



**Annex III to BS/ENM/R(2009)1**

**YEREVAN DECLARATION ON  
ENERGY COOPERATION IN THE BSEC REGION  
YEREVAN, REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA, 20 MARCH 2009**

**We, the Ministers of Energy of the BSEC Member States having gathered in Yerevan on 20 March 2009 to discuss the state of cooperation in the field of energy and to define the ways and means of intensifying our cooperation in the framework of BSEC, as well as between the BSEC and the EU:**

*Emphasizing* the need to ensure energy security and the reliable energy supplies in the BSEC region;

*Acknowledging* in this context the ever increasing importance and significance of the wider Black Sea area for regional, European and wider international energy security and the need for broad international cooperation;

*Guided* by the provisions of the Istanbul Summit Declaration, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of BSEC Member States on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BSEC on 25 June 2007 in Istanbul, as well as other BSEC Declarations;

*Reaffirming* our commitment to the provisions of BSEC Declarations and Joint Statement on Cooperation in Energy, adopted by BSEC Ministers of Energy in Baku (2003), Alexandroupolis (2005), Sochi (2006) and Kyiv (2008);

*Attaching* great importance to the cooperation in the field of energy between the BSEC and the EU in order to develop secure, stable and integrated energy markets;

*Taking* into account the EU energy policies towards the Black Sea and Caspian region, in particular regional initiatives, programs and projects in the field of energy and underlining the need for closer coordination to enhance the synergy effect;

*Welcoming* in this regard the adoption of the "Proposals for the Joint BSEC-EU Plan of Action in Energy" and expressing our commitment to its further elaboration;

*Considering* the possibility of developing, together with interested parties, the regional cooperation in the field of energy as a foundation for sustainable development in the wider Black Sea area, as well as between the BSEC and the EU;

*Recognizing* BSEC as an advanced, inclusive and comprehensive institutional cooperation framework in the Black Sea Region and the need for additional measures to further promote cooperation in the field of energy;

*Welcoming* the work done by ICBSS on the regional energy studies;

**Have agreed to:**

*Undertake* collective efforts towards elaboration of a common approach to energy security in the wider Black Sea area;

*Develop* inter-system connections of the energy markets of the BSEC Member States with the aim to further integrate them as well as diminish individual risks of the BSEC Member States;

*Facilitate* the development of infrastructure to ensure the integration of the energy markets of the BSEC and the EU Member States, diversification of energy supplies and enhancing energy security both at the national level, as well as at the level of the BSEC and the EU;

*Encourage* cooperation with the Energy Community and make efforts towards further development of the integrated energy market in the South-Eastern Europe linked to the EU market;

*Study* the possibility of the elaboration of projects of common interest for the BSEC and the EU in the sectors of oil, natural gas and electricity as well as in renewable energy and energy efficiency;

*Elaborate* a coordinated policy among BSEC Member States towards the increasing of energy efficiency and development of renewable sources of energy. Develop practical and purpose-oriented cooperation to adhere in this direction with the EU;

*Take* steps to further elaborate on the Joint BSEC-EU Plan of Action in energy with the aim of its adoption by both sides;

*Organize* in due course a conference on energy to discuss the outcomes of the regional studies and define ways for elaboration of the BSEC regional energy strategy.

We express our gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for the warm hospitality and excellent organization of the present Ministerial Meeting.