

Istanbul, 7 September 2004

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

Istanbul, BSEC Headquarters, 6-7 September 2004

- 1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in its Organized Forms, was held in Istanbul at the BSEC Headquarters, on 6-7 September 2004.
- 2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Zaza BEROZASHVILI, Representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.
- 3. The Meeting was attended by the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Albania Republic of Armenia

Republic of Azerbaijan

Republic of Bulgaria

Georgia

Hellenic Republic

Romania

Russian Federation

Republic of Turkey

Ukraine

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

4. With a minute of silence the participants of the Meeting mourned for the victims of the latest terrorist attacks including the one in the city of Beslan, Russian Federation. They took note of the Address by the President of the Russian Federation H.E. Mr. Vladimir PUTIN of 4 September 2004 related to the tragedy in Beslan, and the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia in its capacity of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office. The participants expressed their profound concern with the increase of the transnational terrorism and other criminal attempts constituting

serious threat to life and health, security and stability of the countries of the Black Sea Region. In this regard the delegations reaffirmed their willingness to further join their efforts in counteraction to the new challenges posed by terrorism.

5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted by the Working Group, is attached as Annex II.

ELABORATION OF THE DRAFT ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL ON COMBATING TERRORISM TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS

- 6. The Working Group finalized the Draft Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its Organized Forms. The text of the said Draft additional protocol is attached as Annex III to the Report.
- 7. The Working Group recommended to the Committee of Senior Officials to submit to the BSEC Council the final Draft of the Additional Protocol with the recommendation to approve it and to invite the BSEC Member States to complete their internal procedures for the conclusion of the Additional Protocol, to be signed at the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States.
- 8. The Working Group expressed its willingness to speed up the procedures regarding the conclusion of the Additional Protocol including the preparation of the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order, to ensure its implementation as soon as possible.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. No issue was raised under this heading.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

10. The Working Group agreed that the date and venue of its next meeting would be communicated to the Member States through the BSEC PERMIS.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

11. The Working Group adopted the present report for submission to the Committee of Senior Officials and the Eleventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held in Tbilisi on 29 October 2004.
