



**SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS OF  
THE JOINT MEETING  
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP  
ON COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
AND THE ICBSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Yalta, Ukraine, 1-3 June 1999**

1. The Joint Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Science and Technology and the ICBSS Board of Directors was held in Yalta, Ukraine on 1-3 June 1999.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Victor SVIZHENKO, Deputy Minister of Science and Technology of Ukraine.
3. The Meeting was attended by the following representatives:

WG on Cooperation in Science and  
Technology

Republic of Azerbaijan  
Georgia  
Hellenic Republic  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Ukraine

ICBSS Board of Directors

ICBSS

Yannis PAPANICOLAOU (General Director)  
Evgueni KUTOVOY (Alternate General Director)

Directors

Yuri GASPARYAN (Armenia)  
Stefka TEPAVITCHAROVA (A.N.D. Bulgaria)  
Avtandil KORDZADZE (Georgia)  
Artemis PAPATHANASIOU (A.N.D. Greece)  
Tatiana CONSTANTINOVA (Moldova)  
Sergey GONCHARENKO (Russia)  
Elena ERETSKAYA (A.N.D. Ukraine)  
Derry ORMOND

4. The Meeting was also attended by some academicians, heads of a number of research institutes and centers, as well as representatives of some private companies as guests.

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

5. Mr. VELIZHANSKIY, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea addressed the participants with a welcoming speech. Mr. SVIZHENKO delivered a speech on behalf of Mr. Stanislav DOVGIY, Chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Science and Intellectual Property.

6. Mr. Evgueni BORISSENKO, Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, Mr. Yannis PAPANICOLAOU, General Director of the ICBSS and Mr. Vladimir BABESHKO, Academician of Russian Academy of Science addressed the Meeting. The text of the statement of the PERMIS Deputy Secretary General is attached as Annex II.

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

### **CONSIDERATION OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM CONCEPTION**

8. Under this agenda item, the participants exchanged views regarding scientific and technological programs and projects which may be developed in their countries with the aim of implementing the decisions of the BSEC Summit in Yalta, the resolutions of the Twelfth and Thirteenth MMFAs, as well as the resolutions of the WGs on Science and Technology held in Krasnodar in 1997-1998 and the ICBSS Board of Directors meetings.

9. The participants of the Meeting, taking into account that the ICBSS activity's strategy has to be directed to the realization of such a scientific - technological policy that is supporting from the one side, the enlargement of the region's economical integration and, from the other side, European integration enlargement, underlined the priority of the following objectives:

- identifying the regional prioritized directions for joint studies;
- development of the programs for cooperation expansion in prioritized directions of studies and supporting its implementation;
- supporting development and realization of innovative policy of BSEC countries especially those with transitional economies;
- supporting the development of the venture business implementation and technology commercialization;
- database creation for development and research institutions, scientific developments and leading specialists.

The emphasis was made on the elaboration of organizational and methodological principles whose application could provide effectiveness of joint programs and projects. The participants identified main areas for joint scientific research and potential projects dealing in particular with economic, environmental and seismological problems of sustainable development in the BSEC region with a special attention to the progressive achievements of science and technology and the fields of cooperation.

10. Mr. PAPANICOLAOU presented to the participants the ICBSS program of research and studies for the years 1999 - 2000 and drew their attention to concrete actions to be taken by the Center in the said period. He stressed the need of focusing the ICBSS efforts in the areas which are of significance to the national economies and well-being of the peoples of the BSEC countries.

It was agreed that multilateral cooperation in science and technology would require a greater contribution on the part of the BSEC countries and that accordingly further steps are to be taken to develop this cooperation between the WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the ICBSS, the BSEC Standing Academic Committee (SAC). Interested academic institutions and organizations, universities as well as other related national centers would be involved.

11. The participants of the WG on Science and Technology emphasized the need for in order to cooperate in scientific and relevant technological, economic and other information for purposes of technology transfer, it is very important to create a regional program in this field including the securing of financial support for multilateral projects. They called upon the interested Member States to cooperate in initiating the establishment of the data center. In this context, it was suggested to convene in the near future a meeting of experts on information and communication.

12. The Joint Meeting underlined the growing need for reliable concrete projects and scientific works covering topical economic issues of common concern which can help to contribute to the realization of the BSEC scientific objectives which are the principal reasons behind the strengthening of relations between WG on Science and Technology and the ICBSS. To this end the ICBSS was called upon to create an effective dialogue with governments, public institutions, research and study centers, universities, business and financial circles.

In this respect the Russian representative Mr. BABESHKO proposed that national methodological centers be created within the BSEC framework, using for their activities a model of the Federal Program of Integration which has been developed in the Kuban State University in cooperation with other organizations.

13. The participants supported the Research and Development Cooperation Program of the BSEC by maintaining and strengthening the good relationship of cooperation between the institutes from the BSEC countries and other international organizations. A strong objective of regional cooperation within the BSEC framework is to be better prepared for global exposure.

### **ELABORATION OF A STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPING INTERACTION WITH THE EU AND OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

14. Under this agenda item, the participants held broad exchange of views on the development of cooperation between the BSEC and the EU and its Commission as well as with other international organizations dealing with science and technology.

15. It was agreed that the development of a viable strategy towards other organizations would require time and better understanding of other international organizations, their interests, possibilities and goals and that such strategy should be based on the respective provisions of the Yalta Summit Declaration and the Platform for Cooperation between the BSEC and the EU endorsed by the MMFA in Tbilisi. It should also demonstrate to other international organizations the significant potential in science and technology of the BSEC Member States.

16. The future strategy should contribute to the strengthening of the scientific and technological potential of the BSEC, promote in a more energetic and decisive way collaboration among scientific and academic communities and research centers of interested countries, to assist

the Member States in attaining the goals of the Organization of the BSEC as well as to contribute to the familiarization of scientists and scholars from the BSEC countries with the achievements of the European and world science and technology.

It was pointed out to the necessity of ensuring financial support from the EU and other international organizations for vital scientific and technological joint projects developed in the BSEC countries.

17. The participants welcomed the proposal for scientific cooperation dealing with the pollution problems of the Black Sea Region. They stated that a possibility existed to prepare joint research projects "Clean Black Sea" in the Fifth Framework Program of the EC, Copernicus II.

18. It was also stressed that there was a need for the ICBSS to develop mutually beneficial relations with appropriate international institutions and organizations especially with the EU. The EU, the WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the ICBSS as well as other regional groupings are destined to participate together in the shaping of the economic configuration of new Europe.

19. It was suggested that the BSEC would approach the EU with a proposal to initiate the BSEC-EU dialogue on the issues of scientific and technological matters at various levels and with this purpose in mind to set up a joint ad hoc group of prominent experts from the interested EU and BSEC countries for consideration of the range of issues and ideas related to building up cooperation between the EU and the BSEC in defining common interests of the EU and BSEC countries in this field and in exploring a range of areas of prospective cooperation. Such a group could prepare a set of recommendations for the presentation to the BSEC and the EU bodies for their further consideration and approval.

20. It was agreed that necessary efforts should be intensified towards building up relationship with the EC and its respective directorates dealing with science and technology with the aim of obtaining financial and other support for the BSEC joint projects. The view was expressed that the EU Member States with an observer status in the BSEC could also play a useful role in the process of elaboration and implementation of joint projects of scientific and technological cooperation which are developed under the aegis of the BSEC.

21. The participants to the Joint Meeting supported the proposal of the Armenian, Russian, Romanian and Greek delegations regarding the elaboration of a common strategy towards the promotion of the transition of the BSEC countries to market economy.

22. The Meeting supported the idea of encouraging the realization of common projects of regional interest in the Fifth Framework Program of EU.

