

**REPORT  
OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE  
AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON BSEC-EU INTERACTION**

*Athens, 2 October 2009*

1. The fourth Meeting of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on BSEC-EU Interaction was held in Athens on 2 October 2009, at the invitation of the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) as appointed Coordinator of the Group, upon consultation with the Chairman-in-Office.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Anar Janahmadov, Representative of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office, and Dr. Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Director General of the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS). The Co-Chairpersons and the Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS made introductory statements.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of 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
  - Republic of Serbia
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
4. The BSEC PERMIS participated in the Meeting.
5. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) and the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB).
6. Representatives of the Czech Republic, the French Republic, Republic of Poland and the European Commission participated in the meeting in their capacity as Observers and the Republic of Hungary in its capacity as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner in the BSEC.
7. The list of participants is attached as Annex I.
8. The annotated Programme, as amended, is attached as Annex II.
9. The participants considered the developments since the last meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts (30 January 2009) regarding the BSEC-EU interaction and agreed that the ad hoc Group should continue following the developments in the field of the BSEC-EU interaction.

10. The participants took note of a Documentary File compiled by the ICBSS as the Coordinator of the ad hoc Group, including key documents relevant to BSEC-EU Interaction.
11. The participants resumed discussion on the non-binding paper *A Model for Black Sea Sectoral Partnerships* (Annex III) and agreed to forward it to the forthcoming Committee of Senior Officials for its consideration to serve as a Background Paper adopted at an experts level and for subsequent BSEC activities on the issue.
12. The participants exchanged views on the revised working document *Black Sea Regional Strategy (2009-2013): Promoting a Region-wide Interaction between the BSEC and the EU*, and took into account the written proposals submitted by the Russian Federation (dated 9 February 2009, Ref No.: 16/H); the Republic of Bulgaria (BS/INFO.2008.1082 dated 12 December 2008); and the Russian Federation (BS/INFO.2008.1073 dated 10 December 2008), as well as the deliberations at the previous meetings (attached as Annex IV). Taking note of the Resolution of the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC (Yerevan, 16 April 2009), the participants agreed to continue the elaboration of the document in order to finalise it in line with the relevant Council resolutions. In this respect it was agreed that written proposals will be forwarded to the ICBSS by 15 December 2009.
13. The ad hoc Group of Experts took note of the proposal of the Russian Federation that it will consider in its future meetings the revision of the document BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future adopted in April 2001, in particular the items relevant to BSEC-EU Interaction.
14. The participants expressed their gratitude to the ICBSS for the excellent preparation of the Meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to them.
15. The date and venue of the next Meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts will be decided through consultations and communicated in due time.
16. The ad hoc Group of Experts adopted the present Report, with its Annexes, for submission to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials.