



BS/EDUM/R(2005)1

**REPORT OF THE
MEETING OF THE MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION
OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

Athens, 29 September 2005

1. The Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States was held in Athens, Greece, on 29 September 2005.
2. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Ms. Marietta GIANNAKOU, Minister of National Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic. The Minister delivered an opening statement. The Minister proposed that the Hellenic Republic could act as the Country Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Education for the next two years.
3. The representatives of the following BSEC Member States attended the Meeting:
 - Republic of Albania
 - Republic of Armenia
 - Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Republic of Bulgaria
 - Georgia
 - Hellenic Republic
 - Republic of Moldova
 - Romania
 - Russian Federation
 - Serbia and Montenegro
 - Republic of Turkey
 - Ukraine
4. The representatives of the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) also participated in the Meeting.
5. The representative of CEPES-UNESCO Mr. Lazar VLASCEANU took part in the Meeting as official Guest.

The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

6. The Minister proposed that Greece acts as Country Coordinator of the Working Group on Education.
7. H.E. Ambassador Andrey URNOV, Deputy Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, addressed the Participants of the Meeting.
8. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda, as adopted by the Heads of the Delegations, is attached as Annex II.
9. The Heads of Delegations delivered their general statements and discussed on the Agenda items.
10. The participants of the Meeting unanimously adopted the “Joint Athens Declaration of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States on Cooperation in Higher Education and University Research”. The Declaration is attached as Annex III.
11. The participants of the Meeting took note of the Terms of Reference, agreed at the level of the BSEC Working Group on Education and recommended to the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to approve the said document.
12. The participants expressed deep gratitude to the Government of the Hellenic Republic for its successful BSEC Chairmanship-in-office and its contribution to the promotion of the BSEC goals as well as for the hospitality extended to the delegations and the excellent organization of the Meeting.
13. The Participants adopted the Report of the Meeting and decided to present it to the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States to be held in Kishinev, Moldova, on 28 October 2005.