



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**REPORT
OF THE JOINT MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
AND THE BSEC NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS
ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

9 December 2022, online

1. The joint Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers on Emergency Assistance was held online on 9 December 2022.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Igor ZAHARCIUC, Counselor of the Regional Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova.

3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Georgia
Hellenic Republic
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Serbia
Republic of Türkiye
Ukraine

The List of Participants is attached as **Annex I**.

4. The BSEC PERMIS Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Dimitrios RALLIS made opening remarks.

5. The following Guests attended the Meeting:

Mr. Sergei KACHANOV, the Deputy Director of the Russian-Serbian Humanitarian Center;

Mr. Armen CHILINGARYAN – UNDP Armenia, Disaster Risk Reduction Coordinator.

6. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION BY THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE, THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

7. The delegation of the Republic of Türkiye, Country-Coordinator of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance, made presentations relating to the different aspects of the Draft Plan of Action for the period of its Country-Coordination (1 July 2021 – 30 June 2023) including Flash Flood Guidance System, Disaster and Emergency Management, afforestation, erosion and upper watershed flood control and integrated rehabilitation as well as flood risk assessment and management (the presentations are attached as **Annex III**).

8. The Draft Plan of Action of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance presented by the delegation of the Republic of Türkiye for the period of its Country-Coordination (1 July 2021 – 30 June 2023) has been discussed and adopted by the Working Group (the Plan of Action is attached as **Annex IV**).

AGENDA ITEM 3: LESSONS IDENTIFIED AND BEST PRACTICES IN MEMBER STATES IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND CURRENT REGIONAL CHALLENGES. PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBER STATES

9. The delegation of Ukraine made a statement (attached as **Annex V**).

10. The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement (attached as **Annex VI**).

11. The delegation of the Russian Federation made a presentation on the activities of the National Crisis Management Centre of EMERCOM of Russia (attached as **Annex VII**).

12. The representative of the Republic of Armenia provided information on the measures undertaken in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and stressed the importance of regional cooperation among rescue teams.

AGENDA ITEM 4: COORDINATION AMONG THE BSEC MEMBER STATES AND DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN PREVENTING AND ELIMINATING THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS, INCLUDING FLOODS AND TORRENTS AS WELL AS MASSIVE FOREST FIRES, AND IN PROVIDING NECESSARY ASSISTANCE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

13. The delegations exchanged their views on developing regional cooperation in preventing and eliminating the consequences of the natural and man-made disasters.

14. The delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan presented the information on bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Türkiye and on emergency assistance provided by the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Türkiye during the massive forest fires occurred in Muğla province.

15. The delegation of the Republic of Türkiye expressed its gratitude to the Republic of Azerbaijan for the emergency assistance provided.

16. The delegation of the Republic of Armenia provided the information regarding cooperation within European Union Programs such as PPRD (Prevention, Preparedness, Response to Disasters in Eastern European countries) and Complex Earthquake Management in South Caucasus.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PROMOTING REGIONAL TRAININGS, SEMINARS AND SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES WITH THE PURPOSE TO ACHIEVE BETTER APPLICATION OF JOINT EFFORTS IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

17. The delegations stressed the importance of promoting organization of regional trainings, seminars and scientific conferences aimed at the achievement of better application of joint efforts in case of emergency and increase of awareness about the best practices used in emergency situations.

AGENDA ITEM 6: WAYS OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BSEC NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

18. The delegations exchanged views on the ways of improvement of the activities of the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers on Emergency Assistance and agreed to update the list of responsible Liaison Officers.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19. No specific issue was raised under this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 8: DATE AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

20. It was decided that the date and the venue of the next meeting will be communicated by the BSEC PERMIS to the Member States in due course.

AGENDA ITEM 9: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

21. The Working Group adopted the Report of the Meeting for its submission to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials.