



**REPORT  
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL  
COOPERATION COUNCIL SECRETARIAT**

**For the period 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013**

**BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE REGIONAL  
COOPERATION COUNCIL**

**SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL IN LINE  
WITH ARTICLE 10 OF THE STATUTE OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL**

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This report on the activities of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat is submitted by the Secretary General of the RCC to the RCC Board in line with Article 10 of the Statute of the RCC. It covers the period 8 October 2012–15 February 2013.

## **I. Summary of activities**

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps within the implementation of the second phase (2012) of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) 2011-2013, particularly aimed at an efficient and target-oriented, regionally owned and all-inclusive regional cooperation, as well as by intensive consultations of the RCC Secretary General (SG) with a number of RCC participants (Annex I: Report on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013, Annex II: List of events and meetings attended by the RCC SG and the RCC Secretariat officials in the period 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013; Annex III: List of Planned events of the RCC Secretariat in 2013, Annex VI: List of Abbreviations). In parallel, the RCC Secretariat was fully engaged in the preparations of the new RCC SWP 2014-2016 and the South East Europe (SEE) 2020 Strategy. To this effect, a comprehensive consultation process has been initiated and numerous workshops and brainstorming meetings have been organized.

The RCC Secretariat continued to monitor closely the overall developments in the region, in particular those related to regional cooperation activities in general as well as those within the EU Enlargement process.

The eighteenth RCC Board meeting, among other important issues, discussed and approved the Report of the RCC Secretary General on the Activities of the RCC Secretariat and on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 4 May-5 October 2012, as well as tasked the RCC Secretariat to prepare the first draft text of a new Statute of the RCC. The ninth meeting of the Financial Sub-Committee to the RCC Board recommended to the RCC Board to adopt the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013. Having in mind that technically it was not possible to adopt the Decision on the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013 at the Board meeting, the Decision was adopted by the RCC Board through written (silent) procedure.

Following the consultations of the outgoing and the new RCC SG with number of RCC participants, the RCC Secretariat with the consent of the new RCC SG, proposed changes in Annex I (List of Participants of RCC) and in Annex II (Statute of RCC) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC and prepared an appropriate draft Decision which was sent to the RCC Board for adoption through written (silent) procedure. However, the RCC Board did not reached consensus and the draft Decision was not adopted.

The tenth Coordination meeting between the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) Troika, the RCC Secretariat and European Union (EU) reflected, inter alia, on the status of the RCC within the SEECP, and discussed issues related to the adjustments in the RCC Statute to the new realities in SEE.

The first meeting of the SEECP Political Directors, organized by the SEECP C-i-O 2012–2013 in Skopje in October 2012, discussed the SEECP C-i-O's priorities, programme and calendar of events, as well as exchanged views regarding the preparations of the RCC SWP 2014-2016.

Following the RCC Board's decision on giving the mandate to the SEECP C-i-O to sign the Agreement on the Assumption of Duties with the new RCC SG, Mr. Goran Svilanovic visited Skopje and signed the Agreement with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013.

In the framework of the transition process between the outgoing and the new RCC SG, they visited Brussels and held joint meetings with the Director General for Enlargement in the European Commission (EC) and with the Managing Director for Europe (non-EU) in the European External Action Service (EEAS). Also, in the same context the new RCC SG visited the RCC Secretariat in Sarajevo and held meetings with the senior management and the staff from the organization's departments.

As a result of the consultations between the officials of the RCC and EU, in the December 2012 Conclusions of the Council of the EU on Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association Process an appropriate reference to the RCC was made.

The new RCC SG Mr. G. Svilanović assumed office as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 and in the period until 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013 held meetings and consultations with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP C-i-O for the period 2012–2013, as well as with the incoming and previous SEECP C-i-O (Romania and Serbia) and with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, he held consultations with the Deputy MFA of Greece and high-level official of EC, EEAS and EP in Brussels.

