

BS/CTM/R(2002)1

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF TOURISM OR HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

Tirana, 27 September 2002

- 1. The Meeting of the Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegations of the BSEC Member States was held in Tirana on 27 September 2002.
- 2. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Besnik DERVISHI, Minister of Territory Adjustment and Tourism of the Republic of Albania.
- 3. The Meeting was attended by the delegations of the following BSEC Member States:

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

- 4. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the BSEC Business Council.
- 5. Representatives of the Boğaziçi University WTO Education and Training Center and of the Ataköy Marina (Black Sea Cruising Association to be established) attended the Meeting.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

- 6. H.E. Mr. Ilir Meta, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania delivered an address to the participants of the Meeting.
- 7. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda of the Meeting is attached as Annex II.

GENERAL STATEMENTS

8. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegations made their statements on the situation of the Tourism sector in their respective countries as well as on the perspectives of cooperation among the BSEC Member States in this field. They stressed the importance of Tourism Industry in the development of the BSEC Member States and the prosperity of their people.

DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS OF TOURISM OR HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF BSEC MEMBER STATES

9. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegation adopted the Declaration, attached as Annex III.

ADOPTION OF THE TOURISM ACTION PLAN

10. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegation adopted the Tourism Action Plan for the BSEC Member States. The text of the Action Plan is attached as Annex IV.

COOPERATION BETWEEN BSEC PERMIS AND BOĞAZİÇİ UNIVERSITY WTO EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER

11. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegation took note of the presentation made by the representative of the Bogazici University WTO Education and Training Center on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the latter and BSEC PERMIS. Based on this, MoU Bogazici University WTO Education and Training Center proposed to convene a search Meeting of the BSEC Member States to take place in Istanbul on the topic of "Integrated Destination Development at BSEC".

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 12. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegation took note of the presentation of the representative of the Atakoy Marina on the project of establishing the Black Sea Cruising Association. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations instructed the Working Group on Tourism to consider this proposal at its next Meeting and report to them.
- 13. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegations considered the issue of the involvement of the private sector in Tourism Cooperation among the BSEC Member States and the role it should play in this regard. In this connection they instructed the Working Group on Tourism to consider ways and means of encouraging and facilitating the cooperation among sectorial associations and report to them.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TOURISM

14. The Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegation welcomed the offer of the Delegation of the Hellenic Republic to host the next Meeting of the Working Group on Tourism. The date and venue of the aforementioned Meeting will be communicated to the BSEC Member States through the PERMIS.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

15. The delegations expressed their sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Territory Adjustment and Tourism and the Government of the Republic of Albania for the warm hospitality extended to them and for the excellent arrangements provided for the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16. This report was adopted by the Ministers of Tourism and Heads of Delegations of the BSEC Member States in Tirana, on 27 September 2002.