



**BS/CM/WG/R(94)1**

**REPORT  
OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNICATIONS**

**Kyiv, 20-21 December 1994**

1. The Meeting of the Working Group (WG) on Communications of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) was held on 20-21 December 1994 in Kyiv, Ukraine.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Yuri SOLOVYEV, First Deputy Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Ukraine.
3. The Meeting was attended by the following Participating States of the BSEC:
  - Republic of Armenia
  - Republic of Azerbaijan
  - Republic of Bulgaria
  - Republic of Georgia
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Republic of Moldova
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
4. The representatives of Egypt, Israel, Poland and Tunisia as well as of the BSEC Council (BSECC) and the International Black Sea Club (IBSC) attended the Meeting as Observers.

The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex I.

5. Mr. Yuri SOLOVYEV made an inaugural statement. The text of the statement is attached as Annex II.

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

### **FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE BSEC**

7. Under agenda item 2 a thorough exchange of views took place on the basis of the progress reports of concerned administrations regarding further the development of telecommunications in the BSEC region. The delegations expressed their satisfaction on the progress reached by countries involved in implementing regional international projects (ITUR, KAFOS, TAE, BSFOCS, TET, DOKAP, etc.).

8. The delegations of some of the Participating States presented information on related international telecommunications projects as well as the projects implemented at national levels. In this connection, the WG took note of the proposal presented by the Turkish Delegation on the further developments on telecommunications among the BSEC Participating States.

### **POSSIBILITY OF BSEC COUNTRY COOPERATION DEEPENING**

9. Under agenda item 3 the delegations discussed their current and long-term plans of developing the national telecommunications networks of the BSEC Participating States.

10. A thorough discussion of the technical aspects of the transit connections and possibilities of their arrangements took place.

11. The WG also exchanged views on the regulatory aspects and legislative initiatives taken in the Participating States towards liberalization of telecommunications as well as the introduction of new telecommunications services. The delegations stressed the usefulness of continuing to do so in the future.

12. The WG agreed that the issues existing in transit connections between the Participating States could be solved within the framework of the BSEC both through bilateral and multilateral contacts among the relevant authorities and operators.

13. The WG recommended that the telecommunications issues of the BSEC region might be taken into consideration while the national plans on telecommunications development are being elaborated.

### **UTILIZATION OF COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE RESOURCES**

14. Under agenda item 4 the delegations presented their information with regard to the current and future capabilities of international and national satellite communications.

15. The WG took note that the effective utilization of the existing international and national satellite communications could be a useful means for improving telecommunications and ensuring progress in this field in the Black Sea region. Having in mind that some proposals were made by the participants (Turkey, Russia and Ukraine) regarding the satisfaction of the telecommunications needs of the region by satellite systems, the group requested Greece and Turkey for the achievement of this goal to prepare by its next meeting a comparative analysis of the utilization of both international and national satellite communications networks, including other means of communications.

### **TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS**

16. Within the framework of the discussions under agenda item 5, the delegations exchanged preliminary information pertaining to the technical aspects of cooperation.

17. The WG asked the Secretariat to prepare a questionnaire on the subject of technical cooperation activities to be distributed to the Participating States by 15 February 1995 in order to formulate on the basis of their replies a final review of the above subject for consideration at the next meeting of the WG.

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC MAIL**

18. Under agenda item 6 the WG considered the subject of establishing E-mail between the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat and the Participating States and recommended to the MMFA to approve it. With an aim of facilitating its realization, the WG requested Turkey and Ukraine to assist the Secretariat in elaborating by 15 March 1995 technical aspects of E-mail based on the existing international networks of communications.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

19. The WG took note of the information given by the International Black Sea Club on the creation of a system of international business satellite links among some of the cities of the region.

### **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

20. The delegations expressed their warm gratitude to the Government of Ukraine for the hospitality extended to them and for the good arrangements made for the Meeting.

**DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

21. The WG agreed that the date and venue of its next meeting would be communicated to the Participating States through the Secretariat.

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

22. This Report was adopted by the WG for submission to the Fifth MMFA.

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