



BS/TED/WG/R(2005)1

**REPORT OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Istanbul, BSEC Headquarters, 4-5 October 2005

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Trade and Economic Development was held at the BSEC Headquarters in Istanbul on 4-5 October 2005.
2. The Meeting was chaired by the representative of the Country-Coordinator of the Working Group, Mr. Ara A. MELIKYAN, Head of Division, Department of External Economic Relations, Ministry of Trade and Economic Development of the Russian Federation.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Hellenic Republic
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine
4. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of PABSEC, BSEC Business Council and BSTDB.
5. The representative of the Republic of Poland attended the Meeting as Observer.
6. The representatives of BINSAs, BRASS and BSEC-URTA also participated in the Meeting.
7. The representatives of the Turkish Shipbuilders Association attended the Meeting as Guests.

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

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

EXAMINATION OF THE INFORMATION ON THE NON-TARIFF MEASURES WHICH ARE APPLIED IN THE MEMBER STATES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF “AN EXEMPLARY LIST OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES ON TRADE” AND CONSIDERATION OF THE WAYS FOR ESTABLISHING OF AN APPROPRIATE MECHANISM FOR REDUCTION AND POSSIBLE ELIMINATION OF NON-TARIFF BARRIERS ON TRADE IN BSEC REGION

9. The participants of the Meeting took note of the information on the non-tariff measures which are applied in the Member States in the framework of “An exemplary list of non-tariff measures on trade” presented by PERMIS.

10. The participants appreciated the submission of the information by the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey, presented in the form of “An exemplary list of non-tariff measures on trade, which are applied in the Member States”. In line with this, the Working Group recommended the Member States that have not provided BSEC PERMIS with the filled form of “An exemplary list of non-tariff measures on trade”, should do so by 1 March 2006.

11. The Working Group agreed to continue discussion on reduction or possible elimination of non-tariff measures at its next Meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF JOINT ACTIONS TOWARD HARMONIZING CROSS-BORDER AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WITH THE AIM OF FACILITATING THE MOVEMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES WITHIN BSEC REGION. EXAMINATION OF THE POSSIBILITIES OF SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE BY UNIFICATION AND STANDARDIZATION OF DOCUMENTS IN FOREIGN TRADE BASED ON UNITED NATIONS LAYOUT KEY FOR TRADE DOCUMENTS

12. The Working Group took note of the presentation made by the representative of BSEC-URTA regarding the recent adoption of the new Annex 8 to the UNECE International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982.

13. The participants took note of the new practice of “Green Lanes” and “Single window” recently implemented in Romania.

14. The participants agreed that consideration of joint actions towards harmonizing border crossing and customs regulations should be continued. Taking into account the establishment of a new ad hoc Expert Group with the task to explore the opportunities for cooperation among the custom services of the BSEC Member States, the Working Group is of the opinion that these issues should be tackled within the framework of this Expert Group.

DISCUSSION ON THE ‘MEMORANDUM OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SPHERE OF DEVELOPMENT OF SHIPBUILDING, SHIPREPAIRING AND SHIPPING’ (UPON ADDRESS BY THE WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT)

15. The WG took note of the Draft Memorandum of Recommendations in the Sphere of Development of Shipbuilding, Shiprepairing and Shipping presented by the representative of BRASS (attached as Annex III).

16. The Working Group invited the BSEC Member States to consider the said Memorandum within the respective national authorities and present their possible suggestions to BSEC PERMIS. Furthermore, the Working Group requested the Committee of Senior Officials to consider at its next Meeting the issue of establishing a special Expert Group with the aim to discuss the said Memorandum.

EXPERIENCE OF THE BSEC RELATED BODIES IN TRADE PROMOTION IN THE REGION

17. The Working Group took note of the presentations made by the representatives of PABSEC, BSEC Business Council and BSTDB (attached as Annexes IV, V and VI, respectively).

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTRY-COORDINATOR OF THE WORKING GROUP

18. The Working Group took note of the recommendation of the Committee of Senior Officials to the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to appoint the Republic of Turkey as Country-Coordinator of the Working Group for the term of two years starting from November 2005.

19. The participants took note of the Evaluation Report on the Previous Meetings and Activities of the Working Group, presented by the PERMIS (attached as Annex VII).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

20. The representative of the Hellenic delegation expressed her apologies for not being able to participate in the discussions of the first day due to other professional obligations.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

21. The exact date and venue of the next meeting of the Working Group will be communicated to the Member States through BSEC PERMIS in due course.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

22. The Working Group adopted the present report for submission to the Committee of Senior Officials and the Thirteenth Meeting of the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Chisinau, 28 October 2005).
