



11 October 2017

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**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME,
IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS**

BSEC Headquarters, 11 October 2017

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, was held at the BSEC Headquarters on 11 October 2017.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Sergii KRAVCHENKO, Consul in charge of BSEC, Consulate General of Ukraine in Istanbul, and Mrs. Vilhelmina LUCINESCU, Chief Police Commissioner, General Directorate of European Affairs, Schengen and International Relations, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Romania.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Georgia
Hellenic Republic
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine
4. The Republic of Poland attended the Meeting as an Observer.
5. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed, amended and adopted. The agenda, as amended, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOINT DECLARATIONS OF THE MINISTERS OF INTERIOR/PUBLIC ORDER OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

7. The participants were informed about the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and follow-up to the Joint Declarations of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States.

8. The Working Group agreed that some of the contact points of the national representatives to the Working Group are outdated.

9. The Member States were requested to forward updated information with contact details with respect to the existing List of Representatives - National Contact Points in the Working Group on Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms in due course. The list as of 11 October 2017 is attached as **Annex III**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME

10. The Working Group discussed the activities of the Network of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime in accordance with the Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, done in Kyiv on 15 March 2002.

11. The Country-Coordinator suggested that the next Meeting of the Network of Liaison Officers be focused on concrete themes in the field of combating crime.

12. The Working Group adopted the Report of the Meeting of the Network of Liaison Officers, held at the BSEC Headquarters on 10 October 2017, in order to be submitted to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (BSEC Headquarters, 7-8 November 2017).

AGENDA ITEM 4: DELIBERATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REVIEW WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF THE TRENDS OF TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME IN THE BSEC REGION FOR 2015

13. Since the last meeting of the Working Group in June 2016, the Republic of Bulgaria (Note No. 04-02-310, dated 5 October 2017) sent its written contribution to the Annual Review on the Trends of Transnational Crime in the Black Sea Region for 2016.

14. For the time being, only four countries have sent their contribution for 2015, namely the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic and Romania.

15. The Working Group agreed to combine the Annual Reviews for 2015 and 2016 into a single document.

16. The Member States were invited to send their contributions to the Annual Review for 2015 and 2016, by 1st January 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 5: FOLLOW-UP TO THE BSEC REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

17. The Hellenic Republic made a presentation on the “Additional National Measures on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”. The text of presentation is attached as **Annex IV**.

18. The Republic of Bulgaria (Note No. 04-02-310, dated 5 October 2017) sent its contribution to the BSEC Regional Action Plan for 2016. For the time being, only few Member States have sent their contribution to the Action Plan for 2015.

19. The Country-Coordinator suggested that the Working Group start with the preparation of the Report of Implementation for 2015 and 2016, as provided by Para 6 of the BSEC Regional Action Plan and invited the Member States to send their contributions by 1st January 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 6: DRAFT REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION AND COMBATING CORRUPTION – WHAT IS NEXT

20. The Country-Coordinator informed that the draft Regional Action Plan on Cooperation in the field of Prevention and Combating Corruption was agreed by the Working Group (attached as **Annex V**), but needs to be endorsed by the Ministers of Interior.

AGENDA ITEM 7: IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN OF ACTION OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS (2015-2017).

21. The Working Group discussed its activities for the period of 2015-2017.

AGENDA ITEM 8: CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES OF APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR AS OF 1ST OF JANUARY 2018

22. According to the Decision of the 36th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, dated 29 June 2017, the participants considered the issue of the Country-Coordinatorship of the Working Group for the next period of two years 2018-2020.

23. Romania and the Russian Federation confirmed their readiness to assume the position of the Country-Coordinator for next term-in-office as of 1 January 2018 and provided the Working Group with the reasoning of their willingness to become the Country-Coordinator.

24. The Working Group proposed to the Committee of Senior Officials to discuss this issue at its next Meeting (7-8 November 2017).

AGENDA ITEM 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

25. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 10: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

26. The Member States will be informed in due course about the date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group, when the above information is confirmed by the next Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC (January – June 2018).

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

27. The Working Group adopted the present Report for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of the Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States (7-8 November 2017).
