



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

**Permanent International Secretariat**

Sakıp Sabancı Cad., Müşir Fuad Paşa Yalısı, Eski Tersane, 34467 Emirgan – İstanbul/Turkey

Tel: ++90 212 2296330-35 Fax: ++90 212 2296336

E-mail: [info@bsec-organization.org](mailto:info@bsec-organization.org)

[www.bsec-organization.org](http://www.bsec-organization.org)

---

21-22 May 2015

BS/WG/AAI/R(2015)1

**REPORT OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP  
ON AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY**

**BSEC Headquarters, 21-22 May 2015**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry was held at the BSEC Headquarters on 21-22 May 2015.
2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:  
  
Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Republic of Bulgaria  
Hellenic Republic  
Romania  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine
3. The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.
4. Upon the relevant decision by the participants, the Meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Maria Sofia RIGOPOULOU, Expert at the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy (Hellenic Republic) and Mr. Hasan KILIC, Engineer at the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (Republic of Turkey).
5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL RELATED TO AGRICULTURE AND  
AGRO-INDUSTRY AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOINT DECLARATIONS OF THE  
MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

6. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS, concerning activities in the field of Agriculture and Agro-Industry, since the last Meeting of the WGAAL, as well as on the creation of the Project Management Unit within the Secretariat.

7. The Working Group exchanged views on the modalities of cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Agro-Industry and the ways and means of increasing the efficiency of the Working Group.

8. The Working Group invited the interested Member States to submit concrete proposals for joint initiatives or projects in the field of Agriculture and Agro-Industry, taking into account the existing national programmes and their experience in cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations.

9. The Working Group invited the Member States, who have not yet done so, to update the list of their respective national contact points in the field of Agriculture and Agro-Industry. The existing list of national contact points is attached as **Annex III**.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: THE “WAY FORWARD FOR AN ACTION PLAN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “ECONOMIC AGENDA TOWARDS AN ENHANCED BSEC PARTNERSHIP”: PREPARATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM SURVEY (2016-2018)**

10. Taking into account the timetable included in “The way forward for an action plan on the implementation of the Economic Agenda Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership”, adopted by the CMFA (Istanbul, 15 December 2012), the Working Group instructed the BSEC PERMIS, which currently ensures the coordination of the Working Group, to:

- Prepare and submit, by December 2015, the Medium-Term (2013-2015) Achievements Report of the WGAAI;
- Launch, by June 2015, the surveys for the next medium-term (2016-2018) programming of the WGAAI activities;
- Prepare the WGAAI Action Plan for the period 2015-2016, taking into account the previous Action Plan for the Working Group (2013-2014), as well as the priorities identified in the BSEC Economic Agenda 2012.

11. In this framework, the Working Group invited interested Member States to submit their proposals on the activity of the WGAAI by the next meeting of the Working Group (second semester 2015).

### **DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY**

12. The Working Group discussed and amended the Draft. The document, as amended, is attached as **Annex IV**.

13. The Working Group agreed to continue discussion on the Draft at its next Meeting, taking also into consideration the ongoing discussions on the BSEC reforming process.

14. In this regard, the Working Group invited interested Member States to submit their comments/proposals on the Draft by the next Meeting of the Working Group (second semester 2015).

### **PROSPECTS OF THE BLACK SEA REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES**

15. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the Delegations of the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Turkey and Ukraine, as well as the BSEC PERMIS, concerning regional cooperation in the field of fisheries.

16. The Working Group stressed the importance of enhancing regional cooperation in the field of fisheries and aquaculture, taking into account the relevant activity of other regional and international organizations.

17. In view of the significant initiatives of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, the European Commission and others in this area, the Working Group invited the forthcoming Chairmanship and the BSEC PERMIS to explore the possibility of securing their participation at the next Meeting of the WGAAL.

#### **COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF FOOD SAFETY AMONG CENTRAL COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND NATIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORIES OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

18. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the Delegations of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Turkey concerning recent developments in the field of food safety in their respective countries.

19. The Working Group also took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS and decided to continue the discussions on the issue at its next Meeting.

#### **CONSULTATION ON ELABORATION OF HARMONIZING THE LABELING STANDARDS FOR FOOD PRODUCTS AS AN IMPORTANT PART OF FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY**

20. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the Delegation of the Republic of Turkey, concerning recent developments in this field and decided to continue discussions on the issue at its next meeting. The relevant information is attached as **Annex V**.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

21. The participants took note of the readiness of the Republic of Turkey to assume the duties of Country-Coordinator for the period 2017-2018.

#### **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

22. The date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry will be communicated to the BSEC Member States through BSEC PERMIS.

#### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

23. The Working Group adopted the present Report for its submission to the Committee of Senior Officials and the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs for their consideration.

---

---