

**BS/WG/AG/R(2006)1** 

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

## Moscow, 28-29 June 2006

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry was held in Moscow, the Russian Federation, on 28-29 June 2006.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Andrey VERSHININ, Director of the Department of International Cooperation and his Deputy Mr. Vadim DEMIYANENKO from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation.

3. The following BSEC Member States participated in the Meeting:

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

The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.

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

# CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE ACTION PLAN AND WORKING PROGRAM OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY DURING THE TERM-IN-OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AS COUNTRY-COORDINATOR

5. The Working Group discussed on the Draft Action Plan and Draft Working Program for 2005-2007, submitted by the Republic of Bulgaria as a Country-Coordinator, as well as on the amendments to the said documents, proposed by Georgia and Romania.

6. Following the discussion, the Action Plan and the Working Program was agreed by the Working Group, including all the proposed amendments. The Action Plan, as agreed by the Working Group, is attached as **Annex III** to the present Report. The Working Program is attached as **Annex IV** to the present Report.

## <u>CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS UNDER THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT</u> <u>FUND</u>

7. The Working Group took note on two project proposals to be financed under the Project Development Fund, namely "Fatty liver incidence on mini dairy cow farms in Serbia, Romania and Republic of Moldova" (submitted by the Republic of Moldova, Romania and the Republic of Serbia) and "A Feasibility Study for Variable Rate Irrigation in the Black Sea region: Economical and Environmental Benefits" (submitted by the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Turkey) and decided to postpone their assessment till the next Meeting of the Working Group in order to give to all the Member States an opportunity to examine the above mentioned project proposals in a proper way.

8. The Hellenic Republic expressed its willingness to approve the afore mentioned project proposals in order to avoid any unnecessary delay in their implementation.

#### CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF PROGRAM OF COLLABORATION AGAINST PROLIFERATION OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

9. The Delegations took note on the presentation, titled "The Current Situation on Avian Influenza in Russia and Veterinary Measures", made by the Head of Laboratory of Applied Virology of the Federal Governmental Institution "Federal Centre for Animal Health" of the Russian Federation and welcomed the proposal to hold a Seminar of Experts in the field of Avian Influenza in Krasnodar in August 2006 under the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Russian Federation.

10. The Participants took note on information, presented by the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine regarding the state of affairs with combating Avian Influenza in their respective countries.

# DISCUSSION OF PROGRAM OF COUNTERACTION TO PROLIFERATION OF CARNIVORES' RABIES

11. The Delegations took note on the presentation, titled "Discussion of Programme on Carnivora Rabies Prevention in the Black Sea Region", made by the Head of the Laboratory for Emerging Diseases of the Federal Centre for Animal Health and expressed the necessity to strengthen cooperation with the EU in the field of counteraction of Carnivores' Rabies in order to avoid its proliferation.

#### <u>ISSUES OF PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL OPTIMIZATION IN THE BSEC MEMBER</u> <u>STATES</u>

12. The Participants took note on the presentation on current state of affairs on Phytosanitary Control in the Russian Federation, made by the Representative of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance.

13. The Republic of Moldova proposed to establish direct connections between the respective Ministries in order to optimize the Phytosanitary Control in the Black Sea Region.

# DELIVERY OF COUNTRY REPORTS ON FISHERY, MARICULTURA AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

14. The Delegations took note on the presentation on Fishery and Maricultura in the Black Sea, made by the Representative of the Azov Research Institute of Fisheries, Federal Agency of Fisheries, and underlined the importance of the organization of system of operative exchange of information on fishery statistics, as well as monitoring of fish stock in the Black Sea with the purpose of it's rational usage.

15. The Working Group took note on the presentation on Fishery and International Activities in the Black Sea, made by the Head of Division of International Fisheries Policy of the Department for Fisheries of the Ministry of Agricultural Policy of Ukraine, and welcomed the proposals to organize a non-commercial project on aquaculture promotion, as well as to instruct BSEC PERMIS to learn the current state of affairs on drafting the Convention on Fishery and Preservation of Living Resources in the Black Sea and to report the results on the next Meeting of the Working Group.

# ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16. During visit to the International Exhibition Center (IEC) "Krokus-Expo" the Participants welcomed the proposal of the IEC administration to hold exhibitions (conferences, workshops, etc.) within the BSEC framework in the premises of "Krokus-Expo".

17. Furthermore, the Delegations expressed their interest in the First International Exhibition "Russian Food Summit" to be held on 20-22 November 2006 in the premises of IEC "Krokus-Expo".

# **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

18. The Participants expressed their high appreciation to the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation for the warm hospitality extended to them in Moscow and the excellent arrangements of the Meeting.

# DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

19. The date and venue of the next Meeting of the Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry will be communicated to the BSEC Member States through BSEC PERMIS.

# ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. 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 under the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Russian Federation.