



**SECRETARIATUL NATIONAL ROMAN
RETEAUA UNIVERSITATILOR DE LA MAREA NEA**

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MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI NAȚIONALE

Minutes of the Meeting

Between March 5th and 7th, 2017, Prof. Eden Mamut, Secretary General of the Black Sea Universities Network, participated to an official visit in Turkey at the Meeting of Secretaries General of the Parliaments of the BSEC Member States.

On this occasion, on March 5th, it was organized a working meeting with BSEC Secretary General, Amb. Michael Christides. At the meeting there were also present Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Sergei Goncharenko and Executive Director, Amb. Bratislav Dordević.

The two Secretaries General informed on the activities of their respective organizations and held a detailed exchange of views on a number of issues of shared interest, with a view to develop collaboration on possible joint projects, especially in Education, Science and Technology and other areas of importance to the BSEC region. During the meeting it was evaluated the cooperation activity between BSUN and BSEC and there were identified new opportunities for cooperation for the next period. They agreed that the BSUN, as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner of BSEC, could substantially help to broaden cooperation among BSEC Member States in a number of areas, as it coordinates some of the activities of a large Universities-Network in the region.

As a first step, much more emphasis could be put to participate at each other's most important meetings; i.e. meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education (Moscow, 19 April 2018), and the BSUN 2018 Congress (Thessaloniki, 18-19 June 2018).

As a result of discussions, the parties agreed to strengthen collaboration in the field of education by offering to the BSUN representatives a visible role in the sessions of the Working Group on Education. BSEC PERMIS shall recommend to the Member states to assign a subject on the agenda of the working group to BSUN in order to present a report on the current problems on higher education from the Black Sea Region.

A special interest on behalf of the BSEC PERMIS representatives was given to the BSUN initiative for a regional master program focused on the Black Sea studies. With the assistance of the BSUN, the BSEC PERMIS will identify and propose as fast as possible to the Country-Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Education (Russian Federation) items of shared interest, to be included if possible in the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Working Group (Moscow, 19 April 2018), as follows: Master Degree Programme on Black Sea Studies; mobility of students and academic staff among the Universities from BSEC Member States.

The proposal for the cooperation initiative regarding the implementation of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in the BSEC countries was welcomed. BSUN is preparing the 2018 Congress on „UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in the Black Sea Region: from

Science to Implementation”, which will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece. The BSEC representatives expressed their support for the actions that will be developed by BSUN in this respect.

It has been agreed that BSEC will support and promote the KNOASEE Consortium – Knowledge Alliance on Space Technologies and Satellite Data Processing between universities, enterprises and research institutes, initiated by BSUN.

A special attention was given to the BSUN intention to apply for the selection process within the European Council initiative “European University”. The parties agreed to develop a coordinated action plan in order to ensure the required premises for BSUN to be selected as one of the EU university networks which will receive the statute of “European University”. Whenever useful and pertinent the BSEC PERMIS will, in coordination with the BSUN, include issues concerning Education in the agenda of the BSEC-COEST annual meetings.

Prof. Mamut presented the experience of BSUN in organizing Innovation Clusters involving Universities, innovative companies, Chambers of Commerce, local authorities and other stakeholders. This activity started in 2013 with the initiation of the MEDGreen Cluster Specialized on Ecotechnologies and Alternative Energy Sources, are continued with the establishment of the Cluster “Danube-Danube Delta- Black Sea – 3D-BS” specialized on blue growth initiative and recently there is under development a Cluster on Traditional Food Processing. In this context, Prof. Mamut was invited to join the BSEC Workshop on Project Promotion that will be organized on March 28th, 2018 and to present the BSUN activities in general and the experience on developing Innovation Clusters.

The BSEC PERMIS will address a letter to the BSUN with the kind request to disseminate through its Universities Network information on the Western Silk Road Tourism Academic Network.

The two Secretaries General agreed to regularly inform each other on the activities of their respective organizations and to meet more often in the future in order to consolidate and accelerate cooperation between the two organizations.

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