## SOCIETATEA ROMANA DE TELEVIZIUNE



Calea Dorobantilor nr. 191, sect.1 Cod 71281, Bucuresti ROMANIA Tel. + 40 1 230.57.10 Fax: + 40 1 230.03.81

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## **DECLARATION**

of the First Meeting of the Public Broadcasters from the Members States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Bucharest, 16 – 17 May 2001

- 1. The Heads of the Public Broadcasters from the Member States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine gathered in Bucharest on 16-17 May 2001, reaffirming their commitment to the basic principles of freedom of expression and information, stated their belief that an expanded cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters of the Member States of the Organisation of the BSEC will play an important role in promoting friendship and understanding among the peoples in the area, in shaping public opinion with a view of deepening multilateral cooperation and fostering a high degree of integration in the Black Sea Region as part of a free and undivided Europe.
- 2. Therefore, in order to enrich and better cover information on major economic, political, social and cultural developments in the BSEC Member States, they agreed upon on the following framework of multilateral cooperation:
  - a. to produce and to broadcast, on a reciprocal basis, programs and documentaries on the countries of the region, facilitating accession by the citizens to reliable and comprehensive information about the most important events taking place in the countries of the Black Sea Region;
  - b. to initiate bi-lateral and multi-lateral meetings aimed at reaching agreements on realisation of coproductions on TV series and feature films;
  - c. to organise and to participate in joint professional training programs;
  - d. to establish a regional channel for daily news exchange, with support provided by the European Broadcasting Union.

The Romanian Television Society submitted a bilateral project agreement to be considered by the participants.

- 3. The Heads of the Public Broadcasters appreciated the efforts by the Romanian Television Society in organising the Meeting under the auspices of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.
- 4. The participants made a preliminary exchange of views on the possibility of setting up of a proper framework of multilateral cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters and decided to take it up as the main item of the next meeting.

To this end, the participants agreed upon to set up the Coordinating Group composed by the representatives of the Public National Televisions of Georgia, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine.

The Coordinating Group is called upon to evaluate the proposal of creating a BSEC Television regional channel, to work out the draft of the framework of the future Organisation of the Public Broadcasters of the BSEC Member States and to prepare the second meeting of the public televisions.

The participants also agreed examine the possibility of producing a joint documentary film of 10-15 minutes, covering the main goals and projects of the BSEC and its Parliamentary Assembly, to be presented by all 11 public televisions free of charge.

The participants decided to hold the Second Meeting in May 2002 in Greece.

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