



**Annex III to BS/AdHocWG/EEHCR/R(2007)1**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP FOR COOPERATION AMONG BSEC  
MEMBER STATES IN EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION OF HYDROCARBON  
RESOURCES OF THE BLACK SEA**

**The present Terms of Reference regulate the functioning of the BSEC Ad Hoc Working Group for Cooperation between BSEC Member States in Exploration and Extraction of Hydrocarbon Resources in the Black Sea which was established by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States on 19 April 2007 in Belgrade.**

**The Ad Hoc Working Group shall examine the ways of promoting and developing the cooperation among the BSEC Member States in exploration and extraction of hydrocarbon resources of the Black Sea taking into account the following objectives:**

- Promote cooperative activities among BSEC Member States in the field of exploration and production of hydrocarbon resources of the Black Sea to foster economic growth.
- Create synergy and strengthen regional cooperation in the field of hydrocarbon exploration and extraction for the benefit of the people in the region providing a sustainable economic development.
- Promote cooperation between oil and gas companies of the BSEC Member States for an efficient development of the Black Sea hydrocarbon resources
- Encourage international companies, primarily those interested in engaging into the activities in the BSEC Member States, to cooperate in exploring the hydrocarbon potential of the Black Sea
- Provide support, when needed and upon request, to the Member States to elaborate on legislation attractive for foreign investments
- Facilitate the sharing of know-how among the specialized public institutions and companies regarding hydrocarbon exploration in the Black Sea, including the transfer of high drilling technology, like deepwater drilling techniques
- Disseminate information among the BSEC Member States about exploration activities in the Black Sea and joint exploration projects carried out in this region
- Encourage large scale geological and geophysical studies covering the Black Sea basin
- Study the possibility of elaborating Joint BSEC Actions regarding exploration and development in this field.
- Hold regular meetings at least once a year.

- Elaborate a mechanism with the purpose of providing through the BSEC PERMIS information to national and international oil and gas companies on the progress of BSEC activities and encourage the relevant national authorities and business communities to share the information regarding oil and gas exploration in the Black Sea.

The Ad Hoc Working Group will elaborate and agree on the biennial Action Plan according to the BSEC Rules and Regulations and ensure its implementation.

The Ad Hoc Working Group shall submit its Recommendations to the BSEC Working Group on Energy.

The BSEC Member States should appoint representatives from their relevant entities to the Working Group as contact points.