

# **BSEC foreign ministers endorse climate change proposal**

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Greek Foreign Minister Dimitris Droutsas speaks to the media. AP photo

Concerns over the environment topped an informal meeting of foreign ministers of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, or BSEC, on Tuesday on the sidelines of U.N. General Assembly meetings.

The ministers endorsed a proposal of the Greek Chairmanship of the BSEC to approve a declaration on climate change that will be submitted to the U.N. Climate Change Negotiations to take place in December in Cancun, Mexico.

Greece is currently chairing the BSEC until the end of the year. Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu and other ministers also participated at the meeting, which was chaired by Dimitris Droutsas, the Greek foreign minister.

The presentation of a BSEC declaration on climate change in Cancun will also permit BSEC to increase in a positive way its global visibility, by demonstrating its will to take action on a regional basis to save the planet.

The BSEC Declaration will be officially adopted at the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs that will be held in Thessaloniki on Nov. 26, the secretary general said.

The secretary general of the BSEC, Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, told the Hürriyet Daily News & Economic Review that the ministerial meeting achieved concrete results by endorsing the proposals of the Greek chairmanship.

BSEC has been holding informal ministerial meetings in New York on the margins of U.N. General Assemblies since September 2006.