



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Permanent International Secretariat

9 November 2018

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**REPORT OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME,
IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS**

BSEC Headquarters, 9 November 2018

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, was held at the BSEC Headquarters in Istanbul on 9 November 2018.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mrs. Vilhelmina LUCINESCU, Chief Police Commissioner, General Directorate for European Affairs, Schengen and International Relations, Ministry of Internal 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
Hellenic Republic
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Turkey
4. The following BSEC Related Body also participated in the Meeting:

Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC (PABSEC)
5. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

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AGENDA ITEM 2: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOINT DECLARATIONS OF THE MINISTERS OF INTERIOR/PUBLIC ORDER OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

7. The Working Group was informed by the BSEC PERMIS on the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and follow-up to the Joint Declarations of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States.

8. The Working Group agreed with the proposal of the BSEC PERMIS not to attach in the document files the annexes with relevant legal documents.

9. The Member States are requested to send to the BSEC PERMIS official notifications with updated information to the List of Representatives – National Contacts of the Working Group on Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms. The above-mentioned List, as of 26 October 2018, is attached as **Annex III**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME

10. The Working Group discussed the activities of the Network of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime. The Working Group considered the meetings of the Network of the Liaison Officers as very important and invited the Member States to ensure the participation of their representatives in order to increase the efficiency of the meetings.

11. The Working Group took note of the Conclusions of the Informal Meeting of the Network of Liaison Officers held at the BSEC Headquarters on 8 November 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 4: DELIBERATIONS ON THE ANNUAL REVIEW WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF THE TRENDS OF TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME IN THE BSEC REGION FOR 2015-2016

12. The BSEC PERMIS informed that only five Member States, namely the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, Romania and the Russian Federation have sent their national contributions for the Annual Review of the Trans-National Crime Trends in the BSEC Region in 2015-2016.

13. The contributions of the Member States are attached as following: The Republic of Azerbaijan, **Annex IV**, the Republic of Bulgaria, **Annex V**, the Hellenic Republic, **Annex VI**, Romania, **Annex VII**, and the Russian Federation, **Annex VIII**.

14. The Working Group invited the Member States who have not yet done so, to submit until the end of year 2018, their national contributions to the Annual Review, in order to prepare its first draft.

AGENDA ITEM 5: FOLLOW-UP TO THE REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION FOR THE PERIOD OF 2015-2016

15. The Working Group took note of the national contributions for 2015-2016, of the Republic of Azerbaijan (attached as **Annex IV**), of the Republic of Bulgaria (attached as

Annex V), of the Hellenic Republic (attached as Annex IX) and of Romania (attached as Annex VII).

16. The Working Group invited the Member States who have not yet done so, to submit until the end of year 2018, their national contributions to the Report on the implementation of the BSEC Regional Action Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 6: DELIBERATIONS ON THE TRENDS WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING IN THE BSEC REGION

17. The representative of the Russian Federation delivered a presentation on the trends of drug trafficking in the BSEC Region.

AGENDA ITEM 7: DRAFT REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION AND COMBATING CORRUPTION - CONCRETE PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES ON HOW TO ENDORSE THE ACTION PLAN BY THE MINISTERS OF INTERIOR OF BSEC MEMBER STATES

18. The Working Group took note that the draft text of the Regional Action Plan on Cooperation in the field of Prevention and Combating Corruption was already agreed and needs to be endorsed.

19. In this regard, the Country-Coordinator proposed to consider two options:

- to endorse the document during the next Meeting of the Ministers of Interior;
- to send the document to the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials for further appropriate action.

20. The Working Group agreed to discuss this issue at its next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8: IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN OF ACTION OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS (2015-2017); PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR 2018-2020 BY THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR AND APPROVAL BY THE MEMBER STATES

21. Romania, as the Country Coordinator, presented the new draft Plan of Action for the period 2018-2020.

22. The Member States discussed, amended and approved the Plan of Action, attached as Annex X. The Plan of Action is considered as a document open for further concrete proposals.

AGENDA ITEM 9: THE NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE EXPERTS FROM THE BSEC MEMBER STATES, PROPOSED TO BE ORGANIZED BY THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, AND THE STATE OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES

23. The Republic of Turkey has proposed to organize four training programs on narcotic investigation for the experts from the BSEC Member States.

24. The BSEC PERMIS informed the Working Group that since only three Member States, namely the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Hellenic Republic and Romania, have confirmed their participation in the training programs, the first event scheduled for 12 November 2018, was cancelled due to the lack of confirmed participation.

25. The Working Group expressed their support to the initiative of the Republic of Turkey to organize the training programs on narcotic investigation for the police experts of the BSEC Member States.

26. The representative of the Republic of Turkey confirmed the willingness to organize the other three training programs and invited the Member States to confirm the participation of their national experts as soon as possible.

AGENDA ITEM 10: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

27. The Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS evaluated as very important the meetings of the Working Group and underlined the necessity to further develop the cooperation among the Member States based on the existing legal documents in this area of cooperation.

AGENDA ITEM 11: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

28. The Member States will be informed in due course about the date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

29. The Working Group adopted the present Report for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of the Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States (Baku, 12-13 December 2018).
