



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

**Permanent International Secretariat**

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**REPORT OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON  
HEALTH CARE AND PHARMACEUTICS**

**Istanbul, 23-24 May 2013**

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Health Care and Pharmaceutics was held in Istanbul, at the BSEC Headquarters, on 23-24 May 2013.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Ms. Nune BAKUNTS, Head of Legal Instruments and Document Flow Management Division, State Hygiene and Anti-Epidemic Inspectorate, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:  
  
Republic of Armenia  
Georgia  
Hellenic Republic  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Republic of Turkey  
Ukraine

The List of Participants is attached as **Annex I**.

4. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

## **STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL**

5. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the BSEC Economic Agenda: Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership adopted by the BSEC Council (Belgrade, 11 June 2012) and endorsed by the Summit (Istanbul, June 2012).

6. The participants were informed of the (Istanbul, 15 December 2012) Document “Way Forward for an Action Plan on the Implementation of the Economic Agenda towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership”, approved by the BSEC Council, as guidelines for enhancing cooperation in the field of Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.

7. BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the BSEC Public Communication Strategy, adopted by the BSEC Council (Belgrade, 11 June 2012) and the need to integrate it in the WG Manual.

8. Issues pertaining from the Resolutions, Decisions, Recommendation and recommendations of Councils and Declarations of Ministers responsible for Health and Pharmaceuticals were discussed under the relevant Agenda Items.

## **CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON HEALTH CARE AND PHARMACEUTICS FOR 2012 – 2013**

9. The Draft Action Plan was discussed and adopted. The Plan, as adopted, is attached as **Annex III**.

## **EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES, PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION MEASURES AND OF MEASURES OF DIAGNOSTICS AND TREATMENT OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES**

10. The participants decided to discuss the relevant elements of this Agenda Item within the scope of the next Agenda Items.

## **DISCUSSION ON ELABORATION OF A JOINT STRATEGY OF THE SYSTEM OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE WITHIN BSEC**

11. Following the recommendations under the Goal 7 of the Way Forward for an Action Plan of the Implementation of the BSEC Economic Agenda towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership, the Member States agreed on a proposal by the Hellenic Republic on the establishment of a network for the epidemiological surveillance within the BSEC region.

12. The relevant updated Concept Paper will be presented by the Hellenic Republic.

13. The Hellenic Republic proposed to organize an expert-level Meeting with a view to elaborate the activities of the network.

14. In this regard, the Member States agreed to update the relevant Agenda Item of the Meeting of the Working Group to correspond to the common vision on the establishment of the network.

#### **STATE OF AFFAIRS REGARDING THE AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SANITARY PROTECTION OF THE TERRITORIES OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**

15. The Member States presented information on the process of internal procedures in their countries, aimed at signing of the Agreement.

16. The representative of the Republic of Armenia, as an incoming BSEC Chairman-in-Office, informed the Working Group that it intends to organize the signing ceremony of the said Agreement at the Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States scheduled to be held in December 2013.

17. Some Member States informed that they were not in a position to sign the said document due to their international commitments.

18. The delegations of the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation informed about their readiness to sign the Agreement.

19. The Working Group noted that the Republic of Moldova had officially informed on its readiness to sign the Agreement (Note No.: CR 3086 of 2 March 2012 circulated by BSEC PERMIS Note No.: BS/INFO.2012.0147 dated 5 March 2012).

20. The Working Group requested the Country-Coordinator and BSEC PERMIS to obtain the information from the Member States on their intention/readiness to sign the Agreement.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION IN THE SPHERE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE OF MEDICINES**

21. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic proposed amendments to the text of the Draft Memorandum of Understanding.

22. The delegations agreed to task BSEC PERMIS to disseminate the amended text of the MoU to the Member States for further consideration. The text, as amended, is attached is **Annex IV**.

#### **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FUND AND REGIONAL PROJECTS**

23. BSEC PERMIS informed the delegations that the Fund is in the process of restructuring, therefore any new projects cannot be financed for the time-being.

#### **ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (UN, WHO, EU, ETC.) IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE AND PHARMACEUTICS**

24. BSEC PERMIS reported that so far no active communication with international organizations has been realized since the last Working Group Meeting.

25. The Secretariat also informed that Euroconvention Global is organizing a Health Care Investment Conference in Baku on 5-6 June 2013.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

26. The delegation of the Hellenic Republic informed the participants on the Panhellenic Congress on Crisis Management in the Health Sector to be held in Athens on 8-10 November 2013.

27. The delegation of the Republic of Armenia informed that no Meeting of the Ministers of Health of the BSEC Member States is planned to be held during the Armenian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office.

#### **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

28. The date and the venue of the next Meeting will be communicated to the Member States in due course by PERMIS.

#### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**

29. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials to be held in Odessa on 19-20 June 2013.