



BS/EDU/WG/R(2005)1

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

Athens, 28 September 2005

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education was held in Athens, Greece, on 28 September 2005.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Athanasios KYRIAZIS, Secretary for Higher Education of the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic.
3. In his opening statement Mr. Athanasios KYRIAZIS welcomed the participants and wished them success in their fruitful and constructive work.
4. 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
5. The representatives of the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) also participated in the Meeting.
6. The Meeting was attended by Dr. Per NYBORG, Head of the Bologna Secretariat, as a Key Speaker.

7. The Meeting was also attended by other official guests as it was the case for Prof. Pavel ZGAGA, former Minister of Education of Slovenia.

Mr. Christian THUNE, former President of ENQA, Denmark, Mr. D. TSOUGARAKIS, Chairman of the Greek Universities Rectors' Convention, Mr. P. KIKILIAS, Representative of the Council of Technological Education Institutes' Presidents, Prof. G. TAGARAS and Prof. G. CHIOTIS also made their statements.

8. The Meeting was also attended by the representative of the UNESCO – CEPES as an official Guest..

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

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

10. The participants of the Meeting presented different deliberations in which they prescribed the way of the Bologna Process from 1999 till the Bergen Meeting in 2005.

11. They highlighted the role of regional cooperation in reaching the objectives of Bologna Process.

12. The participants of the Meeting were informed of the reforms in education that are under implementation process in the Hellenic Republic and in Georgia.

13. The cooperation among universities was seen as a means to strengthen a fruitful joint action of the BSEC Member States in the field of Education.

14. The Working Group discussed the Draft Joint Athens Declaration of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States. The finalized Draft was submitted to the Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States for adoption. The Declaration is attached as Annex III to the Report.

15. The participants agreed upon the Terms of Reference of the BSEC Working Group on Education to be submitted to the next Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States for approval. The Terms of Reference are attached as Annex IV to the Report.

16. The Working Group adopted the present Report for submission to the Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States to be held in Athens, Greece, on 29 September 2005.