



**BS/WG/EM/R(2003)2**

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

**(27-28 August 2003, Istanbul)**

1. The Fifth Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance of the BSEC Member States, established in accordance with the Article 7 of the “Agreement among the Governments of the Participating States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters”, was held in Istanbul at the BSEC Premises on 27-28 August 2003.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Azad CAFAROV, Third Secretary, International Law and Treaties Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

3. H.E. Ambassador Tugay ULUÇEVİK, the First Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, delivered a welcome speech and informed the participants about major events within the frame of cooperation in this field, during the period elapsed after the previous Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance held on 5-6 March 2003 in Istanbul, namely that the “Agreement among the Governments of the Participating States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters” signed on 15 April 1998 in Sochi, Russian Federation has entered into force as of 11 March 2003.

4. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States :

Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Republic of Bulgaria  
Hellenic Republic  
Republic of Moldova  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine.

The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

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

STATE OF AFFAIRS WITH REGARD TO THE FINALIZATION OF INTERNAL PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR SIGNING OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION PARTICIPATING STATES ON COLLABORATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS AND DISCUSSION ON THE EVENTUAL DATES OF ITS SIGNING

6. Given the mandate of the Council of Ministers, the WG considered the issue of eventual signing of the “Additional Protocol to the Agreement Among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Participating States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters”. The delegations informed that their respective countries have not yet completed relevant internal procedures and agreed to discuss the date and venue of the signing during the next Meeting of the WG.

The representative of the Republic of Turkey informed the Meeting that the new Turkish Government is considering the possibility of accession of the Republic of Turkey to the “Agreement Among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Participating States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters”.

PRESENTATION OF THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 2003 FOR THE WG ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE BY THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR UKRAINE

7. The WG welcomed Ukraine in its new capacity of the Country-Coordinator of the WG on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance.

The Ukrainian delegation presented the concept, objectives, venue, dates and organizational aspects of the Joint Exercise for BSEC Experts Working Out of Preventive Measures in Case of Oil Spill Mitigation in Black Sea Area, as follows: a) The Exercise consisting of two phases (table-top and operational) will start in November 2003 and conclude in October 2004. The first phase of the Exercise will take place in Odessa Marine Regional Rescue and Coordination Center of the Ministry of Emergencies of Ukraine on 25-28 November 2003 and will engage 2-3 experts from each BSEC Member States. The existence expenses will be covered by the Ukrainian side; b) the Objectives of the Exercise are the training of coordinative actions for experts, as well as rescue and search teams of BSEC Member States, which are engaged in Saving and Rescue Operations and oil spill mitigation caused by a tanker wreck in Northern-Western parts of the Black Sea as well as the improvement of practical skills of experts on cooperation in case of emergency response in Northern-Western parts of the Black Sea.

8. The Ukrainian Delegation also informed the Meeting about the Exercise phases and episodes to be worked out, as well as about the daily program of the Exercise. Further

information and invitations for experts to participate in the Exercise will be circulated by the Ukrainian delegation via BSEC PERMIS within a monthly period through diplomatic channels.

#### DISCUSSIONS ON AND ADOPTION OF THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 2003 FOR THE WG ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

9. The respective delegations discussed and adopted the Calendar of Events for the Year 2003 presented by the Country-Coordinator Ukraine.

10. The WG also expressed gratitude to the members of the Ukrainian delegation, Mr. V. SHEPEL and Mrs. I. GLUSHKO for most thorough presentation of the Calendar of Events for the Year 2003.

#### ELABORATION OF THE “STANDARD APPLICATION FOR FUNDING A BSEC PROJECT”

11. The respective delegates were informed about the discussions held during the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Development Fund and fully agreed on the necessity of formation of relevant project ideas with a view to present them further via Standard Application for Funding a BSEC Project to the said Committee.

12. They also agreed to consult with relevant national authorities with a view to presenting project ideas on setting-up a training program for intervention teams or any other projects to be discussed at the next Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. No issues were discussed under this Agenda Item

#### DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

14. The experts decided to convene the next Meeting of the Working Group in March 2004 in Istanbul at the BSEC Premises. The exact date of the Meeting will be communicated by the BSEC PERMIS through diplomatic channels at a later stage.

#### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. The Report was adopted for submission to the Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States, to be held on 31 October 2003 in Baky, Republic of Azerbaijan.