



**Kyiv, 5 December 2007**

**BS/ICT/WG/R(2007)1**

**REPORT OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP  
ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

**(Kyiv, Ukraine, 4-5 December 2007)**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) was held in Kyiv, Ukraine, on 4-5 December 2007.
2. An opening statement was made by Mr. Olexandr BARANOV, Director of the State Department of Communications and Informatization, Ministry of Transport and Communications of Ukraine.
3. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Vitalii BALIUK, Deputy Director of the State Department of Communications and Informatization, Ministry of Transport and Communications of Ukraine.
4. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:
  - Republic of Armenia
  - Republic of Azerbaijan
  - Republic of Bulgaria
  - Georgia
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Republic of Serbia
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
5. The representative of the Republic of Poland attended the Meeting in the capacity of BSEC Observer.

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 I.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

7. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the representative of BSEC PERMIS concerning the Declaration of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary BSEC Summit and provisions of the Resolution “Follow-up of the Bucharest Statement” adopted by the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States at its 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 1 November 2006 in Moscow.

8. Following the Council’s relevant Resolution (Moscow, 1 November 2006), the Working Group agreed that those BSEC Member States, which have not done it so yet, would nominate their representatives to the Working Group on ICT and inform PERMIS about this by 1 February 2008.

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD AND REGION COMMUNICATION FORA WITH REGARD TO THE BSEC REGION**

9. The Working Group discussed the outcome of the main international events in the ICT sector, such as the ITU Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-07), World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) and Internet Governance Forum (IGF, Athens and Rio-de-Janeiro).

10. The Working Group noted that the membership of five BSEC Member States, namely Bulgaria, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, in the ITU Council, while Bulgaria is the Chairman in it, is acknowledgment of a valuable contribution of the Region into the development of ICT.

11. The participants drew attention to the forthcoming ITU events to be held next year, in particular, the ITU World Communication Standardization Assembly in 2008, and the preparatory process for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Universal Post Union. In this regard, they stressed that it would be reasonable to have the regional consultations in order to present common view at the abovementioned events.

12. The delegation of Ukraine informed about the nomination of its candidature to the Administrative Council and the Post Operations Council of the Universal Post Union and kindly asked the BSEC Member States to support it at the forthcoming elections.

13. The delegation of Ukraine made the presentation concerning the outcome of the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference-2007.

14. It was also suggested that the BSEC Member States should have the bilateral/multilateral consultations on the agenda item 1.17 of the World Radiocommunication Conference-2011.

15. The Delegation of Ukraine proposed to consider the results of the Research on the joint usage by mobile and other services of frequency 790-862 Mhz in the districts 1 and 3 in accordance with the Resolution (COM 4/13), securing the adequate protection of the companies operating the said frequency.

16. For better information exchange, the Working Group decided that the Member States would regularly exchange the information about the work done with regard to the follow-up of the decisions of the world and regional communication fora related to the BSEC Region.

17. The Member States will inform through BSEC PERMIS about the international events to be held in their countries in the ICT field.

18. The Working Group recommended to establish cooperation of BSEC with such organizations as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and to take part in the events of those organizations as well as to invite their representatives to the BSEC meetings of ICT Working Group on the mutual basis.

### **DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NATIONAL TELECOM SERVICES OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

19. The delegation of Ukraine made a number of presentations on the development of ICT at the national level, in particular:

- “Development of Information Society in Ukraine”, describing the development of the National legislation in the field and activities carried out for its realization;
- “Development of ICT in Ukraine”, informing about the dynamics of ICT growth in Ukraine;
- “Development of Telecom Services in Ukraine”, giving a detailed picture on the development of National Telecom Services.

