



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**REPORT
OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL
AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

Sofia, 11 November 2016

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance was held in Sofia, on 11 November 2016.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Ms. Ljiljana UZELAC, Head of Public Administration Reform (PAR) Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government of the Republic of Serbia, Representative of the Serbian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC.
3. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mrs. Guenoveva JETCHEVA, Head of Department on Science, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria, Representative of the Country-Coordinator.
4. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Georgia
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Serbia
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine
5. The representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt attended the meeting as the BSEC Observer.

6. The List of Participants is attached as **Annex I** to the present Report.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. 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 AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE JOINT STATEMENTS (DECLARATION) ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

8. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the status of implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and follow-up to the Joint Declarations of the Ministers in charge of Public Administration of the BSEC Member States (Athens, February 2005 and April 2007).

9. The BSEC PERMIS pointed to the fact that there was no Country-Coordinator or any meetings of the Working Group for the period June 2013- June 2015, which hindered the fulfilment of the goals, tasked to the Working Group.

10. The issue of appointment of representatives to the Working Groups on a long term basis and the attendance of them at the meetings was raised by BSEC PERMIS.

11. The participants agreed that long term representatives of the Working Group should be nominated by the Member States.

12. The participants noted that up to this moment there are no signed Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding in the sphere of Institutional Renewal and Good Governance among BSEC Member States.

13. The BSEC PERMIS pointed to the Decision of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States (11 December 2015, Bucharest) that “adopted the BSEC Action Plan on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance (2016 – 2017) and tasked the Working Group with its execution.”

AGENDA ITEM 3: EVALUATING THE RESULTS OF THE SEMINAR ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE, HELD IN SOFIA ON 10 NOVEMBER 2016

14. The Seminar focused on the following issues:

- principles and good practices in Institutional Renewal and Good Governance;
- the scientific contribution to Institutional Renewal and Good Governance;
- E-governance.

15. The presentations during the Seminar will be disseminated to the Member States at a later stage.

AGENDA ITEM 4: EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL POLICIES, ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED AND ON BEST PRACTICES IN THE PROCESS OF REFORMING THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND IMPROVING THE GOVERNANCE CAPACITIES IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES. SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE WORK OF THE WG.

16. The representative of the Republic of Serbia made a presentation on “Public Administration Reform 2015-2017”. The presentation is attached as **Annex III**.

17. The representative of the Republic of Turkey presented the information on the latest developments in the national administration reform. The presentation will be sent shortly to the Member States.

18. The representative of Ukraine presented information on recent developments in the national administration reform.

19. The representative of the Russian Federation presented information on the national progress and best practices of the Russian Federation in administrative reform. The presentation will be sent shortly to the Member States.

AGENDA ITEM 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

20. No other issue was raised by the participants under this Agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

21. The Working Group adopted the present Report and submitted it for consideration to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States (Belgrade, 11-12 December 2016).