



BS/PAM/R(2007)1

**REPORT
OF THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

Athens, 3 April 2007

1. The second Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Public Administration of the BSEC Member States was held in Athens, on 3 April 2007.

2. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers or Heads of Delegations from the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Albania
Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Hellenic Republic
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Republic of Serbia
Republic of Turkey
Ukraine

3. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the International Center for Black Sea Studies.

4. The representatives of the United Nations Development Program participated in the Meeting as guests.

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

5. The Meeting was co-chaired, on behalf of the host country, by H.E. Mr. Prokopios PAVLOPOULOS, Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic, who addressed the participants with welcoming remarks, and H.E. Mr. Apostolos ANDREOULAKOS, Deputy Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic.

6. H.E. Mr. Zoran LONCAR, Minister of Public Administration and Local Self – Government of the Republic of Serbia, made a welcoming address to the participants on behalf of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office. H.E. Ambassador Leonidas CHRYSANTHOPOULOS, Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, addressed the Meeting with an opening statement.

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

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL POLICIES AND ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE PROCESS OF REFORMING THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT CAPACITIES IN THE BSEC MEMBER – STATES. PROPOSALS FOR STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATIVE ACTIONS AND JOINT PROGRAMS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE BSEC FRAMEWORK, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOALS SET UP BY THE BSEC ECONOMIC AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE AND THE PROVISIONS STIPULATED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE (ATHENS, 21 FEBRUARY 2005)

8. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations assessed in a positive way the on-going process aiming at strengthening cooperation and development of synergies for institutional renewal and good governance among the BSEC Member States.

9. They shared the experience and presented the progress achieved in the process of reforming the public institutions and of strengthening the Government capacities in the BSEC Member States.

10. They took note of the Study regarding the administrative procedures aiming at redesigning the entity responsible for the administrative reform in the BSEC Member States elaborated by ICBSS in close cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic, appreciated the work done and called upon the BSEC Member States to take into account the recommendations of the Study in the process of reforming the public administration. The said recommendations are attached as Annex III.

11. Furthermore, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations took note of the Evaluation Report of the Country-Coordinator of the Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance regarding the activities carried out during its mandate (2005-2007) and highly appreciated the work done by the Country-Coordinator, the Hellenic Republic. They also welcomed the willingness of the Russian Federation, the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Bulgaria to assume these functions and stressed the necessity of ensuring continuity in the implementation of the ongoing and planned activities to be carried out by the Working Group in the future.

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO THE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE JOINT DECLARATION ON INSTITUTIONAL RENEWAL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE (ATHENS, 21 FEBRUARY 2005)

12. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations expressed satisfaction for the activities undertaken in the BSEC framework for the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance adopted in Athens on 21 February 2005 and endorsed the Report submitted to them by the Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance. The said Report is attached as Annex IV.

ADOPTION OF THE JOINT MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

13. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations endorsed the Joint Declaration, which was submitted to them by the BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance for adoption. The text of the Joint Declaration is attached as Annex V.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

14. The Participants expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Hellenic Republic for the warm hospitality and courtesies extended to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. The present Report was adopted for submission to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States (Belgrade, 19 April 2007).
