

BS/CC/WG/R(2008)2

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

Istanbul, 10 September 2008

- 1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms was held at the BSEC Headquarters in Istanbul on 10 September 2008.
- 2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Agim PASHOLLI, Special Representative of the Albanian Chairmanship-in-Office, and Ms. Vilhelmina LUCINESCU, Under-Commissioner, Directorate General for European Affairs and International Relations, Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform of Romania.
- 3. The following Member States of BSEC attended the Meeting:

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

- 4. The representative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of BSEC (PABSEC) also participated in the Meeting as the BSEC Related Body.
- 5. The representatives of the Czech Republic and the Commission of the European Communities took part in the Meeting as the BSEC Observers.

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

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

JOINT BSEC-IOM PROJECT "BLACK SEA CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ON MIGRATION MANAGEMENT"

- 7. The Working Group discussed, amended and agreed the Draft Migration Policy Recommendations for the Black Sea Region. The Final Draft document, as agreed, is attached as Annex III.
- 8. The participants expressed their interest in developing practice of receiving from the IOM triennial analysis on migration trends in the Black Sea region.
- 9. The Working Group agreed to submit for the CSO consideration the following Draft Decision of the BSEC Council Meeting to be held in Tirana on 23 October 2008:

"The Council welcomed the completion of the joint BSEC-IOM project "Black Sea Consultative Process on Migration Management", approved the Migration Policy Recommendations for the Black Sea Region (Draft attached as Annex...) and called upon the Member States for their implementation.

The Council expressed its appreciation to IOM for its substantial contribution to the project and recommended the Working Group on Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, to continue appropriate interaction with IOM."

JOINT BSEC-UNODC PROJECT ON STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL-JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION

- 10. The Working Group discussed, amended and agreed the Draft BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region. The agreed Draft Regional Action Plan is attached as Annex IV.
- 11. The participants took note of the UNODC presentation of the Model Guide on Strengthening National Criminal Justice Response in Trafficking in Persons.
- 12. The Working Group agreed to submit for the CSO consideration the following Draft Decision of the BSEC Council Meeting to be held in Tirana on 23 October 2008:

"The Council welcomed the completion of the "Joint BSEC-UNODC Project on Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region" and expressed its appreciation to UNODC for its substantial contribution to the project.

The Council approved the BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region (Draft attached as Annex...), invited the Member States to implement it in accordance with their national legislation and instructed the Working Group on Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, to seek sustainability of the project with the technical assistance of UNODC".

13. The Working Group agreed to consider, upon the approval of the Council, the implementation progress of the Migration Policy Recommendations for the Black Sea Region and the BSEC Regional Action Plan for Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region on a regular basis.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 14. The Working Group took note of the delegation of Romania in its capacity of the Country-Coordinator and according to the Action Plan of the Working Group for 2007-2009, on its intention to organize in November 2008 a Round Table Seminar on Identifying the Best Practices in Developing the Cooperation Instruments in the Field of Preventing and Combating Terrorism. The detailed information will be disseminated through PERMIS in due course.
- 15. PERMIS informed the participants on the state of affairs regarding the Agreement Among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, and its Additional Protocols on establishing the Network of Liaison Officers and on Combating Terrorism. The updated relevant tables are attached as Annex V.
- 16. The representative of PABSEC informed the participants on the Reports and Recommendations adopted by PABSEC on different aspects of migration.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- 17. The date and venue of next meeting will be communicated by PERMIS to the Member States in due course.
- 18. The Working Group recommended that the next Meeting should be organized in the first quarter of 2009.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

19. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials and the Nineteenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.