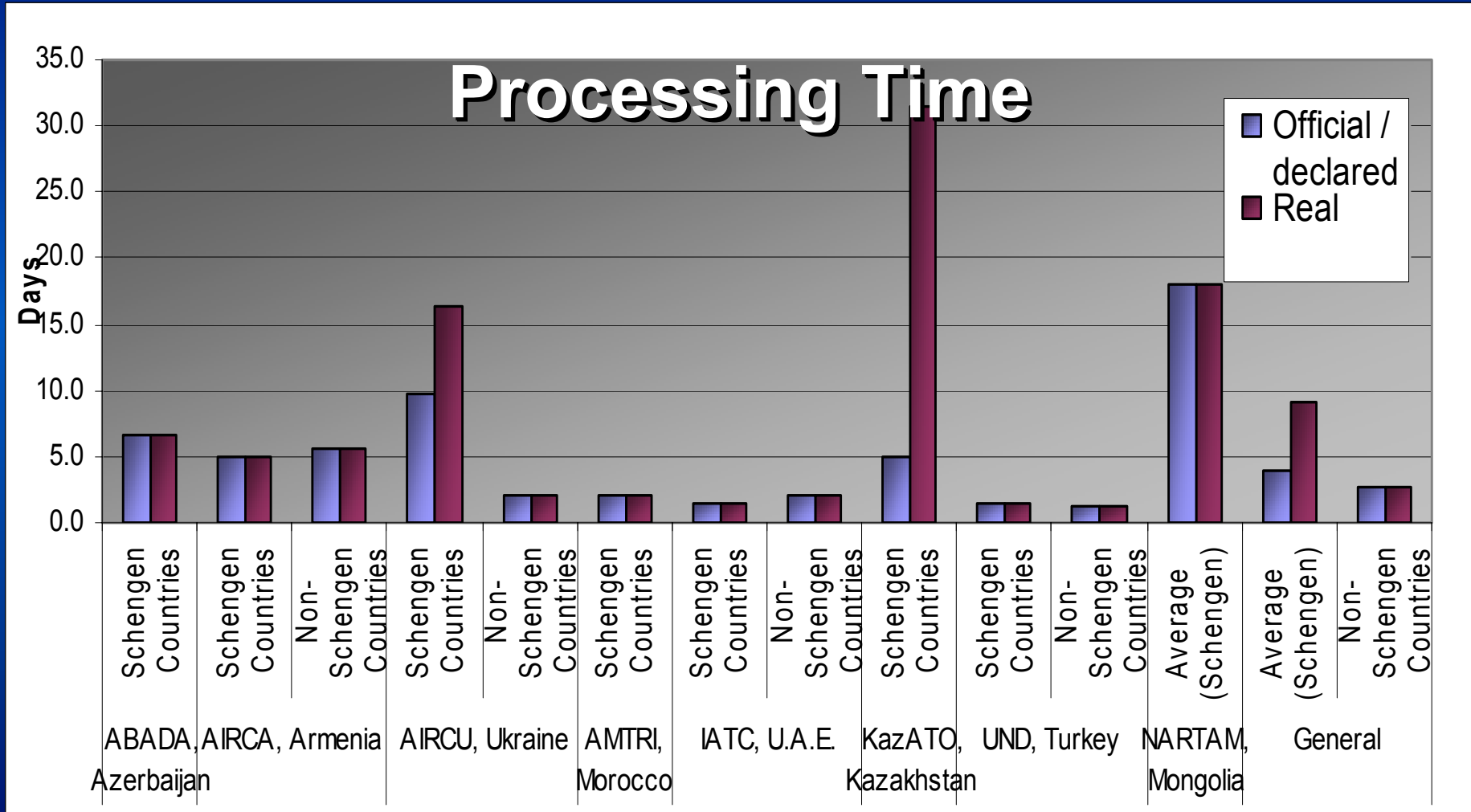
- Acceptance of acknowledged road transport associations' mediatory role
 - Identify *bona fide* drivers
 - Reduce need for drivers to apply in person
- Facilitation and harmonisation
 - Issue annual, multi-entry visas
 - Simplify application documentation
 - Apply reasonable processing time
 - Fix reasonable fees
- Bilateral agreements and ILO Convention 185

Number of Application Documents 2006





A Few Facts 2





A Few Facts 3

<i>Schengen Countries</i>	Time in <u>Ukraine</u> (Days)	
	Official	Real
<i>A</i>	2 – 3	7 – 10
<i>B</i>	3 – 5	3 – 5
<i>D</i>	2	15
<i>IT</i>	5 – 7	45 – 60
<i>ESP</i>	1 – 2	1 – 2
<i>Average (Schengen)</i>	3.2	16.3
<i>Average (Non-Schengen)</i>	2	2

Special Restrictions

- The driver must *receive the visa* from the *Consulate* of the Schengen country into which his *first entry* is planned.

- Despite the fact that the driver must spend the night in the territory of the state which issued the visa, this goes against the logic of trade, tourism and transport operations!

- The period of the driver's single stay on the territory of the state which *issued the visa is limited to ten days*.



The Code on Visas

(COM)403 final

- Welcome! *But* professional drivers should be in a special category
 - Transport associations should be acknowledged intermediaries > Limited personal appearance
 - Simplified documentation needed
 - Annual multi-entry visas to be issued (180/360)

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