



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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Istanbul, 25 April 2012

BS/SME/WG/R(2012)1

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON SMEs

Istanbul, BSEC Headquarters, 24-25 April 2012

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group (WG) on SMEs was held in Istanbul, at the BSEC Headquarters, on 24-25 April 2012.
2. The following BSEC Member States attended the Meeting:

Republic of Armenia
Hellenic Republic
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Serbia
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine
3. The following BSEC Observer attended the Meeting:

Czech Republic

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

4. The Meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Miroslav PRCOVIC, Consul General of the Republic of Serbia in Istanbul and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia to the BSEC PERMIS, and Ms. Selma TEZYETİŞ, Head of EU and Foreign Relations Department, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB) of the Republic of Turkey.

5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex II.

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RELATED TO SMES

6. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the status of implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of 25th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Moscow, 16 December 2011).

7. The WG took note of information provided by the BSEC PERMIS in the context of this agenda item. The WG further emphasized the importance of constantly updating by the Member States of the national contact points to the Working Group on SMEs.

8. Following the instruction of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Moscow, 16 December 2011) the WG considered the Summary Proceedings prepared by BSEC PERMIS and the report published by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) on the outcome of the BSEC-KAS Workshop “Entrepreneurship and SME Policy Development in the BSEC Region in the Time of Emerging from Economic Crises” held in Istanbul, at the BSEC Headquarters, on 21-22 July 2011.

9. The WG expressed the view that the outcome of the above-mentioned report could be taken into account in the process of implementation of the governmental policies on SMEs in the BSEC Member States.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN SME SECTOR

10. The Turkish Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB) SME Expert Mr. Ertuğrul NAZLI made a presentation and briefed the WG about the “Turkish SMEs, KOSGEB, Energy Efficiency and Related KOSGEB Studies” as an exchange of knowledge and experience. The text of the presentation is attached as Annex III.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON SMES (1 JANUARY 2012 – 31 DECEMBER 2013)

11. The WG discussed, amended and adopted the two-year Action Plan for the BSEC Working Group on SMEs, elaborated by the Republic of Turkey as the new Country Coordinator of the WG on SMEs for the next period of two years. The BSEC SME Expert Exchange Project is enclosed to the Action Plan. The Action Plan, as adopted by the Working Group on SMEs, is attached as Annex IV.

12. The WG invited all the BSEC Member States to contribute to the implementation of the said Plan of Action. The Member States are invited to make additional proposals by the end of May 2012, through BSEC PERMIS.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. The Turkish Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB) expressed its readiness for sharing of experience on “SME Exchange” and “Venture Capital Trust” through organizing workshops or seminars (minimum five applications).

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

14. The exact date and venue of the next meeting of the WG on SMEs will be communicated by PERMIS to the Member States at a later stage.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

15. The WG adopted the present Report for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States.
