REPORT
OF THE MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS
ORGANIZED FORMS, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS
ON COMBATING CRIME

Istanbul, 5-6 October 2009

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, with the participation of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime, was held in Istanbul on 5-6 October 2009.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Samir AHMADOV, the Consul of the Consulate General of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Istanbul, and Ms. Vilhelmina LUCINESCU, Under-Commissioner of the Directorate for European Affairs and International Relations of the Ministry of Administration and Interior of Romania.

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

   Republic of Armenia
   Republic of Azerbaijan
   Republic of Bulgaria
   Hellenic Republic
   Romania
   Russian Federation
   Republic of Turkey

4. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the United States of America and the Commission of the European Communities as Observers.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

5. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed, amended and adopted. The agenda, as adopted, is attached as Annex II.


6. The Working Group took note of the report prepared by the Country-Coordinator (Romania) regarding status of implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the
Council and follow-up to the Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States (Bucharest, 24 March 2006).

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN OF THE WORKING GROUP ON COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS, FOR MAY 2009 – APRIL 2011

7. The participants discussed and amended the draft Action Plan of the Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in Particular in Its Organized Forms, for the period May 2009 – April 2011, presented by the Country-Coordinator. The draft as amended is attached as Annex III.

8. The Working Group agreed that the Member States will forward their proposals and comments to the draft Action Plan by 15 December 2009 for the purpose of its final consideration at the next meeting of the Group.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL ON COMBATING TERRORISM TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS

9. The participants welcomed information that the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism entered into force with respect to Ukraine on 22 May 2009.

10. The Member States which have not finalized the necessary internal procedures for ratification/approval of the above-named Additional Protocol yet, were encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

11. The Working Group decided to continue its efforts for implementation of the said Additional Protocol, including organization of workshops and/or trainings in the field of combating terrorism.

“GUIDELINES FOR ELABORATION OF AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME TRENDS IN THE BSEC REGION” AND PREPARATION PROCEDURES

12. With the aim to prepare the first Annual Review of the Trans-National Crime Trends in the BSEC Region covering the period starting from 2009 the Working Group agreed that the Member States will provide by 30 April 2010 the requested data in compliance with the Guidelines for the elaboration of the review. The Guidelines are attached as Annex IV.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN ANTICORRUPTION LEGISLATION IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

13. The participants took note of information on the latest developments in anticorruption legislation and statistics presented by Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia.
14. The Working Group underlined the importance of cooperation in fighting corruption and agreed to continue the exchange of information on anticorruption legislation and practices as well as to deliberate on possible activities in that field at its next meeting.

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE BSEC REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION**

15. The participants took note of the information presented by Armenia and Azerbaijan on their national policies in combating trafficking in persons.

16. The Working Group decided that at its next meeting the Member States will deliver short presentations regarding the implementation of the BSEC Regional Action Plan by them for the purpose of preparation of an Annual Report as provided by Para 6 of the said Plan.

17. The Working Group instructed PERMIS to hold consultations with UNODC on the possibility of the latter to provide further technical assistance for ensuring implementation of the BSEC Regional Action Plan.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS ON COMBATING CRIME**

18. The Member States were invited to transmit the updated information on the new appointments to the Network if any and the Member States that had not appointed their Liaison Officers on Combating Crime yet, were asked to do so by 31 January 2010. The list of the Liaison Officers as of 6 October 2009 is attached as Annex V.

19. It was decided to convene a meeting of the Liaison Officers back-to-back with the next meeting of the Working Group.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

20. The Working Group took note of the presentation on the activities of the Turkish International Academy Against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC). The presentation is attached as Annex VI.

**DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

21. The Working Group agreed to convene its next meeting in March 2010. The date and venue of the meeting will be communicated to the Member States in due course by BSEC PERMIS.

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

22. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials to be held in Baku on 20-21 October 2009.