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**REPORT  
OF THE MIDTERM MEETING OF THE  
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

**Istanbul, 31 October 2007**

1. The Midterm Meeting of the Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology of the BSEC Member States was held in Istanbul, on 31 October 2007.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Mehmet AYDIN, Minister of State, Responsible for Science and Technology, Republic of Turkey.
3. Ministers and Heads of Delegations from the following BSEC Member States participated in the Meeting:

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

4. Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of BSEC (PABSEC) and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) took part in the Meeting as BSEC Related Bodies.
5. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the Republic of Poland as Observers.

The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

6. Prof. Dr. Mehmet AYDIN, Minister of State, Responsible for Science and Technology, Republic of Turkey, and Prof. Dr. Nüket YETİŞ, Acting President of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), welcomed the participants on behalf of the Host Country and the Chairmanship-in-Office.

7. Ambassador Andrey URNOV, Deputy Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, welcomed the participants on behalf of BSEC PERMIS.
8. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The agenda, as adopted, is attached as Annex II.
9. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations, the representatives of the BSEC Related Bodies and the BSEC Observers made general statements.
10. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations adopted the “Istanbul Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology of the BSEC Member States”. The approved Statement is attached as Annex III.
11. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations approved the Midterm Report on the implementation of the BSEC Action Plan on Cooperation in Science and Technology. The approved Midterm Report is attached as Annex IV.
12. The Ministerial Meeting supported the initiative of the Republic of Bulgaria to apply for the status of the Country-Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Science and Technology as of 1 May 2008.
13. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations expressed their gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Turkey and TÜBİTAK in particular, for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements for the Meeting.