



**BS/TA/R(94)1**

**REPORT**

**OF THE MEETING OF THE EXPERTS  
OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD  
OF TOURISM AMONG THE PARTICIPATING STATES  
OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

**Izmir, 25-27 October 1994**

1. The Meeting of the Experts of Technical Cooperation in the Field of Tourism among the Participating States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (ME) was held on 25-27 October 1994 in Izmir, Turkey.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Sezer Türktan, Head of the Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation Department, Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey.
3. The Meeting was attended by the following Participating States of the BSEC:
  - Republic of Albania
  - Republic of Armenia
  - Republic of Azerbaijan
  - Republic of Bulgaria
  - Republic of Georgia
  - Hellenic Republic
  - Republic of Moldova
  - Romania
  - Russian Federation
  - Republic of Turkey
  - Ukraine
4. The representative of the Slovak Republic attended the Meeting as an Observer.
5. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Turkish Development and Education Foundation (TUGEV), Turkish Hotel Union (TUROB), Turkish Travel Agency Union (TURSAB), Turkish Marine and Yacht Union (MAR-YAT) and Turkish Investors Association (TYD) as guests.

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

6. The draft agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The said Agenda is attached as Annex II.

### **PRESENTATION BY THE PARTICIPATING STATES**

7. The Experts made introductory remarks regarding their countries' potential for technical cooperation in the field of tourism. It was underlined that there exists a reasonable capacity for technical cooperation in the BSEC Participating States.\_

8. The ME decided to recommend to the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Tourism to call upon the Participating States to cooperate in providing training possibilities in their educational facilities to trainees from other Participating States in the following fields:

- Management in the field of tourism;
- vocational training for service personnel in the field of tourism;
- training for tour operators;
- on-the-job training in the field activities of travel agencies.

9. During the discussions, the Experts formulated specific requirements and proposals for technical cooperation in the field of tourism, both in general and bilateral terms, such as the provision of human and financial resources.

10. The ME discussed the possibilities for combining active tourism with the following alternative types of tourism:

- health tourism;
- hunting and fishing tourism;
- winter tourism;
- ecotourism;
- tourism related to international fairs and exhibitions;
- yacht tourism;
- specialists' tourism.

11. The ME emphasized the importance of the involvement of the private sector in the field of technical cooperation on tourism.

12. The ME welcomed the idea of organizing bilateral meetings of the representatives of the private sector in the field of tourism.

13. The ME also welcomed the proposal of convening a meeting of airline companies of the BSEC Participating States.

14. The ME decided to recommend to the Working Group to instruct the BSEC Coordination Center for the Exchange of Statistical Data and Economic Information within the State Institute of Statistics of Turkey to compile updated information to be received from the Participating States on their passport regime, visa formalities, custom regulations and distribute them to the Participating States through the Permanent International Secretariat.

15. The ME emphasized the importance of creating a positive public opinion in the field of tourism.

16. The ME considered the idea of creating a hotel chain in the BSEC region.

17. Some countries offered their readiness to provide consultancy services in the following areas:

- preparation of laws and legislations in the field of tourism;
- preparation of tourism master plans;
- production of promotional material.

18. The ME emphasized the need for exchanging statistical data concerning the existing potential of each BSEC Participating State for a better cooperation in the following areas:

- accommodation facilities;
- tourism flow;
- travel agencies;
- transport systems.

19. The ME decided to recommend to the Working Group on Cooperation in Tourism to instruct the Secretariat to contact international organizations such as the World Tourism Organization, International Labor Organization, etc., for possible assistance in the field of tourism.

20. The ME considered the idea of TICA acting as a coordinating body among the BSEC Participating States for bilateral technical cooperation projects in the field of tourism. The ME noted the statement by TICA that the Participating States are welcomed to contact TICA for the above mentioned purpose.

### **BILATERAL CONTACTS ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES**

21. During the Meeting, contacts were held among the experts from the BSEC Participating States. These working contacts and consultations reflected the mutual readiness for technical cooperation on a bilateral level in the field of tourism.

The result of bilateral contacts conducted in a round-table form is reflected in the document attached as Annex III.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

23. The participants expressed their thanks to the Republic of Turkey 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**

24. The participants pointed out that very concrete results had been obtained during the present Meeting and decided to appeal to the future host countries of the meetings of the Working Group on Cooperation in Tourism to consider the possibility of holding similar concurrent meetings of experts.

### **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

26. The ME adopted the present report for submission to the closing session of the Working Group on Cooperation in Tourism.

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