23. The participants of the Joint Meeting emphasized the importance of the involvement of BSEC and its related bodies in the activities of the UN specialized agencies namely the UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

24. The participants welcomed the proposal of the Delegation of the Hellenic Republic regarding the necessity to define in first turn the topics that are of first priority in the BSEC area, to elaborate with clarity the objectives and define with a greater accuracy the scientific methodology, the techniques and the financial implications of it.

They also welcomed the proposal regarding the presentation of the projects through proper channels and format to various international organizations including the EU. Taking this into account, it was agreed that a significant role could be played by Greece as a EU member state.

25. The Delegations and the ICBSS Directors shared the view that the future BSEC workshops and seminars on specific topics with participation of scientists and scholars from the EU countries could play an important role in expanding cooperation in science and technology.

26. The Joint Meeting noted with interest the information of the ICBSS General Director that the ICBSS attaches importance to the increasing role of the younger generation of scientists and scholars of the BSEC region in developing science and technology at the threshold of a new century and that the ICBSS would take additional steps with an aim of assisting them. It was unanimously stressed that it is the duty of all BSEC science and technology bodies to create necessary conditions and opportunities for young generation of researchers so that they could assume upon themselves greater responsibilities in relevant fields of science and technology.

27. The participants addressed the State Committee of Ukraine for Science and Intellectual Property to determine two basic universities for training students and young specialists who would deal with the problems in the Black Sea region.

#### **ORGANIZATION OF VIABLE COOPERATION OF THE BSEC SCIENTIFIC COMPONENTS**

28. The participants welcomed close cooperation of the BSEC WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the Standing Academic Committee (SAC) and the ICBSS. They stated the need to clarify the role each party will play in pursuing common objectives. They underlined that this important aspect should be further developed in order to find ways and means of ensuring closer collaboration and coordination of scientists from the Member States by establishing a network of direct communication. A system of short work visits and exchanges of scientists to investigate specific topics and/or elaborate proposals, was considered as a very important one and would help achieve the establishment of a concrete ground for collaboration. The participants also expressed the view that the cooperation between these components would be further improved by exchanges of information on programs of research and studies as well as on joint projects when they reach a stage of maturity by holding joint workshops and seminars on most important topics to be agreed in advance, by organization of joint meetings with private businesses and by extension of invitation to participate in an observer capacity in meetings to be organized by one component to the representatives of other two components.

29. The participants underlined the need for better coordination and collaboration of all BSEC bodies which are involved in issues related to science and technology like the WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, SAC, ICBSS, etc. What is urgently needed is a division of roles that would take into account the comparative advantages of each component and would avoid duplication of efforts and responsibilities.

To this end they welcomed a proposal to hold a new joint meeting involving all relevant bodies in order to form a common position on issues of science and technology to be approved eventually by the appropriate BSEC bodies and expressed the view that the such joint meeting should be convened at the appropriate time in the future.

## **CONSIDERATION OF COUNTRIES' PROPOSALS AND PRESENTATION OF PROJECTS**

30. The participants confirmed the desirability of creating an Association of Seismological problems in the BSEC framework. It was suggested to work out monitoring the Black Sea environment, its ecosystem and peculiarities of natural and man-made disasters.

31. Taking into account the statement of Mr. BABESHKO regarding the creation of a mathematical model of ecological – economic – seismological systems of the Black Sea region, the Joint Meeting noted that at the present time that there are a great number of scientific centers and institutions (Yerevan, Moscow, Tbilisi, etc. ) who are directly using in their practical work new mathematical modalities.

32. The participants took note with interest the Concept of the Framework Program of Scientific and Technological Cooperation of BSEC countries proposed by Ukraine and recommended to study further the issue of creating the Coordination Center for Development and Management of the Program on the basis of the National Scientific Center “Kharkov Institute on Physics and Technology”.

33. The Ukrainian Delegation called upon the governments of the BSEC Member States to support the idea of creating on the basis of the International Children Center “Artek” (Crimea, Ukraine), the BSEC Laser Center for Rehabilitation of Children who suffered from ecological catastrophes and military conflicts, weakened with infection diseases and lived in ecologically adverse zones. It also proposed to establish, on the basis of the Institute of Laser Biology and Laser Medicine of Kharkov State University, a training center of laser rehabilitation specialists for national rehabilitation centers of interested BSEC Member States.

34. The delegations welcomed the proposal for creating the International Center of the Countries of the Black Sea Region on the basis of the A.V. Dumansky Institute of Colloid Chemistry and Water Chemistry of the National Academy of Sciences (ICMWT) which could conduct the monitoring of contamination of the natural and sewage water for the development of the progressive purification technologies. It was agreed that the interested BSEC countries should inform their national organization of this proposal in order to involve their specialists in joint scientific. The Ukrainian Delegation expressed interest in appealing to international financial organizations and institutions to provide financial assistance to the said Center. The ICBSS Board of Directors decided to support this project and to participate in the network of such institutions.

35. The participants discussed with interest the Ukrainian proposals in the frame of the following projects:

- measures for fulfillment of the Kioto Protocol for Lowering Environmental Pollution in Crimea;
- creation of geo-informational environment to accomplish tasks of administration of territorial development;
- development of System of Informational and Analytical Support of Regional Administration and Management;
- development of the system of support of decision-making on the basis of the “Information Depository” technology;

- creation of the control and management system of observation on atmospheric conditions in the Black Sea region;
- diagnostics and monitoring of the underwater gas and oil pipelines at the significant depths with the help of thermo-vision and hydro-acoustic complexes.
- establishment of the Demonstration Zone Object “Use of Solar Energy for Heat Supply Systems” based on educational and demonstrational helio-station of Yalta –based “Training and Methodological Center of Ecology”.

36. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea submitted for the consideration the project on the introduction of the new technology of production of the biological active substances out of grape processing wastes to use as preventive and medicative additives. The submitted project is aimed at solving the extremely important problem to reconstruct the health of the people suffered from the Chernobyl catastrophe and it is a part of the program “Children of Ukraine”.

Another important innovation project “The Crimea Vineyard Restoration” was submitted for the realization and reconstruction of the wine-making and viticulture in the Black Sea region.

37. The participants adopted the proposal made by Mr. Alexander SITENKO, General Director of the Ukrainian Association, “Ukrmedprom” to create the exhibition centers in various BSEC countries in the framework of the BSEC activities and organize during 1999-2000 two exhibitions. This proposal was supported by the Armenian, Greek and Ukrainian delegations which confirmed its readiness to host the exhibitions and seminars on the problems of science and technology. It was decided to create web sites of the exhibitions in Internet.

#### **INFORMATION ON THE ICBSS CONFERENCE “BSEC IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: NEW CHALLENGES AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES”**

38. The ICBSS General Director presented detailed information regarding the forthcoming Conference “BSEC in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: New Challenges and New Opportunities” to be held on Halki Island, Greece on 8-12 September 1999 and asked the participants of the Joint Meeting to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate national authorities of their countries in order to ensure participation in the Conference of high caliber representatives (Annex IV).

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

39. The participants in the Joint Meeting expressed satisfaction that the Republic of Azerbaijan participated in this Meeting at the level of Deputy Chairman of its State Committee on Science and Technology. They expressed their wish that all the Member States appoint their representatives to the ICBSS Board of Directors.

#### **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

40. The delegations expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian State Committee for Science and Intellectual Property for hosting the Meeting and for the excellent arrangements as well as the warm hospitality extended to them.

**DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

41. The participants agreed that the date and venue of its next WG meeting would be communicated by Romania to the Member States through the PERMIS.

**ADDOPTION OF THE SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING**

42. The WG adopted the Summary Proceedings for submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Thessaloniki.

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