



BS/WG/ED/R(2017)1

**REPORT
OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON EDUCATION**

BSEC Headquarters, 28-29 November 2017

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education was held at the BSEC Headquarters, on 28-29 November 2017.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Sergii KRAVCHENKO, Consul in charge of BSEC, Consulate General of Ukraine in Istanbul.
3. The following BSEC Member States participated in the Meeting:
 - Republic of Armenia
 - Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Hellenic Republic
 - Romania
 - Russian Federation
 - Republic of Serbia
 - Republic of Turkey
 - Ukraine
4. The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF EDUCATION

6. The BSEC PERMIS informed on the implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and the follow-up of Declarations adopted by the Ministers in charge of Education, since the last Meeting of the Working Group (BSEC Headquarters, 1-2 November 2016).

AGENDA ITEM 3: CONSIDERATION OF THE EVALUATION REPORT OF THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR

7. The Working Group considered, amended and approved the Evaluation Report on the activity of the Working Group during the period from 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2017, elaborated by the Country-Coordinator (the Hellenic Republic), and decided to submit it to the Committee of Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States. The Evaluation Report is attached as **Annex III**.

8. The Working Group expressed its appreciation for the work done by the Country-Coordinator during the two consecutive terms (2014–2017).

AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT PROGRAMMES

9. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic delivered a presentation on the progress of the preparation of the brochure for Higher Education in the Black Sea Region. The relevant authorities of the BSEC Member States were invited to send their final comments to the draft text by 31 January 2018, to be followed by the substantive information on their respective Higher Education systems. The presentation is attached as **Annex IV**.

10. The representative of the Republic of Turkey expressed the readiness of the Council of Higher Education to consider the possibility of organizing the Workshop on Quality Assurance in Higher Education, to be held in Ankara in 2018.

11. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey also delivered the following presentations:

- On the activities undertaken by the Ministry of National Education for the Education of the Syrian Citizens under Temporary Protection of Turkey, and Foreign Students' Information System (Ministry of National Education) (attached as **Annex V**);
- On “International Students in the Turkish Higher Education System” (Council of Higher Education) (attached as **Annex VI**).

12. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic delivered a presentation regarding the “European Qualifications Passport for Refugees”, a pilot project of the Council of Europe, the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs and qualification recognition centers in Greece, Italy, Norway and the UK (attached as **Annex VII**).

13. The representative of Romania delivered a presentation on cooperation opportunities offered by the “Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees” Programmes and provided information on the dual based vocational education and training in Romania (attached as **Annex VIII**).

14. The delegation of the Russian Federation expressed the readiness to finalize the Questionnaire on Cooperation in Education amongst the BSEC Member States, taking into

account comments of the BSEC Member States to be submitted by 31 January 2018. The draft Questionnaire and the comments submitted by the Republic of Turkey are attached as **Annex IX** and **Annex X**.

AGENDA ITEM 5: YOUTH AND SPORTS ISSUES AND EDUCATION

15. The participants took note of the information presented by the BSEC PERMIS on the consideration of Youth and Sports issues within the BSEC.

16. The delegation of the Russian Federation delivered a presentation on the “Recent Developments and Prospective Trends in Youth Policy in Russia” (attached as **Annex XI**).

17. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic delivered a presentation on the “Recent Developments and Prospective Trends regarding Sports Education in Greece and Other BSEC Member States” (attached as **Annex XII**).

AGENDA ITEM 6: COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(i) Briefing on the draft Memorandum of Understanding UNESCO–BSEC

18. The Working Group took note of information provided by BSEC PERMIS on the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNESCO and BSEC, prepared by UNESCO, and supported the idea of conclusion of the MoU as an important step in developing the collaboration between the two organizations. The draft MoU is attached as **Annex XIII**.

(ii) Contribution of the BSEC to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

19. The representative of the Hellenic Republic delivered a presentation on the implementation of the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development in the field of Education in Greece and invited other BSEC Member States to cooperate through the UNESCO ASPnet network of schools. The presentation is attached as **Annex XIV**.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

20. As the last Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Education was held back in 2005, the Working Group proposed to consider the possibility of organizing a Ministerial Meeting in 2018.

21. The delegation of the Russian Federation, as incoming Country-Coordinator, informed on the intention to hold the next Meeting of the Working Group in April 2018 during the Moscow International Educational Fair.

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

22. The Working Group adopted the present Report and decided to submit it to the next Meeting of the Committee of the Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States.