



# ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

## Permanent International Secretariat

---

---

7 December 2021

BS/WGCC&LONCC/R(2021)1

**REPORT OF THE  
JOINT MEETING OF THE BSEC  
WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME,  
IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS  
AND  
OF THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS  
ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME,  
IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS**

**(Online, 7 December 2021)**

1. The Joint Meeting of the BSEC Working Group and the Network of Liaison Officers on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, was held online on 7 December 2021.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Mikhail DEEV, Head of Division, International Cooperation Directorate, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation.

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

Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Republic of Bulgaria  
Hellenic Republic  
Republic of Moldova  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine

4. The following BSEC Related Body also participated in the Meeting:

Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC (PABSEC)

5. The following BSEC Observer attended the Meeting:

Arab Republic of Egypt

Darıüşsafaka Caddesi, Seba Center İş Merkezi, No: 45, Kat 3, İstinye, Sarıyer – Istanbul, Turkey

Tel: +90 (212) 229 63 30-35; Fax: +90 (212) 229 63 36

✉: [info@bsec-organization.org](mailto:info@bsec-organization.org) 🌐 [www.bsec-organization.org](http://www.bsec-organization.org)

6. The list of participants is attached herewith as **Annex I**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

7. The revised draft agenda of the Meeting was adopted and is attached as **Annex II**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 2: UPDATING THE LIST OF THE REPRESENTATIVES - NATIONAL CONTACT POINT IN THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME AND TO THE NETWORK OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME**

8. The Member States were invited to appoint their representatives as their National Contact Points to the Working Group and to the Network of Liaison Officers on a long term basis and to attend the meetings of the Working Group and those of the Network of the Liaison Officers in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms.

9. The Lists of National Contact Points to the Working Group and to the Network of the Liaison Officers are attached herewith as **Annex III**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ORGANISATIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS**

10. The Meeting of the Working Group on Organizational and Legal Matters, of 30 September 2020, in view of increasing the efficiency of the Organization, has proposed the merger of the Working Group on Combatting Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, with the Network of Liaison Officers on Combatting Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms.

11. Showing up to this moment no support to the merger, the representatives of the Member States and the Liaison Officers in the light of the existing treaty basis, decided to submit their written opinions to the Secretariat within two months.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME**

12. The Representatives of the Country Coordinator (Russian Federation) expressed their full support to the activities of the Network of the Liaison Officers and highlighted the importance of increasing the contacts among the Liaison Officers in order to achieve closer cooperation in the future through the exchange of more relevant information and data. The new Liaison Officer from the Russian Federation presented himself and expressed his readiness to cooperate with all other Liaison Officers.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: DRAFTING OF A REPORT ON CRIME SITUATION ASSESSMENT IN THE BSEC REGION AND ITS TRENDS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT**

13. Based on the responses of the Member States, the Country-Coordinator prepared the Annual Review on Trans-National Crime Trends in the BSEC Region for the years 2018-2020 and the document will be disseminated through diplomatic channels.

14. The Member States that have not yet provided their inputs are invited to do so, as soon as possible.

15. The representatives of the Member States expressed their gratitude to the Country-Coordinator (Russian Federation) for the preparation of the Report. The practice of preparing a Questionnaire on the crime situation in BSEC region for facilitating and standardizing the national contributions to the Report is valuable and to be continued.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON COUNTERACTION TO CRIME IN THE SPHERE OF MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION. INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 ON CRIME RELATED TO ILLEGAL MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: CHANGES AND TRENDS**

16. The participants presented their opinions and exchanged their views on counteraction to crime in the sphere of migration and trafficking in human beings in the Black Sea region. The Representatives of Bulgaria, Hellenic Republic, Romania and Russian Federation presented their national contributions on the implementation of the BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Human Beings, during the 2020-2021 period.

17. The Working Group invited the Member States to provide their national contributions on this agenda item, for the years 2020-2021, through diplomatic channels until 31 March 2022. The written presentation of Romania is attached as **Annex IV**.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON COUNTERACTION TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING IN THE BLACK SEA REGION. NEW CHALLENGES AND THREATS. INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES: SITUATION ASSESSMENT, ROLE OF DARKNET, CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK**

18. The participants presented their opinions and exchanged their views on counteraction to illicit drug trafficking, influence of Covid-19 on it and the role of DARKNET in the Black Sea region. The Representatives of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey presented their national experiences and good practices on counteraction to illicit drug trafficking during the 2020-2021 period.

19. The Member States are invited to present their national contributions for this agenda item, for the year 2020-2021, through diplomatic channels until 31 March 2022.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND EXPERIENCE ON COUNTERACTION TO CRIMINAL USE OF INTERNET INFORMATION NETWORK ON THE TERRITORY OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

20. The participants presented their opinions and exchanged their views on the topic. The Representatives of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey presented their national experiences and practices on counteraction to criminal use of internet information network during the 2020-2021 period.

21. The Russian Federation informed on the elaboration of the Draft Comprehensive United Nations Convention on Counteraction of the Use of IT Technologies for Criminal Purposes and called upon the BSEC Member States to participate in its further elaboration.

**AGENDA ITEM 9: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS FOR THE PERIOD 2021. PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2023 BY THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP, POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS BY BSEC MEMBER STATES**

22. The representative of the Country-Coordinator (Russian Federation) announced that the report will be shortly disseminated through diplomatic channels and the Member States are invited to send their written comments or additional information within the deadline that will be indicated in the Verbal Note to be sent by the Russian Federation.

23. Furthermore, the participants adopted the Plan of Action of the BSEC Working Group on Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, for the period 2021. The Plan of Action is attached as **Annex V**.

24. The Secretariat informed the participants that the position of the Country-Coordinator for the term 2022-2023 is vacant starting from the 1 January 2022. The Russian Federation has presented their candidature for another term 2022-2023, and the Committee of the Senior Officials held on 25-26 October 2021 approved the candidature, and decided to present it for adoption by the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held on 17 December 2021.

25. The representative of the Country-Coordinator (Russian Federation) informed the participants about the activities planned for the period 2022-2023.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

26. The Republic of Turkey made a presentation on their training program for 2021 for the representatives of police departments from the Member States.

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

27. The Member States will be informed, in due course, about the date and venue of the next Meetings of the Working Group and that of the Network of Liaison Officers.

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

28. The participants of the Joint Meeting adopted the Report for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_