



BS/EREM/R(98)1

REPORT
OF THE SIGNING CEREMONY BY THE MINISTERS FOR EMERGENCY OR
HEADS OF RELATED AGENCIES OF THE BSEC COUNTRIES OF THE
“AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTICIPATING STATES OF THE BLACK SEA
ECONOMIC COOPERATION (BSEC) ON COLLABORATION IN EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE
DISASTERS”

Sochi (Russia), 15 April 1998

1. The Signing Ceremony by the Ministers for Emergency or Heads of Related Agencies of the BSEC Countries of the “Agreement among the Participating States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters”, hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”, proposed by the Russian Federation, was held in Sochi (Russia), on 15 April 1998.

2. The Signing Ceremony was attended by the Ministers for Emergency or Heads of Related Agencies from the following Participating States of the BSEC:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Bulgaria
Georgia
Hellenic Republic
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Ukraine

The list of participants of the Signing Ceremony is attached as Annex I.

3. The representatives of the Krasnodar Regional Administration and Sochi Administration as well as business circles participated in the Signing Ceremony as guests.

4. The Signing Ceremony was opened and chaired by H.E. Mr. Sergei SHOYGU, Minister for Emergencies of the Russian Federation. H.E. Mr. Sergei SHOYGU made an inaugural statement.

5. Mr. Evgueni BORISSENKO, Deputy Secretary General, addressed the Meeting on behalf of the BSEC PERMIS. The text of his statement is attached as Annex II.

6. The copy of the original text of the signed Agreement is attached as Annex III.

7. According to the “Article 7” of the Agreement, the Ministers and Heads of delegations supported the proposal of the BSEC Ad Hoc Group of Experts to establish the Working Group on Emergencies in the framework of the BSEC and decided to submit the Draft Terms of Reference of the above Working Group to the Eleventh Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MMFA) to be held in Yerevan on 30 April 1998. The text of the Draft Terms of Reference is attached as Annex IV.

They took note of the proposal of Moldova to host the first Meeting of the above-mentioned Working Group.

8. The delegations also took note of the following:

- the statement of the Bulgarian Delegation regarding possible amendments to be made in the Agreement and to submitted for the consideration of the first Working Group Meeting;

- the proposal of the Russian Delegation to work out the possible integration of existing national forces and facilities for rendering assistance and the creation on this basis of regional forces for emergency assistance.

9. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of the International Rescue Center in Gelendzhik and agreed to request the BSEC Experts to define the Center’s activities at the First Meeting of the WG on Emergencies.

10. The delegations took into consideration the information regarding the project proposals on the regional development of the Overall System for Environmental Protection and Law Enforcement (OSEPLE) submitted by the BSEC Marmara Center.

11. Following the Signing Ceremony, bilateral and multilateral negotiations took place between the interested delegations on the regional cooperation, taking into consideration the joint action for the fulfillment of the Agreement.

12. The Ministers for Emergency and Heads of Related Agencies expressed their sincere gratitude to the Russian Government and EMERCOM of Russia for the hospitality extended to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the Signing Ceremony.

13. This Report was adopted for submission to the Eleventh MMFA to be held in Yerevan on 30 April 1998.