The Deputy RCC Secretary General (DSG)/Head of the Expert Pool, continued to be involved in managerial and steering bodies of different regional initiatives, to provide support in incubating new projects and organizing important events, to prepare Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with key partner organizations and to promote Regional Initiatives and Task Forces (RI&TFs). In this context, the RCC Secretariat signed the MoU with GIZ concerning the Open Regional Funds for SEE in the area of Foreign Trade Promotion, Energy Efficiency, Legal Reform and Modernisation of Municipal Services and the Cooperation Agreement with the European Training Foundation (ETF).

The 11<sup>th</sup> South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Meeting endorsed the initial set of 11 SEE 2020 Strategy headline targets, which were officially adopted at the SEEIC Ministerial Conference held in Tirana on 9 November 2012.

The third meeting of the Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI) Task Force discussed SEDRI's achievements and major issues in its implementation, prospects for further enriching and profiling of the initiative. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Ministers of Transport on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network encouraged the established cooperation with RCC in achieving the common aims to tackle the urgent horizontal policy and infrastructure issues.

The RCC Secretariat finalised the commissioning of the data base application designed to collect and integrate the statistical indicators of the Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism (M&EM). The first centralized statistical data is available from the end of September 2012 and will be presented during the envisaged Joined Meeting between Steering Group on Justice and Home Affairs Regional Strategic Document.

The Southeast European Defence Ministerial (SEDM) acknowledged that the new security environment calls for more intensive interaction among countries regarding peace and security and that has become a key issue in bilateral and multilateral relations.

The Ministerial Conference on National Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships, adopted a Joint Statement setting the ground for the establishment of the South East European Museums Network.

The International Conference “15 Years of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - Past, Presence and European Future of Region” gave an insight into the beginnings, achievements, challenges and perspectives of the inter-parliamentary cooperation in the region in the context of the European integration process.

The RCC Secretariat’s Liaison Office in Brussels contributed to the further development of cooperation with the EU institutions and other relevant Brussels based institutions and stakeholders, resulting in a number of important meetings held.

The RCC received the traditional *Sloboda* (Freedom) award for an extraordinary contribution to humanism, fight for human rights and freedom in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe and the world. The award reflects a growing recognition of RCC’s work to bring people in SEE closer together, through dialogue, good neighbourly relations, in an atmosphere of tolerance and cooperation.

## **II. General and institutional aspects of the RCC Secretariat's activities**

### ***RCC Board Meeting***

The eighteenth RCC Board meeting was held on 18 October 2012 in Sarajevo and was attended by the representatives of all Board participants, with exception of Ireland, Latvia and Moldova.

The RCC Secretary General presented his Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period 4 May–5 October 2012, briefed on the results of the Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU, presented the formal proposal of Kosovo\* to be represented effectively within the RCC and taking into account that this issue concerns also the RCC Statute proposed to merge it with the Agenda item related to the adjustments of the RCC Statute to the new realities in SEE. He also informed about the most important current and incoming activities of the RCC Secretariat and on his intention to continue holding regular consultations with RCC participants in view of raising the awareness and importance of strengthening further regional cooperation and enhancing the role of RCC, as well as about the state of contributions to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2012, underlining that several RCC Board participants still have not honoured their financial commitments for the year 2012, and that the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013 was conditionally approved by the Financial Sub-committee meeting held on 17 October 2012 in Sarajevo.

The Deputy SG/Head of Expert Pool informed on the activities and results achieved in each priority area of cooperation, in the context of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and on the most important future activities of the Expert pool.

The representative of the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 presented the priorities and the programme of the C-i-O focusing on the promotion of all-inclusiveness, regional ownership, political, security, trade, cultural, educational and other cooperation in the region under the motto "Solidarity in Action", as well as on strengthening of the cooperation within the SEECP Troika. He informed on the discussions of the Informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs held in New York and of the first SEECP Political Directors meeting held in Skopje, and on the future planned events, such as the second Informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs envisaged for the beginning of 2013.

The RCC Board participants expressed their gratitude to the RCC Secretary General for the results accomplished in the establishment phase of the organization and, together with the RCC Secretariat staff, in the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, pointing out the guidance and example provided by the RCC in the process of regional cooperation.

