



REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTENEGRIN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE OF THE SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN COOPERATION PROCESS (SEECP)

23 June 2010 - 30 June 2011

Montenegro took over the Chairmanship-in-Office of the South East European Cooperation Process at the Istanbul Summit of the SEECP on 23 June 2010.

Montenegro is aware of the importance of cooperation among states and continuous exchange of views and ideas on issues of common interest and has paid a special attention and made concrete efforts to its Chairmanship-in-Office of the SEECP.

From the beginning of our Chairmanship-in-Office, we were strongly committed to the implementation of priorities and activities of the SEECP.

During its CiO of SEECP, Montenegro has been focused on efficient activities and further developments of relations in the field of justice and home affairs, defense policy, parliamentary cooperation, anticorruption and organized crime.

During the Chairmanship-in-Office were organized following meetings:

First Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors was held on 10 September in Podgorica

Priorities and Calendar of Events were presented at this meeting, as well as motto of Montenegrin CiO "Common goals through Regional Cooperation".

First Coordination Meeting of the SEECP Troika, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and European Commission was held on 16 September in Sarajevo

The Coordination Meeting was a good opportunity to discuss envisaged activities in the context of the implementation of the priorities of the SEECP Chairmanship-in-Office of Montenegro and the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013.

Second Coordination Meeting of the SEECP Troika, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and European Commission was held on 2 December in Sarajevo

The meeting served as good opportunity to discuss common future activities in the process of streamlining of regional task forces and initiatives in South East Europe in relation to the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013, in particular the draft questionnaire to be addressed to regional taskforces and initiatives.

Conference of the National Councils of the European Movement in the South-East Europe was organized by European Movement in Montenegro, Montenegrin Chairmanship-in-Office of the SEECP and Regional Cooperation Council on 15 December in Podgorica

The Conference was organized with the aim to develop platform for enhancing relations between civil society and SEECP Participating States. Also, participants discussed modalities of concrete contribution of civil society to the SEE countries on their European path.

Meeting of the SEECP Heads of Consular Services was held on 19 January in Podgorica

At the Meeting participants exchanged experiences and practises of the SEE countries related to the visa issues and consular protection.

Second Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors was held on 27 January 2011 in Becici (Budva)

The Political Directors discussed activities and the meetings in the framework of CiO of the SEECP, as well as the current situation in the region, focusing on advancement of the SEECP Participating States towards EU and NATO.

Informal Meeting of the SEECP Ministers of Foreign Affairs was organized on 28 January 2011 in Budva

Informal ministerial meeting, titled: „Common goals through Regional cooperation“, held in Budva was, in particular, significant for further deepening of cooperation among Participating States in the areas of mutual interest, and strengthening the role which the SEECP, through the implementation of the European standards, has in the region.

On the margins of the meeting in Budva, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro, Milan Roćen and Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Hido Biscevic signed the Protocol on proclaiming Cetinje as the seat of the RCC Secretariat Task Force on Culture and Society.

Third Coordination Meeting of the SEECP Troika, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and European Commission was done on 7 March 2011 in Sarajevo

The Coordination meeting discussed ways of further advancing practical coordination of the activities between the SEECP and the RCC as well as the possibility to achieve harmonization between the activities. Also, the further steps and activities in the process of streamlining of regional task forces and initiatives in South East Europe in relation to the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013 were discussed.

Meeting of the Ministers of Defense was conducted on 14-15 March in Budva

The meeting was a confirmation of the commitment of all actors involved in a common regional approach to the reform of military-security sector. Ministers adopted the Joint Statement in which the positive progress in SEE is ascertained in the area of consolidation of stability, prosperity and good neighborly relations in the whole region.

Meeting of the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs was held on 16-18 March 2011 in Budva

At the Regional conference on the topic: “Strengthening Cooperation in the fight against Organized Crime in SEE“, two documents were adopted: “The Common Declaration of SEECP Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs regarding the endorsement of the Regional Strategic Document 2011-2013 and the Action Plan for its implementation” and “Budva Declaration on strengthening regional co-operation and co-ordination in the fight against organized crime in the countries of South East Europe”.

Ministers, as well as representatives of the international and regional organizations fully supported the endorsement of the RSD, which is considered as a multilateral approach, a comprehensive and useful framework for ensuring direct cooperation and harmonization with EU and international standards

The Meeting of Ministers for Sustainable Development and Energy was held on 8 April 2011 in Budva

The meeting on the theme „Green economy in the energy sector in the context of sustainable development” served as the first joint activity of the SEECP countries in their preparation for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The Declaration was adopted thereby.

The Meeting of General Directors for Emergency Management of the South-East Europe – 20-22 April, Budva

The Meeting was focused on organization and functioning of protection and rescue system in SEE countries.

The Constitutional Meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group was done on 5-6 May 2011 in Podgorica

At the first Meeting Rules of Procedure and Scope of Activities, together with Programme of the Working Group for the next period were adopted. Also, it was considered the Report on the Development of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension, encompassing overview of the major phases in SEECP parliamentary cooperation.

The IV Coordination Meeting of the SEECP Troika, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and European Commission was held on 11 May 2011 in Sarajevo

Coordination meeting demonstrated once again the efficient coordination between RCC and SEECP in the context of the upcoming high-level SEECP political events and consequently further ensure a synergetic cooperation in the context of taking over the Chairmanship-in-Office of the SEECP.

Regional Conference on Nuclear Energy on the theme “Global trends and perspectives in the South-East Europe” held on 10-12 May in Podgorica

Participants underlined the significance of nuclear energy in terms of energy efficiency and discussed about global trends and perspectives in the SEE.

The Meeting of the Directors of National Institutions and Agencies for combating Corruption and Organized crime was held on 9-10 May 2011 in Budva in close cooperation with the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI).

Relevant authorities exchanged the opinions and experiences on modalities of further strengthening regional dialogue and common efforts in combating corruption and organized crime.

The 3rd Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors was held on 30 May 2011 in Podgorica

The Political Directors discussed the first draft of the SEECP Summit Declaration.

The second Meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group was held on 13 June 2011 in Budva

Parliamentary Dimension Working Group prepared the Report of the activities with the aim of finding modalities for further development of parliamentary dimension.

IX Conference of the SEECP Speakers of Parliaments on 13-15 June in Budva

Speakers of SEECP Parliaments discussed about strengthening the ties between parliament and government in the process of European integration and adopted the Declaration and Report of the activities of Parliamentary dimension Working group.

Summit of the Heads of State/Government of the SEECP Participating States – 30 June Sveti Stefan (Budva)

Summit of the Heads of State/Government of the South East European Cooperation Process was held on 30 June 2011, at the Island Sveti Stefan.

Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors- 27 June 2011 in Becici (Budva)

RCC Annual Meeting – 28 June 2011 in Becici (Budva)

Art Exhibition of the relevant painters from SEECP Participating States-28 June 2011 on Cetinje.

The Meeting of the SEECP Ministers of Foreign Affairs – 29 June in Becici (Budva)

All documents adopted at the abovementioned meeting can be found at the following link:

<http://www.mip.gov.me/en/index.php/SEECP-Montenegrin-presidency/documents2803.html>