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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS FOR EMERGENCIES AND HEADS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

Sochi, 7 June 2006

- 1. The Meeting of the Ministers for Emergencies and Heads of Emergency Services was held in Sochi, the Russian Federation, on 6-7 June 2006.
- 2. The following Member States of BSEC attended the Meeting:

Republic of Armenia Republic of Azerbaijan Republic of Bulgaria Georgia Hellenic Republic Republic of Moldova Romania Russian Federation Serbia and Montenegro Republic of Turkey Ukraine

3. The Meeting was attended by the representative of the Republic of Belarus as Observer.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

- 4. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Sergey SHOYGU, Minister for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters of the Russian Federation who delivered the report: "Facing new realities ways and methods of a joint relevant respond", which is attached as Annex II.
- 5. In the course of the Meeting an operative communication session with the Management Center of EMERCOM of Russia took place.
- 6. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda, as adopted, is attached as Annex III.

STRENGTHENING OF A LEGAL BASIS FOR COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE. SIGNING 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

- 7. Following the opening for signature of 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 in Kyiv on 20 October 2005, the delegations of Moldova, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey announced their readiness to sign the said Additional Protocol during the present Meeting of the Ministers for Emergencies and Heads of Emergency Services of the BSEC Member States.
- 8. On 7 June 2006 a signing ceremony took place. The Additional Protocol was signed for the Republic of Moldova by H.E. Mr. Yuri KOZMA, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, for the Russian Federation by H.E. Mr. Sergey SHOYGU, Minister for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters of the Russian Federation and for the Republic of Turkey by H.E. Mr. Mehmet Ali ŞAHİN, State Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey.
- 9. Furthermore, the delegations of Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, the Hellenic Republic, Romania and Ukraine, which had already signed the Additional Protocol, informed that their internal procedures for the entry into force of the Additional Protocol are underway and the instruments of ratification will be registered with the Depositary in the near future. The delegation of Armenia, which is party 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 but did not sign the Additional Protocol to it, stated that it will be in a position to sign the Additional Protocol in a few months.

DISCUSSION ON THE ISSUE OF FINANCING ACTIVITIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS

10. The delegations discussed the issue of financing activities on the implementation 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 and the Additional Protocol to it. They agreed that a combined employment of national budgetary allocations and international financial sources would significantly improve the implementation of the Agreement and the Additional Protocol to it. They also agreed to further explore the possibility of creation of a regional fund on emergencies within the framework of BSEC.

COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS TO BE SET UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL

- 11. The delegations expressed their confidence that the setting up of the Network of Liaison Officers established pursuant to Article 1 of 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 is of particular importance for the efficient implementation of the Additional Protocol itself, as well as of the main Agreement. With that respect after the entry into force of the Additional Protocol the BSEC Member States parties to it will appoint a Liaison Officer and his/her Alternate to the Network pursuant to article 6 of the document.
- 12. The Delegations also deliberated on the expediency of elaboration of Modalities of Work for the Network and instructed the Working Group on Collaboration on Emergency Assistance and BSEC PERMIS to work out a draft Modality of Work for the Network.
- 13. The Delegations agreed that their common objective shall be to hold the Inaugural Meeting of the Network not later than in the first half of 2007.

ADOPTION OF THE JOINT STATEMENT OF MINISTERS AND HEADS OF EMERGENCIES AND RESCUE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

14. The Ministers and the Heads of the delegations discussed and adopted the Joint Statement of the Ministers and the Heads of Emergencies and Rescue Governmental Agencies of the BSEC Member States. The Joint Statement is attached as Annex IV.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

15. The participants expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation for the warm hospitality and courtesies extended to them and for the excellent organization of the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16.	The	prese	nt Re	port	was a	adopte	ed for s	ubm	nissic	n to th	ne Fifteen	th Mee	ting of th	e
Counci	1 of	the I	Minist	ers o	of Fo	reign	Affairs	of	the	BSEC	Member	States	(Moscow	7
1 Nove	mbe	r 2006	$\hat{\mathfrak{o}}$).											