20. In its presentation “The Issues of Communications and Informatization in Ukraine within the BSEC ICT Activities” the Ukrainian National Commission for the Communications Regulation underlined that one of the reasons of the recent tragedy occurred in the Kerch Straits was the utilization of old technologies in the maritime mobile service. It was proposed to include the item concerning the utilization by the maritime mobile service of the radio frequencies in the Black and Azov Seas and the item about cooperation of neighbouring countries on the frequencies and trans-border coordination in the BSEC Region into the draft agenda of the next Working Group meeting.

21. The Working Group took note of the information provided by the Russian Federation with regard to the work being carried out within the framework of the BSEC Memorandum of Understanding on Multilateral Cooperation in the field of Postal Service and the Agreement on Exchange of Information about the International Registered Post Mail with the Use of FTP-Server of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise “Post of Russia”. Information provided by the Russian delegation is attached as Annex III to the present Report.

22. The representative of the Russian delegation also stated that the Federal State Unitary Enterprise “Post of Russia” is interested to participate in the information exchange about international registered post mail among the BSEC Member States and about international post transfer.

23. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic made the presentation “Broadband Development in Greece”, stressing that the number of the broadband connections in Greece is continuing its rapid growth, which has a rate higher than the average of the EU member states during the last year. Also, a short reference took place regarding the legal developments in the field of electronic communication.

25. The delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan made the presentation “Azerbaijan’s ICT Sector: Dynamic and Growing”, describing the structure of the National ICT authorities, the national policy in the field and services provided by Telecoms.

26. The delegation of Georgia presented information about the ICT development at the

National level, noting that the establishment of relevant legal basis substantially promoted the growth of ICT sector in Georgia.

27. All the delegations in their presentations noted the growing tendency of the ICT development in their countries.

28. The Association of the IT Enterprises of Ukraine (AITEU) informed about its existing cooperation with APKIT (Russian Federation), BAIT (Bulgaria), PIIT (Poland) and the future project of the World Bank Institute with participation of the IT-associations of Ukraine and Romania.

29. The Working Group welcomed the cooperation of the IT business associations of the BSEC Countries and encouraged their further strengthening.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS: "ESTABLISHMENT OF A PLATFORM/FORUM/NETWORK AMONG THE BLACK SEA BROADCASTING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES"**

30. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey presented the project proposal "Establishment of a Platform/Forum/Network among the Black Sea Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities". It was stated that in addition to the official support received from Georgia, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova and Romania this project proposal was also informally favoured from other BSEC Member States.

31. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic informed about the interest of the National Council for Radio and Television to participate in the project providing that the rules and regulations for the said project proposal will be fully established. It is mentioned that explicit rules must be set regarding the responsibilities, the obligations and the working field of this forum, as well as explicit conditions must be determined regarding its operation.

32. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey stated that the rules and regulations of the forum would be determined in 2008 by the BSEC Member States already granting the approval to the proposed project.

33. The delegation of the Russian Federation stated that the Russian side would inform shortly about its proposals with regard to the said project proposal.

34. Following the discussion on the issue, the Working Group agreed that the Member States, which have not done so, will communicate their views and proposals to PERMIS in order to enable the Turkish side to start the preparatory process on establishment of the said forum.

### **CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION PLAN AND WORKING PROGRAM**

35. The Working Group discussed and agreed, in principle, on the texts of the drafts of the Action Plan and the Working Program, prepared by the Country-Coordinator.

36. It was agreed that the text of the Action Plan is adopted as it is, if no amendments would be submitted by 29 December 2007. The text of the Action Plan is attached as Annex IV.

37. The Working Program was adopted. This document will be open for additional proposals by the Member States during 2008. The text of the Working Program is attached as Annex V.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

38. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

### **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

39. The Participants expressed their high appreciation to the State Department of Communications and Informatization of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Ukraine for the warm hospitality extended to them in Kyiv and the excellent arrangements of the Meeting.

### **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

40. The exact date and venue of the next meeting of the Working Group will be communicated to the Member States through BSEC PERMIS in due course.

### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

41. The Working Group adopted the present report for submission to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials.

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