



**BS/CCLO/WG/R(2008)1**

**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, 19-20 May 2008**

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 19-20 May 2008.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Agim PASHOLLI, Special Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania to BSEC, and Ms. Otilia FILIP, Deputy Director, General Inspectorate of Police, Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform of Romania.

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

Republic of Albania  
Republic of Armenia  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
Republic of Bulgaria  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine

5. The representatives of the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) attended the Meeting as guests.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

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

**STATE OF AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO:**

**A) THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BSEC PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING CRIME, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS ORGANIZED FORMS, ESTABLISHING THE NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS AND THE NOMINATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE-SAID ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL**

7. PERMIS informed the participants on the state of affairs regarding the Additional Protocol. The updated relevant table is attached as Annex III (a).

8. The Member States presented the updated information about nomination of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime. The Working Group called upon the Member States, which had not done so yet, to appoint their representatives to the Network as soon as possible. The list of the Liaison officers is attached as Annex III (b).

9. The Working Group confirmed its intention to convene in the future back-to-back meetings with the Network of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime.

**B) 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**

10. PERMIS informed on the state of affairs regarding the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism. The updated relevant table is attached as Annex III (c).

11. The Working Group called upon the Member States, which had not yet done so, to speed up their national procedures for the ratification/approval of the Additional Protocol.

12. Furthermore, the participants exchanged the views on possible ways of enhancing cooperation within the said Additional Protocol. In view of organizing workshops and/or training courses in the field of combating terrorism the Working Group invited the Member States to respond more actively to the initiatives undertaken within BSEC in this respect.

13. The Working Group decided to consider in the future as a separate agenda item the issue of implementation of the Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism.

**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)**

14. PERMIS informed the participants on the status of implementation of the resolutions, decisions and recommendations of the Council. It was noted that all latest decisions of the BSEC Council relating to the sphere of cooperation in combating crime, in particular in its organized forms, are in progress.

15. The Working Group agreed to invite the representatives of other relevant international organizations to its Meetings on a regular basis.

16. The participants presented information on the follow-up by their countries of the main provisions of the Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Interior/Public Order of the BSEC Member States (Bucharest, 26 March 2006).

**CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT “GUIDELINES FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN ANNUAL REVIEW WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF THE TRENDS OF TRANS-NATIONAL CRIME IN THE BSEC REGION”**

17. The Working Group discussed, amended and agreed the Draft Guidelines. The said document as agreed, is attached as Annex IV.

18. It was agreed that the first draft Annual Review of the trends of transnational crime in the BSEC Region, will be prepared by the Country-Coordinator based on the information provided by the Member States according to the guidelines. The participants also decided to deliberate on future procedure of preparing Annual Reviews at the next WG Meeting.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS:**

**a) JOINT BSEC – UNODC PROJECT ON STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL-JUSTICE RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION**

19. The representatives of UNODC and PERMIS informed the participants on the implementation progress of the Joint BSEC-UNODC Project on Strengthening the Criminal Justice response to trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea Region, and, in particular, on the outcome of the Meeting of the BSEC Criminal Justice Experts – the National Project Coordinators held in Istanbul on 10-11 April 2008.

20. The Working Group discussed, amended and agreed to present for further discussion the Draft BSEC Action Plan on Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Human Beings during the Regional Conference on Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in the Black Sea region to be held in Mamaia, Constanta (Romania) on 18-20 June 2008. The Draft as amended is attached as Annex V.

21. The delegation of the Russian Federation is of the opinion that the said draft BSEC Action Plan should be finally agreed by the Working Group.

22. Furthermore, the Working Group took note of the information provided by Romania as the host country and UNODC office with respect to the objectives, agenda, format, time and venue of the Regional Conference. The invitations to the Conference and administrative arrangements will be sent to the Member States in the nearest future. The Draft Agenda of the conference, proposed by the UNODC Office is attached as Annex VI.

23. The representatives of the UNODC Office invited the Member States to share with the interested parties the information that a Plenary Session on the Role of the Private Sector in the Fight against Human Trafficking will be held within the Conference. They also informed that the Regional Conference has been announced at the web-site of UNODC. The Working Group recommended PERMIS to place the relevant link at the BSEC web-site under the BSEC Calendar of Events.

b) **“BLACK SEA CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ON MIGRATION MANAGEMENT”**

24. The representatives of IOM and PERMIS informed the Working Group on the implementation progress of the joint BSEC-IOM project “Black Sea Consultative Process on Migration Management”.

25. The participants took note of the updated version of the project. Taking into account the actual changes in the BSEC Calendar of Events and upon the proposal of IOM it was agreed to hold one day Meeting of the Working Group for consideration of the final version of the recommendations on cooperation in migration issues in September 2008.

26. The Member States are invited by 1 August 2008 to communicate to the IOM Office and PERMIS their comments to the countries migration profiles, elaborated by IOM and disseminated by PERMIS.

**EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON POSSIBILITIES OF GRADUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL DATA INFORMATION SYSTEM ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS (THB) AND OF ESTABLISHING NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS**

27. The Member States commended the idea to examine possibilities of gradual establishment of a regional data information system on THB and of establishing national contact points for combating THB.

28. It was agreed to continue deliberations on the issue at a later stage on the basis of outcome of the joint BSEC-UNODC Project.

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

29. The Liaison Officers of Combating Crime presented information on the state of play of the Network so far. Opinions were expressed that the Member States use preferably bilateral agreements, Interpol channels, accredited Liaison Officers for practical cooperation in this regard. Another reason could be the absence of secured communication channels for confidential data, as well as provisions of the national legislation.

30. The participants took note of the concerns expressed by the Liaison Officers and discussed on the possibility to make use more effectively of the Network.

31. The Working Group invited the Member States to transmit their suggestions and proposals in this regard their earliest convenience.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

32. PERMIS informed the participants on the state of affairs with regard to possible collaboration between BSEC and UNDP on the issues of border management.

**DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

33. The date and venue of next meeting will be communicated to the Member States in due course by PERMIS.

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

34. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials and the Nineteenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

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