



Annex III to BS/IM/R(2004)1

Athens, 2 December 2004

BS/CC/WG/R(2004)2

**R E P O R T**  
**OF THE MEETING**  
**OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP**  
**ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME,**  
**IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS**

*Athens, 1 – 2 December 2004*

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its Organized Forms, was held in Athens on 1 – 2 December 2004.

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  
Georgia  
Hellenic Republic  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Serbia and Montenegro  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine

3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the French Republic and the State of Israel as Observers.

4. The representatives of International Center for Black Sea Studies also attended the Meeting.

5. The Meeting was co-chaired by Ambassador Georgios COSTOULAS, Head of the Directorate for Regional Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and by Mr. Vasilios CONSTANTOPOULOS, Police Colonel, Third Anti-drug and Juvenile Delinquency Section, Public Security Division, Hellenic Police Headquarters, Ministry of Public Order.

6. At the opening session Ambassador Georgios COSTOULAS, Head of the Directorate for Regional Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, addressed the Meeting on behalf of the Chairman-in-Office, H.E. Mr. Petros MOLYVIATIS, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic.

7. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex I.

**STATE OF AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO THE ENTERING INTO FORCE OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE BSEC AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS AND THE NOMINATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL**

8. The PERMIS provided information on the status of ratification/approval of the Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement establishing the Network of Liaison Officers and of the nomination of the Liaison Officers. It was mentioned that so far the Additional Protocol was ratified/approved by the Republic of Albania, Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Romania and the Republic of Turkey.

9. The delegations provided information with respect to their national procedures on the signature/ratification/approval of the Additional Protocol. The Ukrainian delegation stated that its national procedure has been concluded and it is about to deposit its instrument of ratification with BSEC PERMIS. The Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Armenia informed that the relevant procedures are underway and will be concluded in the near future. Furthermore, the Republic of Azerbaijan informed that it is considering the accession to the said Additional Protocol.

10. The Working Group assessed the state of affairs with respect to the Network of Liaison Officers and bearing in mind that so far five Member States, namely Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Moldova and Ukraine appointed their liaison officers, suggested that the first meeting of the Network of Liaison Officers should be convened in the very near future.

**STATE OF AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO THE SIGNATURE 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**

11. The Working Group assessed the state of affairs with respect to the signature of the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism and decided to submit it to the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order for signature. The Republic of Azerbaijan stated that it is going to sign the said Additional Protocol with the reservation and declaration notified with the Note No 5/II-2123/03 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 26 November 2004 and disseminated to the BSEC Member States by BSEC PERMIS (BS/INFO.2004.457).

**ELABORATION OF THE DRAFT JOINT DECLARATION ON COMBATING  
TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS TO BE ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS  
OF INTERIOR/PUBLIC ORDER**

12. The Participants considered the Draft Joint Declaration proposed by the Hellenic Chairmanship. They agreed on the final draft of the said Joint Declaration and decided to submit it to the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States for adoption. The Draft Joint Declaration is attached as Annex II to the present Report.

13. The discussion of the Draft Joint Declaration was preceded by a presentation made by the Chairmanship on trafficking in human beings as an international phenomenon. The delegations of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, Romania and the Republic of Turkey shared their national experiences under this agenda item.

**DISCUSSION ON ILLEGAL MIGRATION FLOW BETWEEN EUROPE AND  
ASIA**

14. The delegations of the Hellenic Republic, Romania and the Republic of Turkey made presentations under this agenda item.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

15. No specific issues were taken up under this agenda item.

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

16. The date of the next meeting will be communicated in due time through the BSEC PERMIS after the consultation with the Chairman-in-Office and the Country-Coordinator.

### **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

17. The Participants expressed their gratitude to the Hellenic Ministry of Public Order for the hospitality extended to them during the Meeting.

### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

18. The present Report was adopted for submission to the Twelfth Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States (Komotini, 23 April 2005).

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