The RCC Board participants held in-depth discussions on the proposal of Kosovo\* to be represented effectively within the RCC and consequently on the proposal to adjust the RCC Statute in light of the new realities in SEE, expressing their positions on both issues.

The RCC SG proposed to the RCC Board to approve the initiative of drafting a new RCC Statute as outlined by several discussants and announced that he will consult on this matter with the new RCC SG and with RCC participants from and outside the region in order to ensure coherence and continuity of the process.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The RCC Board meeting reached the following conclusions: 1) Approved the Report of the RCC Secretary General on the Activities of the RCC Secretariat and on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 4 May-5 October 2012; 2) Tasked the RCC Secretariat to prepare the first draft text of a new Statute and to distribute it to the members of the RCC Board for their comments/suggestions/reviews by the end of December 2012.

The RCC Board meeting adopted the following decisions: 1) Decision on the dates of the meetings of the RCC Board in 2013; 2) Decision on giving the mandate to the SEECP C-i-O to sign the Agreement on the Assumption of Duties with the new RCC SG Mr. Goran Svilanovic.

In line with the Conclusions of the Board meeting, the RCC Secretariat has been engaged in the preparations of the first draft text of a new Statute of the RCC and, in light of Kosovo\*'s proposal, both the outgoing and the new RCC SG conducted a series of consultations with the RCC participants from and outside the region. Taking into account the outcome of these consultations and the positive developments within the framework of the EU facilitated dialogue on the implementation of the Arrangements Regarding Regional Representation and Cooperation it has emerged that Kosovo\*'s proposal should be addressed without undue delay, thus contributing to an environment conducive to ensure a durable solution for all-inclusiveness within the RCC.

As a result of the consultations, the RCC Secretariat with the consent of the new RCC SG, proposed limited changes in Annex I (List of Participants of RCC) and in Annex II (Statute of RCC) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC and prepared an appropriate draft Decision which was sent to the RCC Board for adoption through written (silent) procedure. However, the RCC Board did not reach consensus and the draft Decision was not adopted. Despite this outcome, the RCC Secretariat and the new RCC SG have continued with the consultations on this issue with the directly concerned Board participants with the aim of overcoming the differences over the issue.

The ninth meeting of the Financial Sub-Committee to the RCC Board, held on 17 October 2012, included presentations of the preliminary financial results of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2012, information on the principles of the budgeting process for the year 2013, followed by presentation of and discussions on the Budget for the year 2013. The Financial Sub-Committee recommended to the RCC Board to adopt the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013 (With the special Note made by one RCC Board participant: while accepting technically the proposed Budget for 2013, this RCC Board participant is pointing out to the necessity of re-discussing this Budget – especially on the budget line “Staff Cost” – with new management of the RCC Secretariat in the first half of the next year). Having in mind that technically it was not possible to adopt the Decision on the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013 at the Board meeting on 18 October 2012, the Decision was adopted by the RCC Board through written (silent) procedure on 22 November 2012.

### ***Coordination between the SEECP and the RCC***

The Coordination meeting of the SEECP Troika – The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania and the Republic of Serbia, the RCC Secretariat and the representatives of EU institutions was held on 17 October 2012 in Sarajevo.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



The Agenda of the meeting included: 1) Information on the most important activities pertaining to the priorities of the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 and of the RCC, in particular the implementation of its SWP 2011-2012; 2) Reflections on the status of the RCC within the SEECP; 3) Discussions on the adjustments of the RCC Statute to the new realities in SEE and 4) Further steps in the process of streamlining regional taskforces and initiatives in SEE.

The SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 commended the excellent working relations with the RCC Secretariat, underlining that in the course of the C-i-O it will pay particular attention to principles of good neighbourly relations, regional cooperation and reconciliation. Under the motto “Solidarity in action”, it will intensify cooperation in the region in the political, security, trade, cultural, educational and other fields in order to provide conditions for economic development and progress in European and Euro-Atlantic integration.

The Deputy RCC SG/Head of Expert Pool elaborated on the activities of the RCC Secretariat in the context of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and on the steps in the streamlining of regional task forces and initiatives in SEE.

