



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

**Permanent International Secretariat**

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**BS/WG/CEA/R(2014)1**

**REPORT  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BSEC WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE**

**BSEC Headquarters, 11 November 2014**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance (WGCEA) was held at the BSEC Headquarters on 11 November 2014.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Coordinator of the Hellenic Chairmanship-in-Office of the Organization of BSEC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, and Dr. Kalliopi SAINI, National representative to the E.U. for Civil Protection, General Secretariat for Civil Protection of the Hellenic Republic.
3. The Meeting of the Working Group was attended by the following BSEC Member States:
  - Republic of Armenia
  - Republic of Azerbaijan
  - Republic of Bulgaria
  - Georgia
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
4. The List of Participants is attached as **Annex I**.
5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as **Annex II**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS FOR EMERGENCIES AND HEADS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**A) Status of the implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations**

6. The participants took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS in the context of this item.

**B) State of affairs with respect to:**

**a. The outcome of the Meeting of the BSEC Ad Hoc Working Group of experts in Seismic Risk (BSEC Headquarters, 2 June 2014)**

7. The Working Group took note of the outcome of the Meeting of the BSEC Ad Hoc Working Group of experts in Seismic Risk, held in BSEC Headquarters on 2 June 2014 and invited Member States to communicate through the BSEC PERMIS their respective proposals and suggestions regarding further activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

**b. The outcome of the Expert Seminar of Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) «Experience of BSEC Member States in prevention and elimination of consequences of large-scale wildfires» (Anapa, Russian Federation, 16 September 2014)**

8. The Working Group took note of the outcome of the Expert Seminar of Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) «Experience of BSEC Member States in prevention and elimination of consequences of large-scale wildfires», held in Anapa (Russian Federation) on 16 September 2014, stressed the importance of interaction in prevention and elimination of consequences of large-scale wildfires in the BSEC region.

**c. The outcome of the Expert Seminar of Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) «Experience of the BSEC Member States in prevention and elimination of consequences of floods» (Anapa, Russian Federation, 17 September 2014)**

9. The Working Group took note of the outcome of the Expert Seminar of Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) «Experience of the BSEC Member States in prevention and elimination of consequences of floods», held in Anapa (Russian Federation) on 17 September 2014.

10. The Working Group expressed its high appreciation to the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM) for the excellent organization of the meetings and warm hospitality extended to the participants.

**d. The Informal Meeting of Liaison Officers of the BSEC Network on Emergency Assistance (Anapa, Russian Federation, 18 September 2014)**

11. The Working Group took note of the Informal Meeting of Liaison Officers of the BSEC Network on Emergency Assistance, held in Anapa (Russian Federation) on 18 September 2014 and proposed to convene meetings of Network of the Liaison Officers on Emergency Assistance back-to-back with the Meetings of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance.

**e. Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters and Additional Protocol to it**

12. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS in the context of this item.

13. The Working Group invited the Member States that have not yet done so, to accede to the Agreement and the Additional Protocol thereto. The relevant information on states of affairs with regard to the process of accession is attached as **Annex III** to the Report.

**f. Nomination by the BSEC Member States of their representatives to the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Liaison Officers to the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers on Emergency Assistance**

14. The Working Group invited the Member States that have not yet done so, to nominate their representatives to the Working Group and Liaison Officers to the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers on Emergency Assistance before the end of 2014.

**g. Proposal on further extension of cooperation in the field of seismic risk studies**

15. The Working Group took note of the project proposal by the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia) on cooperation in short-term assessment of the seismic activity increase in the BSEC Member States.

**C) Youth and Sports issues**

16. The participants discussed the possibilities of inclusion of youth and sports issues in the Agenda of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and decided that it is not appropriate to put these issues on the mandate of the Working Group.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: THE WAY FORWARD FOR AN ACTION PLAN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “ECONOMIC AGENDA TOWARDS AN ENHANCED BSEC PARTNERSHIP” AND THE “GUIDELINES FOR THE BSEC PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT”**

17. The Working Group took note of the presentation on the Guidelines for the BSEC Project Management Unit, delivered by the BSEC PERMIS.

18. The Working Group invited the Member States to submit project proposals in compliance with the Guidelines and aimed at implementation of the priority goals of the Economic Agenda 2012.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: HOW TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE WORK OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE? – OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

19. The participants exchanged views on the issue.
20. The participants agreed to identify main topics for discussions during the forthcoming meetings of the Working Group.
21. With this regard, the Working Group agreed to discuss the issue of developing transboundary cooperation among the BSEC Member States, as well as, to share information regarding the issues of national civil protection mechanisms, public awareness and alerting practices in the BSEC Member States.
22. The Working Group requested the BSEC PERMIS, in consultation with the Chairman-in-Office, to invite the representatives of regional and international organizations and structures to make relevant presentations during the next meeting of the Working Group.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES - PRESENTATIONS BY THE BSEC MEMBER STATES ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT/OVERCOME EMERGENCIES**

23. The representatives of the Russian Federation made presentations on the activities of EMERCOM of Russia and risk assessment. The presentations are attached as **Annexes IV and V** to the Report.
24. The representative of Georgia made a presentation on the activities of the prevention, crisis management and elimination of consequences of emergency situations in Georgia. The said presentation is attached as **Annex VI**.
25. The representative of the Hellenic Republic made a presentation entitled 'EU Prometheus 2014'. The said presentation is attached as **Annex VII** to the Report.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE:**

**a) Ad Hoc Working Group on Massive Forest Fires**

26. The Working Group adopted the Terms of Reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Massive Forest Fires. The said Terms of Reference are attached as **Annex VIII**.

**b) Ad Hoc Working Group on Floods and Torrents**

27. The Working Group adopted the Terms of Reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Floods and Torrents. The said Terms of Reference are attached as **Annex IX**.
28. The Working Group took note of the proposals, presented unofficially by the delegation of the Republic of Turkey, for amendments.
30. The Republic of Turkey will submit the proposals officially for further consideration by the Working Group.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

31. No issue was raised under this Agenda item.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: DATE AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

32. The date and the venue of the next Meeting will be communicated in due course through the BSEC PERMIS, after consultations with the Chairman-in-Office.

**AGENDA ITEM 9: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

33. The present Report was adopted and submitted to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials for consideration.