



## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

### Permanent International Secretariat

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BS/WG/EN/R(2019)1

#### REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON ENERGY

BSEC Headquarters, 29 November 2019

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Energy was held at the BSEC Headquarters, on 29 November, 2019.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Apostolos DIGBASSANIS, Head of Section, Counsellor for Economic and Commercial Affairs, Consulate General of the Hellenic Republic in Istanbul.
3. The following BSEC Member States attended the Meeting:
  - Republic of Armenia
  - Republic of Azerbaijan
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Ukraine
4. The Representative of Hungary attended the Meeting as the BSEC Observer.
5. Prof. Dimitrios MAVRAKIS, Director of the Energy Policy and Development Centre (KEPA) of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Coordinator of the BSEC Green Energy Network, attended the Meeting as a Special Guest.
6. The List of Participants is attached as Annex 1.
7. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex 2.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE MEETINGS OF THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENERGY**

8. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS on the status of the implementation of the Resolutions and Decisions of the BSEC Council related to the work of the Working Group on Energy and the follow-up of the Declarations and Joint Statements adopted by the Ministers in charge of Energy and recommended that, for consideration of this item in its future meetings, PERMIS should provide detailed information on the actions undertaken.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITIES FOR THE THIRD MEDIUM-TERM (2019–2021) OF THE “BSEC ECONOMIC AGENDA TOWARDS AN ENHANCED BSEC PARTNERSHIP”**

9. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS on the implementation of the priorities for the third medium-term (2019–2021) of the “*BSEC Economic Agenda towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership*”.

10. The Working Group discussed and exchanged views on the priorities for the third medium-term (2019–2021) of the “BSEC Economic Agenda towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership”. Opinions were expressed that the priority referring to *developing the competitive regional energy market* is a problematic objective and, in this regard, Prof. MAVRAKIS was requested to prepare an analysis on the issue to be considered at the next meeting of the Working Group on Energy.

11. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey proposed to invite to the next meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Energy the representative of Energy Market Regulatory Authority of the Republic of Turkey to share information about ongoing activities between the respective regulatory authorities of the BSEC Member States.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF THE EVALUATION REPORT ELABORATED BY THE OUTGOING COUNTRY-COORDINATOR OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ENERGY (UKRAINE) FOR THE PERIOD 2018–2019**

12. The Working Group discussed and approved the Evaluation Report for the period 2018–2019 presented by Ukraine, the outgoing Country Coordinator. The Evaluation Report is attached as **Annex 3** to the Report.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: COUNTRY-COORDINATOR-SHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE NEXT TERM (2020-2021)**

13. No Member State has expressed its willingness to assume the Coordinator-ship of the Working Group for the next term.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF GREEN ENERGY**

a) **Implementation of the provisions of the BSEC Green Energy Strategy.**

14. The Participants exchanged views on the issue.

b) **Activities of the BSEC Green Energy Network.**

15. Professor Dimitrios MAVRAKIS, Director of the Energy Policy and Development Centre (KEPA), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Coordinator of the BSEC Green Energy Network, made a presentation on the activities of the Network (Fostering Green Energy Investments), which is functioning under the supervision of the BSEC PERMIS. The presentation is attached as **Annex 4**.

**c) Consideration of the conclusions of the 6<sup>th</sup> “Green Energy Investment Forum” held in Athens on 9 October 2019.**

16. The Working Group took note of the activities of the BSEC Green Energy Network and of the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Green Energy Investment Forum, held in Athens on 9 October.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE BSEC FRAMEWORK FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 7: “ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL”**

17. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS on the issue. The Participants exchanged views and decided to continue consideration of this issue at its next meeting.

18. The Working Group endorsed the proposal made by the Coordinator of the BSEC Green Energy Network aimed at promoting regional cooperation in the framework of implementing the SDG 7.

19. The Participants mentioned the importance of organizing special events (conferences, seminars, workshops) for exchange of information on the activities of BSEC Member States in implementing the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

20. The Working Group welcomed the proposal of organizing a Youth Contest on SDG 7 by the BSEC Green Energy Network, under the auspices of the BSEC PERMIS. The proposal is attached as **Annex 5**.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN BSEC AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY**

21. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS.

22. While expressing appreciation regarding the cooperation developed with other international organizations, in particular UNECE and Energy Charter, the participants underlined the importance of expanding the cooperation between BSEC and other specialized international organizations, *inter alia*, International Energy Agency (IEA) and International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and encouraged PERMIS to explore possibilities of such cooperation.

23. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the BSEC PERMIS on the completion of the project entitled “*Promoting application of high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in Member States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*” financed through a grant from the Black Sea Project Promotion Facility (BSPPF) and implemented by the UNECE.

24. The delegation of the Russian Federation informed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> *International Conference “Risk Management in Energy”* will take place on 28-29 May 2020 in Istanbul.

**AGENDA ITEM 9: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

25. The Delegation of the Republic of Armenia made a presentation on “*Armenia Renewable Resources and Energy Efficiency Fund*”. The presentation is attached as **Annex 6** to the Report.

26. The delegations of the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Turkey provided information on recent developments in the field of energy.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

27. No issue was raised under this Agenda item.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: DATE AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

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

**AGENDA ITEM 12: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

29. The Working Group adopted the present Report for its submission to the Committee of Senior Officials for its consideration.