The conclusions of the Coordination meeting proposed to the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 to examine the possible ways of structuring the debate on the future of regional cooperation within SEECP; to explore the possibility of defining better the status of RCC within the SEECP on the first appropriate occasion (e.g. next meeting of the SEECP Political Directors); and to the RCC Board to task the RCC Secretariat to prepare the first draft text of a new Statute for the RCC, with the aim to have the first exchange of views at the RCC Board meeting in February 2013.

The RCC SG participated in the first meeting of the SEECP Political Directors organized by the SEECP C-i-O 2012–2013 in Skopje. The participants were informed about the SEECP C-i-O’s priorities, programme and calendar of events. They exchanged views on the priorities of the SEECP in the context of the formulation of RCC SWP 2014-2016, among other important subjects for regional cooperation in SEE.

Following the Board Decision on giving the mandate to the SEECP C-i-O to sign the Agreement on the Assumption of Duties with the new RCC SG, Mr. G. Svilanovic, visited Skopje and signed with the Minister of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of the C-i-O the mentioned Agreement. During the visit, the new RCC SG held meetings with Minister N. Poposki and other officials of the C-i-O of the SEECP. He stressed his commitment to continue working on the promotion and enhancement of the regional cooperation process in SEE, informed on the preparations of the draft text of the new RCC Statute and of the RCC SWP 2014–2016 and underlined his determination to ensure that the principle of all-inclusiveness is fully applied within RCC’s activities.

Given the intention of the SEECP C-i-O to put the focus of the upcoming SEECP Summit in Ohrid on disaster risk reduction, the RCC Secretariat expressed its readiness to assist the efforts of the C-i-O in preparing this important event. In this context the RCC Senior Expert on Security Cooperation held a series of consultations and discussed in more details these issues.

### ***Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC participants***

The RCC SG Mr. H. Bišćević and the new RCC SG Mr. G. Svilanović held a joint meeting with the Director General for Enlargement in the European Commission (EC) and the Managing Director for Europe (non-EU) in the European External Action Service (EEAS). The RCC SG Mr. H. Bišćević also met with the Director for Enlargement and Europe (non-EU) of the Council General Secretariat,

the EPP President and the Director for European Policy Studies. The meetings included exchange of views about the overall political and economic situation in the region, the need to consolidate regional cooperation, the preparations of the new RCC SWP 2014-2016 and SEE 2020 strategy, the preparatory work for a new RCC Statute and on the future financing requirements for the activities of the RCC Secretariat. The RCC SG had suggested to the counterparts to include a reference on the RCC in the December EU Council Conclusions.

As a result of these consultations, in the December 2012 Council Conclusions on Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association Process the following reference on the RCC was included: “The Council recalls the role of the Regional Cooperation Council, welcoming its focus on the growth targets in the context of the SEE 2020 strategy, which aims to adapt the Europe 2020 process to the regional needs and realities.”

The RCC SG met, in separate meeting, with the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Austria and the Secretary General of OSCE and discussed issues pertinent for regional cooperation in SEE.

#### ***Participation of the RCC Secretary General in other regional meetings and events***

The RCC SG participated in a number of high-level regional events and international meetings with a regional dimension such as the Ministerial Conference – National Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships, the 4<sup>th</sup> Western Balkans Civil Society Forum, the Ministerial Conference of RCC’s South East Europe Investment Committee, EU – Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs, the Southeast Europe Defence Ministerial meeting, Conference on Financing Digitalization in Eastern Europe: The Challenges for Public Service Broadcasters, etc., and used the opportunity to present the main activities of the RCC.

#### ***Activities of the new RCC Secretary General***

The new RCC Secretary General Mr. Goran Svilanovic assumed the office as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2013 and in the period until the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013 held a series of meetings and consultations with high-level representatives of the RCC participants and other stakeholders involved in the regional cooperation in SEE.

