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REPORT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING FOR SIGNING THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES IN COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS

Kyiv, 20 October 2005

- 1. The High-Level Meeting for Signing the Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters was held in Kyiv on 20 October 2005.
- 2. The Meeting was attended by the delegations from the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Azerbaijan Republic of Bulgaria Georgia Hellenic Republic Romania Republic of Turkey Ukraine

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

- 3. The Meeting was chaired by Mrs. Tatiana AMOSOVA, First Deputy Minister for Emergencies of Ukraine.
- 4. Ambassador Altai EFENDIEV, Deputy Secretary General, addressed the participants on behalf of the BSEC PERMIS.

- 5. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda as adopted is attached as Annex II.
- 6. Meeting of Experts for the preparation of the High-Level Meeting, presided by Colonel Elena BYKOVA, Head of International Relations Department, was held on 19 October 2005.

GENERAL STATEMENTS

- 7. The Heads of Delegations assessed in a positive way the so far cooperation among the BSEC Member States in the field of emergency assistance and emergency response.
- 8. They underlined that the implementation of the Additional Protocol would create an appropriate implementation mechanism for the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters and called for soonest finalization of internal procedures required for its entering into force.
- 9. The participants also called upon the signatories of the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters which have not signed the Additional Protocol at the Meeting in Kyiv to do it at their earliest convenience and invited the other BSEC Member States to accede to both documents.

THE SIGNATURE OF THE DRAFT ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE **GOVERNMENTS** THE OF **BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES** IN **COOPERATION** IN **EMERGENCY** ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS

- 10. The Heads of delegations appreciated the work accomplished by the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance, in finalizing the Draft Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters.
- 11. The Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters was opened for signature and a signing ceremony took place.
- 12. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey informed that the procedures of accession to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-

Made Disasters and the Additional Protocol to it is under way and is expected to be finalized soon.

DISCUSSION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MANMADE DISASTERS

- 13. Specific issues pertaining to the implementation of the Additional Protocol following its entering into force were discussed at the Meeting of Experts convened prior to the High-Level one.
- 14. The delegations expressed the view that mechanism of implementation of Additional Protocol would be considered thoroughly in the framework of the Agenda of the next Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance with due account of functioning of existing/suggested cooperative networks established in the Black Sea region.

PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN AND THE WORKING PROGRAM BY THE COUNTRY-COORDINATOR OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- 15. At the Expert Meeting the Draft Plan of Action of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance for the period 01.05.2005 30.04.2007 was presented by the Republic of Bulgaria as a Country-Coordinator for the mentioned term.
- 16. The participants took note of the said Plan and recommended to the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance to finalize and approve it.
- 17. Furthermore, the preliminary Working Program in the Field of Cooperation in Emergency Assistance for the same term was presented by the delegation of Bulgaria. The participants took note of it and with regard to its items 5 and 6 recommended that the lists of exercises related to pollution conservation of the Black Sea and activities on establishment of relations and experience exchange between organizations and initiatives on the Black Sea conservation would be composed in collaboration with the Black Sea Commission.
- 18. The Draft Plan of Action and Working Program as presented at the Meeting are attached as Annex III to the present Report.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

19. The participants expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Ukraine for the warm hospitality and courtesies extended to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20.	The p	oresen	t Report wa	as ad	lopted for	submissi	on to	the	Thirteen	th Meeting	g of the
Counci	il of	the	Ministers	of	Foreign	Affairs	of	the	BSEC	Member	States
(Chisir	nau, 28	3 Octo	ber 2005).								
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