



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Permanent International Secretariat

17 November 2023

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**REPORT
OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY**

Online, 17 November 2023

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry was held online on 17 November 2023.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Ms. Özge İMAMOĞLU, Head, International Organizations Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of Türkiye.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Hellenic Republic
Republic of Moldova
Republic of North Macedonia
Russian Federation
Republic of Serbia
Republic of Türkiye
Ukraine
4. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) attended the Meeting as a Guest.
5. The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.
6. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: UPDATING THE ACTION PLAN OF THE WORKING GROUP

7. The Working Group considered and approved the Action Plan presented by the Republic of Türkiye as the Country-coordinator of the Working Group as a road map of activities in the field of agriculture for the next two years. The Action Plan, as approved by the Working Group, is attached as **Annex III**.

8. The participants expressed their appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye for the valuable contribution to the activities of the Working Group in its capacity of the Country Coordinator for the past 2 years.

AGENDA ITEM 3: REVIEW OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR OF THE MEMBER STATES

9. The representatives of the Republic of Türkiye, Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Azerbaijan made presentation and statements on the recent developments in the field of agriculture in their countries. The presentation of Ukraine and the statement of the Russian Federation are attached as **Annex IV** and **Annex V** respectively.

AGENDA ITEM 4: FOLLOW UP OF THE PROJECT “BSEC REGIONAL COOPERATION CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS”

10. The representatives of the FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia made a presentation on the implementation of the project “*Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Regional Cooperation Centre for Sustainable Food Systems*”. The presentation is attached as **Annex VI**.

11. As the beneficiaries of the project, the participants mentioned the importance of this project which will contribute to more sustainable and inclusive growth in the countries of the region and will create awareness among the BSEC Member States on sustainable food systems and strengthen their collaboration and effective networking in the region.

12. The Working Group expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye, as the donor country, and to the FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia, as the implementation agency, for the financing and implementation of the project.

13. The Working Group suggested the idea of establishing a regional network for key actors operating in the field of sustainable food systems under the above-mentioned project.

AGENDA ITEM 5: COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

14. The participants exchange views on the possible cooperation of the BSEC with other international and regional organizations.

15. BSEC PERMIS informed the meeting on its interaction with FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia and on the preparatory work of initiating the cooperation with other international and regional entities.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16. No issues have been considered under this Agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 7: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

17. The date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group will be communicated through diplomatic channels in due course.

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

18. The participants adopted the present Conclusions for its submission to the Committee of Senior Officials and the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs for their consideration.