



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

**Permanent International Secretariat**

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**REPORT  
OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION  
IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS, WITH  
PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS IN STATISTICS FOR ELABORATION AN  
ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 2011 ON TRENDS OF TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME  
IN THE BSEC REGION**

**Istanbul, 1-2 March 2012**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, with the Participation of Experts in Statistics for Elaboration an Annual Review for 2011 on Trends of Trans-National Crime in the BSEC Region, was held at the BSEC Headquarters in Istanbul on 1-2 March 2012.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Miroslav PROCOVIC, Consul General of the Republic of Serbia in Istanbul and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia to the BSEC PERMIS, and Ms. Vilhelmina LUCINESCU, Chief Commissioner, General Directorate of European Affairs and International Relations of the Ministry of Administration and Interior 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
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Republic of Serbia
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
4. The representative of the Republic of Poland participated in the Meeting as BSEC Observer.

The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.

5. The First Deputy Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS Mrs. Sumru NOYAN, opened the Meeting with a welcoming speech and stressed the importance of the efforts aimed at combating organized crime.

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

### **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. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on 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 took note that so far eight Member States had appointed their representatives to it and invited those countries which had not done so yet to forward information on their representatives to the Working Group as soon as possible. The existing List of Representatives – National Contact Points to the Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, is attached as **Annex III**.

### **DELIBERATIONS ON A PREPARATION PROCEDURE AND STATISTICAL ISSUES REGARDING ELABORATION OF A DRAFT ANNUAL REVIEW WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF THE TRENDS OF TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME IN THE BSEC REGION FOR 2011**

9. Experts in statistics of the Republic of Bulgaria, Romania and the Republic of Turkey participated in the meeting.

10. Further to the discussions on the issue, the comments and clarifications by the experts in statistics participating in the meeting of the Working Group it was agreed that the Country-Coordinator will forward, by the end of March 2012, a Questionnaire for collecting data regarding the trans-national crime trends in the BSEC Region with the view to facilitate elaboration process of an Annual Review with the assessment of the trends of trans-national crime.

### **FOLLOW-UP TO THE BSEC REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION**

11. The delegations of the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Serbia informed the participants on developments regarding the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in their countries.

12. The delegation of the Russian Federation briefed the Working Group on the Conference on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the BSEC Member States held in Moscow on 20-21 December 2011 during the Chairmanship of the Russian Federation in BSEC.

13. Thereafter, the Working Group agreed to submit for consideration by the Committee of Senior Officials the following draft decision of the Council:

*"The Council welcomed the Conference on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the BSEC Member States, held in Moscow on 20-21 December 2011 and organized by the Ministry of Interior of the Russian Federation. The Council acknowledged the said forum as a valuable input to the implementation process of the BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region.*

*The Council commended the Ministry of Interior of the Russian Federation for this initiative and invited the other Member States to convene such forums."*

14. The revised draft project proposal by UNODC aiming to provide further technical assistance in implementing the BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region was distributed to the participants.

15. It was agreed that the Member States will forward their proposals and comments to the draft concept paper of the project by the end of April 2012. The draft concept paper is attached as **Annex IV**.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 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**

16. The Working Group agreed to continue its endeavors for implementation of the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism and invited the Member State which has not ratified it yet to do so as soon as possible.

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME**

17. The Liaison Officers of the Republic of Armenia, Romania and the Republic of Azerbaijan participated in the meeting.

18. The participants underlined the necessity to enhance their efforts in providing efficient work of the BSEC Network of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime.

19. It was agreed to convene a meeting of the Liaison Officers in the second semester of 2012 and at least one month prior to the next meeting of the Working Group.

#### **UPDATED INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ELABORATION OF A BSEC ACTION PLAN ON REGIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND COMBAT CORRUPTION**

20. The Working Group took note that so far, only three countries, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Bulgaria had forwarded their replies to the Questionnaire presented at the last meeting.

21. Therefore the Member States which had not yet transmitted their replies were requested to do so by 15 March 2012 with the aim to speed up the elaboration of a draft

Action Plan for Preventing and Combating Corruption in the Black Sea Region which is expected to be considered at the next meeting.

22. The representatives of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation provided information on the latest developments in anti-corruption legislation and activities in their countries.

### **ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE FIELD OF COMBATING ORGANIZED CRIME**

23. The delegation of the Republic of Armenia made it important to enhance interaction between BSEC and international organizations in the field of combating crime in its organized forms.

24. With this respect the Working Group discussed the Armenian delegation proposal on the possibility of promotion of interaction with the EU within the framework of the relevant projects and programs and instructed PERMIS to accordingly follow-up the proposal.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

25. The Republic of Turkey informed the participants on appointments of its Liaison Officers in some BSEC Member States.

26. The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement in which it proposed that the Member States may submit their relevant comments to the Part III of the BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future, adopted by the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States in April 2001 in Moscow, in order to facilitate work on the new Economic Agenda for the Future. Member States wishing to submit their inputs may send them to PERMIS by the end of March 2012. The statement of the Russian Federation on the issue is attached as **Annex V**.

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

27. The date and venue of the next meeting will be communicated to the Member States in due course by BSEC PERMIS.

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

28. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials and the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs for their consideration.