



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**REPORT
OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON HEALTHCARE AND PHARMACEUTICS**

Istanbul, 18 September 2014

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Health Care and Pharmaceutics was held in Istanbul on 18 September 2014.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Ambassador Michael CHRISTIDES, Coordinator of the Hellenic BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office, and Mr. Panos EFSTATHIOU, Ph.D., M.D., Commander, National Health Operations Center, Ministry of Health of the Hellenic Republic.
3. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following BSEC Member States:

Republic of Armenia
Republic of Azerbaijan
Republic of Bulgaria
Hellenic Republic
Republic of Moldova
Russian Federation
Republic of Turkey

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**.

DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF THE DOCUMENT FILE FOR THE MEETING OF THE MENISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH AND PHARMACEUTICS OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES:

Network for Emergency Preparedness and Response within the BSEC Region (Healthcare and Pharmaceutics)

5. The Participants discussed the text of the document on the establishment of a Network for the Emergency Preparedness & Response to Health Threats within the BSEC Region, proposed and approved by the Experts Meeting held on July 7, 2014 in Athens. The text was amended and agreed. The text, as agreed, is attached as **Annex III**.

6. The Working Group on Healthcare and Pharmaceutics proposed that the Network for Emergency Preparedness and Response within the BSEC Region (Healthcare and Pharmaceutics) be approved with a Joint Declaration of the Meeting of the Ministers in Charge of Healthcare and Pharmaceutics of the BSEC Member States to be held in Athens on 29 September 2014.

Draft Declaration of the Meeting of the Ministers in Charge of Healthcare and Pharmaceutics to be held in Athens on September 29, 2014

7. The Working Group on Healthcare and Pharmaceutics discussed, amended and agreed on the text of a Joint Declaration and submits it for adoption by the Meeting of the Ministers in Charge of Healthcare and Pharmaceutics of the BSEC Member States to be held in Athens on 29 September 2014. The said draft Declaration, as agreed, is attached as **Annex IV**.

8. The Working Group submits for consideration of the next meeting of the CSO the following decision to be adopted by the Council of MFA:

“The Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs endorsed the Joint Declaration of the Meeting of the Ministers in Charge of Healthcare and Pharmaceutics of the BSEC Member States held in Athens on 29 September 2014 by which a Network for Emergency Preparedness and Response within the BSEC Region (Healthcare and Pharmaceutics) has been established”

STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL OF MFA:

9. BSEC PERMIS reminded of the Resolution of the BSEC Council, held in Belgrade on 19 April 2007 the Member States, where as the Member States are expected “to appoint representatives to the Working Groups on a long-term basis and act as their national contact points in respective Groups”. The Member States who have not done so yet are invited to appoint their permanent representatives to the Working Group.

10. So far nine Member States have appointed their representatives to the Group. The list of the Member States’ representatives, as of August 2014, is attached as **Annex V**.

11. The Working Group discussed and amended the text of the new Terms of Reference (agreed upon at the Meeting of the Working Group on 25 March 2014, but returned to the Group for further reviewing by the subsequent Meeting of the CSO), attached as **Annex VI**, and

submitted for consideration at the next Meeting of the CSO the following decision to be adopted by the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs:

“The Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs approved the new Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.”

12. The BSEC PERMIS informed that there are no developments on the “Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Sanitary Protection of the Territories of the BSEC Member States”. So far only 2 (two) Member States have officially informed BSEC PERMIS of their readiness to sign it. The Working Group decided that the issue of the aforementioned Agreement stay open for the next Working Group meeting.

13. The BSEC PERMIS informed that the text of the Draft MoU on Information Exchange and Cooperation in the Sphere of Quality Assurance of Medicines agreed upon at the last meeting of the WG (Sofia, 25 March, 2014), was returned to the Working Group on Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals for further consideration by the CSO (29-30 April 2014). The Working Group considered the text and requested the Member States to submit their proposals in writing till the end of 2014.

The “Way Forward for an Action Plan on the Implementation of the Economic Agenda 2012”

14. The BSEC PERMIS informed the participants of the model how to prepare the Action Plan of the WG, as stipulated by the “BSEC Economic Agenda Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership” (Economic Agenda 2012), adopted by the BSEC Council (Belgrade, 11 June 2012) and endorsed by the BSEC Summit (Istanbul, 26 June 2012).

15. The Member States are invited to make their suggestions till the end of 2014, for the Country-Coordinator to prepare the next Draft Action Plan of the Working Group.

Guidelines for the BSEC Project Management Unit

16. The BSEC PERMIS informed the participants of the “Guidelines for the BSEC Project Management Unit” adopted by a Resolution at the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Varna, 19 June 2014). A booklet with the Guidelines for the BSEC Project Management Unit was distributed among the participants.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

17. The delegation of the Russian Federation informed the participants of the following events planned to be held in the Russian Federation in 2015-2016:

- International Conference ‘National Approaches to the Assurance of Quality, Efficiency and Safety of Medical Products in the BSEC Member States’ (Moscow);
- International Forum ‘Innovational Approaches to Diagnostics and Treatment of Socially Significant Ophthalmological Pathologies in Children and Adults in the BSEC Member States’ (Sochi);
- Forum on Promotion of Healthy Way of Life in the BSEC Member States (St. Petersburg).

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

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

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

19. The present Report was adopted for submission to the next Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials to be held in Istanbul on 21-22 October 2014.
