



JOINT STATEMENT
ADOPTED AT THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF
INTERNAL AFFAIRS/PUBLIC ORDER OF THE BLACK SEA
ECONOMIC COOPERATION (BSEC) MEMBER STATES

Kyiv, 15 March, 2002

The Ministers of Internal Affairs/Public Order and Heads of Delegations of the BSEC Member States: Republic of Albania, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Republic of Turkey and Ukraine,

Guided by the basic principles and objectives embodied in the Istanbul Summit Declaration on June 25th, 1992 and in the Charter of the Organisation of the BSEC,

Taking into consideration the terms of the Statement of the High Level Meeting of the BSEC Participating States held in Bucharest on June 30, 1995, the Moscow Declaration of the Heads of State or Governments dated October 25th, 1996, the Statement of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on joint measures in combating international terrorism, dated October 26th, 2001, and the Joint Statements signed at the previous meetings (Yerevan, Istanbul and Bucharest) of the Ministers of Internal Affairs of the BSEC Participating States,

Acknowledging the importance of the “Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its organised forms”, signed in Kerkyra on October 1998, and of the Additional Protocol to the above-mentioned Agreement, signed today in Kyiv,

Reaffirming the will and wish to make their contribution to the further development of the fruitful cooperation within BSEC, with other international and regional organisations in order to combat organised crime and international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting the close connection between terrorism and transnational organised crime, illicit trafficking of drugs and arms, trafficking of human beings and as well as money laundering,

Conscious that terrorism in all its forms poses a serious threat to peace, security, political, economic and social stability of the States of Black Sea Region,

Referring to the United Nations Security Council Resolution SC1373 (2001) dated 28 September 2001 and to the “Decision on Combating Terrorism” and the “Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism” adopted at the OSCE Ministerial Council on December 2001,

The Ministers and Heads of Delegations, resolved to strengthen their own co-operation in combating organised crime and terrorism,

- decided to submit the text of the Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement, concerning the setting up of the BSEC Network of the Liaison Officers on Combating Crime for consideration and final approval by the Sixth Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Kyiv, April 2002);
- expressed the conviction that the fight against international terrorism in all its forms persistently demands joint and comprehensive efforts, constant co-operation and co-ordinates measures, in full conformity with the norms on international law and the Charter of the United Nations;
- expressed the readiness to cooperate in the global fight against the organised crime and terrorism and, in this respect, to strengthen their co-operation with all regional and international organisations (Interpol, Europol) and , particularly, extend the cooperation with SECI Centre for Combating Trans-Border Crime, with a view to avoiding duplication;
- will take the necessary steps to prevent and preclude in their territory illegal activities of persons, groups or organisations that instigate, finance, organise, facilitate or engage in perpetration of acts of terrorism or other illegal activities;
- instructed the Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its Organized Forms to elaborate the Draft Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement proposed by Ministry of Interior of Russian Federation, concerning the cooperation in combating international terrorism.

The Participating Delegation expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Ukraine and in particular to the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine for having taken the initiative of this Meeting and for the excellent Meeting framework and hospitality in Kyiv.

This Joint Statement was done in Kyiv, on March 15th, 2002.

For the Ministry of Public Order of the Republic of Albania

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

For the Ministry of Public Order of the Hellenic Republic

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova

For the Ministry of Interior of Romania

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine