

ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

BSEC Headquarters, 2 November 2015

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance was held at the BSEC Headquarters, on 2 November 2015.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mrs. Branduşa PREDESCU, Special Representative of the Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office to BSEC, Minister Plenipotentiary, Consulate General of Romania in Istanbul.

3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

- Republic of Armenia Republic of Azerbaijan Republic of Bulgaria Romania Russian Federation Republic of Turkey Ukraine
- 4. The List of Participants is attached as <u>Annex I</u> to the present Report.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

AGENDA ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE JOINT STATEMENTS (DECLARATION) ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

6. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the status of implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and follow-up to the Joint Declarations of the Ministers in Charge of Public Administration of the BSEC Member States (Athens, February 2005 and April 2007).

7. The issue of appointment of representatives to the Working Groups on a long term basis and the attendance of them at the meetings was raised by BSEC PERMIS.

8. The Working Group proposed to the forthcoming Meeting of the CSO a draft Recommendation to be adopted by the Council:

"The Council took note of the Meeting of the Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance and recommended to the Member States to appoint on a long-term basis the representatives to the Working Group who will act as their national Contact Points."

AGENDA ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "ECONOMIC AGENDA 2012"

9. BSEC PERMIS informed the Working Group on the implementation process of the "BSEC Economic Agenda 2012".

10. The Working Group discussed and agreed on the following priorities for the second Medium-Term (2016-2018) of implementation of the "BSEC Economic Agenda 2012":

- Encouraging the BSEC Member States to promote civil society participation in providing good governance through their involvement in processes of securing integrity, transparency and fight against corruption;

- Supporting the efforts of the BSEC Member States with regard to innovation and e-government;

- Initiating training of civil servants in innovative practices, with a view to improving the quality and delivery of public services and the simplification of administrative procedures.

AGENDA ITEM 4: DRAFT ACTION PLAN OF BSEC WORKING GROUP ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR THE PERIOD 2016 -2017, PROPOSED BY THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR, THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

11. The Working Group discussed, amended and agreed upon the Action Plan of the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance for 2016-2017, proposed by the Country-Coordinator. The Action Plan, as agreed, is attached as <u>Annex III</u>.

12. The Working Group decided to submit to the consideration of the Committee of Senior Officials the following decision to be adopted by the Council:

"The Council adopted the BSEC Action Plan on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance (2016 – 2017) and tasked the Working Group with its execution."

AGENDA ITEM 5: EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL POLICIES, ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED AND ON BEST PRACTICES IN THE PROCESS OF REFORMING THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND IMPROVING THE GOVERNANCE CAPACITIES IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES. SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE WORK OF THE WG.

13. The delegation of the Russian Federation presented information regarding the latest developments in the field of public services, open government and civil society. The relevant information will be submitted for distribution among the Member States in due course.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14. The BSEC PERMIS informed the participants on the Guidelines of the BSEC Project Management Unit, attached as <u>Annex IV</u>. The Member States were invited to promote the Guidelines at the national level and to elaborate and submit projects matching the priorities of the "BSEC Economic Agenda 2012" and the Action Plan of the Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

15. The Working Group adopted the present Report and submitted it for consideration to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States to be held at the BSEC Headquarters on 3-4 November 2015.