



Bucharest, 7 October 2003

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

Bucharest, 6-7 October 2003

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its organized forms, was held in Bucharest on 6-7 October 2003.
2. The Meeting was attended by the delegations from the following BSEC Member States:
 - Republic of Albania
 - Republic of Armenia
 - Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Republic of Bulgaria
 - Hellenic Republic
 - Republic of Moldova
 - Romania
 - Russian Federation
 - Republic of Turkey
 - Ukraine
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of France and the Slovak Republic as Observers.
4. The representatives of Belgium, the SECI Center and SPOC attended the Meeting as guests.
5. The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

6. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Corneliu ALEXANDRU, General Director, General Directorate for European Integration and International Relations, Ministry of Administration and Interior of Romania.

7. At the opening session, Mr. Alexandru Farcas, Secretary of State to the Ministry of Administration and Interior of Romania addressed the Meeting .

8. Mr. Farid ABDINBEYOV, Counsellor at the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Bucharest conveyed the message on behalf of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office.

9. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed, amended and adopted. The agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex II.

INFORMATION ON THE BSEC MEMBER STATES CONCERNING THE STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE BSEC AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS AND ON THE NOMINATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL

10. The PERMIS provided information on the status of signature and ratification of the Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement establishing the Network of Liaison Officers and on the nomination of the Liaison Officers. It was mentioned that so far the Additional Protocol was ratified/approved by the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and the Republic of Turkey and it entered into force on 16 April 2003.

11. The Participants exchanged information concerning the status of signature/ratification/approval of the Additional Protocol .

12. The Participants were informed that three countries – Republic of Bulgaria, Romania and Republic of Turkey had nominated their Liaison Officers.

13. Ukraine informed that it has ratified the Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement establishing the Network of Liaison Officers and nominated its Liaison Officer.

CONTINUATION OF THE ELABORATION OF THE DRAFT ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL ON COMBATING TERRORISM TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS

14. The Working Group finalized the Draft Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its Organized Forms. The text of the said Additional Protocol is attached as Annex III. In accordance with the BSEC rules and practices the Draft Additional Protocol will be forwarded to the BSEC Member States for their consideration and comments, if any, to be communicated to the BSEC PERMIS by 1 February 2004, in order to enable the latter to provide in due time to the Member States the final version of the Additional Protocol to be signed by the Ministers of Interior/Public Order.

15. The Greek Delegation stated that for the time-being it does not intend to disagree with the adopted text of the Draft Additional Protocol. It will keep its right of reservation and will send its official confirmation through BSEC PERMIS.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16. No specific issues were touched upon this agenda item.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

17. The participants expressed their gratitude to the Romanian side for the excellent arrangements made during their stay in Bucharest and hosting the Meeting of the Working Group.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

18. The participants appreciated the information provided by the Romanian side concerning the holding of the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order in the first half of 2004.

19. The date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its organized forms will be communicated in due time through the BSEC PERMIS.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. The present Report was adopted for submission to the Ninth Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States to be held on 31 October 2003 in Baky.
