



BS/PAJM/R(2005)1

REPORT

**OF THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION AND THE MINISTERS OF JUSTICE
OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

Athens, 21 February 2005

1. The First Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Public Administration and the Ministers of Justice of the BSEC Member States was held in Athens, on 21 February 2005.

2. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers or Heads of Delegations from the following BSEC Member States:

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

3. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the International Center for Black Sea Studies.

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

4. The Meeting was co-chaired, on behalf of the host country, by H.E. Mr. Anastasis PAPALIGOURAS, Minister of Justice of the Hellenic Republic and H.E. Mr. Prokopios PAVLOPOULOS, Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic, who addressed the participants with opening and closing Statements.

5. H.E. Mr. Evripidis STYLIANIDIS, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, made a welcoming address to the participants on behalf of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office, H.E. Mr. Petros MOLYVIATIS, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic. H.E. Ambassador Tedo JAPARIDZE, Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS addressed the Meeting on behalf of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.

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

7. The Ministers and the Heads of delegations took note of the Summary Review of the Three Workshops on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance Improvement in BSEC Countries titled “Getting the Act Together: Strengthening International Relations Capacities” held in Yerevan, Baky and Tbilisi, in 2003/2004, which is attached as Annex III, as well as of the results of the Workshop held in Athens on 9 – 10, February 2005 (Summary proceedings as Annex IV).

GENERAL ASSESSEMENT

8. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations assessed in a positive way the on-going process aiming at strengthening cooperation and development of synergies for institutional renewal and good governance among the BSEC Member States.

9. They shared the experience and presented the progress achieved in the process of reforming the public institutions and of strengthening the Government capacities in the BSEC Member States.

10. They agreed that the collaborative work on this subject among the BSEC countries should continue and should be institutionalized through the establishing of a permanent Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance.

11. The participants agreed with the proposal made by the Hellenic delegation to undertake the coordination of a Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance to be established.

ADOPTION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE OF THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE MINISTERS OF JUSTICE OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

12. The Ministers and Heads of delegations endorsed the Joint Declaration, which was submitted to them by the participants in the Workshop on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance held in Athens on 9-10, February 2005 for adoption. The text of the Joint Declaration is attached as Annex V.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

13. The Ministers and Heads of delegations agreed that the date and venue of the next Meeting would be communicated to the Member States through BSEC PERMIS.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

14. The Participants expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Hellenic Republic for the warm hospitality and courtesies extended to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. The present Report was adopted for submission to the Twelfth Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States (Komotini, 23 April 2005).
