



BS/IRGG/WG/R(2006)1

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

**Istanbul, BSEC Headquarters, 14-15 February 2006**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance was held in Istanbul, at the BSEC Headquarters, on 14-15 February 2006.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired in rotation by Mr. Panagiotis NTAIS, Head of Department of Documentation, Mr. Dimitrios PAPANIMITROPOULOS, Director of Organizational Development, Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic, and Ms. Luminita PIGUI, Third Secretary, Economic Diplomacy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of 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 representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of BSEC (PABSEC) and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) also participated in the Meeting.
5. The representative of the Republic of Belarus attended the Meeting in capacity of BSEC Observer.

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

6. Ambassador Andrey URNOV, Deputy Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, addressed the participants of the Meeting with welcoming remarks.

The representative of Romania presented the priorities and objectives of the Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC.

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

### **EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE PROCESS OF REFORMING THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND OF STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNMENTS CAPACITIES IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

8. The delegations presented information and exchanged views on the progress achieved in the process of reforming the public institutions.

9. The priorities on institutional renewal and good governance, as well as the experience of some of the BSEC Member States in conducting international relations and in dealing with European integration were emphasized.

10. Proposals on cooperative actions on governance improvement and joint programs to be implemented in the framework of BSEC, especially with respect to the implementation of the goals set up by the BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future and of the provisions stipulated in 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 (Athens, 21 February 2005) were made.

11. The necessity of enhancing cooperation between BSEC and the relevant international and regional institutions and organizations, in particular the European Union in the field of institutional renewal and good governance, as well as of continuing sharing experience and cooperative work was emphasized.

12. Furthermore, it was agreed that the national efforts are of fundamental importance and that the harmonization of these efforts with international activities should be energetically sought.

### **DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “JOINT DECLARATION ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE OF THE MINISTERS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND OF JUSTICE OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES” ADOPTED IN ATHENS ON 21 FEBRUARY 2005**

13. The Working Group exchanged information on the measures undertaken at national level for the implementation of the provisions 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” adopted in Athens on 21 February 2005.

14. The presentations pointed out that the measures undertaken by the BSEC Member States were focused on policy formulation and implementation of activities in key reform areas, according to the provisions of the abovementioned Ministerial Declaration.

### **ELABORATION OF THE “TERMS OF REFERENCE’ FOR THE ACTIVITY OF THE WORKING GROUP ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

15. The participants discussed and agreed upon the Terms of Reference of the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance 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 III to the Report.

### **COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

16. The participants took note of the presentation made by the Hellenic Republic regarding the possibilities of enhancing cooperation with the European Union inter alia through: exchange of legislative documentation and experience, implementation of joint projects involving intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies, monitoring the EU collective instruments and working groups.

17. The representative of ICBSS presented information on the recent developments and activities with respect to the BSEC-EU interaction with a special emphasis on the future cooperation in the field of institutional renewal and good governance.

### **PRESENTATION BY THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR OF THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE ACTIVITY OF THE WORKING GROUP**

18. The Working Group discussed on the Draft Action Plan for 2005-2007 submitted by the Hellenic Republic as a Country-Coordinator.

19. Following the discussion, the Draft Action Plan was agreed by the Working Group, and recommended for implementation within the framework of the Hellenic Coordinatorship. The Action Plan, as agreed by the Working Group, is attached as Annex IV to the present Report. On the basis of the Action Plan the BSEC Member States may present further proposals.

### **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

20. The participants took note of the proposals made by the Hellenic Republic in its capacity of the Country-Coordinator of the Working Group regarding the organization of the second Meeting of the Ministers in Charge of Public Administration and the Ministers of Justice, in November 2006, preceded by the Meeting of the Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance, in October 2006. The exact date and venue will be communicated to the Member States through BSEC PERMIS in due course.

### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

21. The Working Group adopted the present Report for submission to the Committee of Senior Officials and the Fourteenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States in Bucharest in April 2006.

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