1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education was held in Athens, Greece, on 28 September 2005.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Athanasios KYRIAZIS, Secretary for Higher Education of the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic.

3. In his opening statement Mr. Athanasios KYRIAZIS welcomed the participants and wished them success in their fruitful and constructive work.

4. The representatives of the following BSEC Member States attended the Meeting:

   Republic of Albania
   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

5. The representatives of the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC) and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) also participated in the Meeting.

6. The Meeting was attended by Dr. Per NYBORG, Head of the Bologna Secretariat, as a Key Speaker.
7. The Meeting was also attended by other official guests as it was the case for Prof. 
Pavel ZGAGA, former Minister of Education of Slovenia. Mr. Christian THUNE, former 
President of ENQA, Denmark, Mr. D. TSOUCHARAKIS, Chairman of the Greek 
Universities Rectors’ Convention, Mr. P. KIKILIAS, Representative of the Council of 
Technological Education Institutes’ Presidents, Prof. G. TAGARAS and Prof. G. CHIOTIS 
also made their statements.

8. The Meeting was also attended by the representative of the UNESCO – CEPES as 
an official Guest.

The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

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

10. The participants of the Meeting presented different deliberations in which they 
prescribed the way of the Bologna Process from 1999 till the Bergen Meeting in 2005.

11. They highlighted the role of regional cooperation in reaching the objectives of 
Bologna Process.

12. The participants of the Meeting were informed of the reforms in education that are 
under implementation process in the Hellenic Republic and in Georgia.

13. The cooperation among universities was seen as a means to strengthen a fruitful 
joint action of the BSEC Member States in the field of Education.

14. The Working Group discussed the Draft Joint Athens Declaration of the Ministers 
Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States. The finalized Draft was submitted 
to the Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States for 
adoption. The Declaration is attached as Annex III to the Report.

15. The participants agreed upon the Terms of Reference of the BSEC Working Group 
on Education to be submitted to the next Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign 
Affairs of the BSEC Member States for approval. The Terms of Reference are attached as 
Annex IV to the Report.

16. The Working Group adopted the present Report for submission to the Meeting of 
the Ministers Responsible for Education of the BSEC Member States to be held in Athens, 
Greece, on 29 September 2005.