



PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (1st half 2011 or November 2010 / Becici - May 2011 / Ohrid)

1 Policy actions

(e.g. essential changes in the political authorities, administrative bodies, agencies, institutions, personnel, development/launch of new national funding programmes, etc.)

N/A

2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

N/A

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

a) CEI International Scientific Conference “Research & Development as the Basis for Innovation in Creating the Competitive Region”, organised at the Academy of Sciences of Montenegro, Podgorica, 12-13 November 2010

Mr. Giorgio Rosso Cicogna, CEI Alternate Secretary General made a presentation on the subject which was the object of in-depth discussions, as indicated in the conclusions of the Conference. The participants of the Conference adopted and proclaimed a *Declaration*, on the basis of which the Conference has called upon all National Science Academies and science institutions to publicize the *Declaration* to political leaders, other scientific organizations, civil society organizations and educational institutions. (see Declaration attached for ready reference)

b) Ministerial Meeting of the CEI Ministers of Economic Affairs, Podgorica, Montenegro, 28 October 2010

The topic was raised and discussed in general terms during the meeting.

¹ The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage (www.wbc-inco.net) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to office@zwbc-inco.net until May 15, 2011.

c) CEI International Conference on Next Generation Biofuels, organised at the Hungarian Academy of Science in Budapest on 24-25 May 2011: event fully dedicated to the state of the art and prospects of NGB in the CEI Region

d) CEI Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology in September/October 2011: R&D on Next Generation Biofuels will be included as a prominent topic.

e) CEI Ministerial Meeting on Regional Energy Cooperation with a back-to-back Expert Meeting on Energy, to be held in Belgrade in September 2011: Prospects for Next Generation Biofuels will be one of the topics.

4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

(e.g. new bilateral/international agreements, memberships, support structures, important international projects, programmes, etc.)

Collecting support at Governmental level as well as from the scientific communities in CEI Member Countries in order to define a dedicated, integrated, interdisciplinary regional project on Next Generation Biofuels, conceived in order to attract several funding instruments from the European Commission to be distributed among beneficiaries according to the status of the respective countries vs. the European Union (EU Members, Candidate and future candidate countries, Neighbours).

5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

N/A

6 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months

Any contribution and/or suggestion from the members/participants to the Steering Platform on Research in WBC would be greatly appreciated and will be used in the definition of the Plan of Action of the CEI Secretariat in the next semester, which already looks very intensive.

Appendix: additional data

Declaration produced as a result of the CEI International Scientific Conference “Research & Development as the Basis for Innovation in Creating the Competitive Region”, organised at the Academy of Sciences of Montenegro, Podgorica, 12-13 November 2010