In the framework of the regular dialogue with the RCC participants, the new RCC SG held consultations with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECPC-i-O 2012–2013, as well as of the incoming and previous SEECPC-i-O (Romania and Serbia) and with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, he held consultations with the Deputy MFA of Greece and high-level official of EC, EEAS and EP in Brussels. The new RCC SG presented the main priorities of the RCC in the first half of 2013, in particular those related to the preparation of the SEE 2020 Strategy and the RCC SWP 2014-2016 where the central pillar will be the SEE 2020; reflected on the preparations for the forthcoming RCC Board meeting and other issues of importance for RCC and the regional cooperation in general.

The new RCC SG also participated in a number of high-level regional events and international meetings with a regional dimension such as the IPA II Conference 2013 - Preparation for the new planning period 2014-2020 (IPA II), MARRI Regional Forum, Balkan Forum on Regional Cooperation and the Conference “The Balkans in Europe’s future: the Role of Serbia”.

### *Cooperation with the EU and other Brussels based institutions*

The RCC Liaison Office (LO) in Brussels continued with its contribution to the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and the preparation of the new SWP 2014-2016 and the SEE 2020 Strategy. Taking into account the importance of regional cooperation as an essential element of the Stabilization and Association Process and of the EU Enlargement process, the LO continued also to closely monitor the developments in this area within a wider regional context and those of the individual aspiring countries.

The RCC LO further enhanced and intensified cooperation with the EU institutions and bodies, primarily the EC, the European Parliament (EP), the EEAS and the General Secretariat of the Council (GSC), as well as with other relevant Brussels based institutions and stakeholders, such as NATO, IFI Coordination Office, European Policy Centre, Friends of Europe, etc. In this context, the RCC LO had a number of meetings with different representatives of the EC, including with the Deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy and the Deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, DG Enlargement Deputy Director General, Head of Unit and Head of Section, the Permanent Chair of COWEB, the EEAS policy officer for regional cooperation, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) working on the Western Balkan countries region, the ambassadors of the missions of the countries of SEE accredited to the EU, etc. In addition, the RCC LO organized a number of meetings for the outgoing and incoming RCC SG with high-level officials of the EU and other Brussels based institutions, as well as other meetings for the RCC Secretariat staff and assisted in the preparation of several important events with a regional dimension, held in Brussels.

During his first visit to Brussels, organized by the LO, the new RCC SG held consultations with the Managing Director in the EEAS for Europe (non-EU) and Central Asia, the Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy and the Deputy Director General for Enlargement in the EC, and with the Chair of the European parliament Delegation for the Western Balkans countries.

The main topics discussed were the current state of implementation of RCC SWP 2011-2013, the preparation of the new SWP 2014-2016 and the new RCC statute, the ongoing work on the SEE 2020 Strategy, the EU Enlargement dynamics and the usefulness of further aligning RCC's role with the EU Enlargement Agenda, the practice of RCC's briefings for COWEB, the future financing of the budget of the RCC Secretariat, etc.

The new RCC SG participated in the Friends of Europe Policy Summit, 'Balkans Progress: Battling to overcome the impact of crisis' where he presented the RCC Secretariat's ongoing and planned activities with a special emphasis on the area of energy efficiency. He also briefed NATO SEE Group on the main achievements of the RCC and on the preparation of the new SWP 2014-2016, emphasising the role of the RCC Secretariat in promoting regional cooperation and initiating new cooperation in the security area.

The RCC SG also took part as a speaker in the IPA Conference 2013 "Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance 2014-2020", while the RCC Head of Expert Pool participated in one of the panel discussions. The conference, organized by the DG Enlargement, was focused on the ongoing preparations for IPA II addressing, among other issues, the priorities for the future assistance, the sector approach, partnership and ownership of the beneficiary countries, coordination and consultation process with stakeholders.

The Head of Expert Pool and the Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, invited by DG enlargement, in separate meetings briefed the representatives of DG Enlargement country desks and the Ambassadors and diplomats of the SEE on the preparation of the SEE 2020 Strategy and RCC activities in the area of Economic and Social Development, and participated in the EC/IFI Coordination Office, WBIF Policy and Strategy Discussion, Social Sector Workshop.

The RCC Deputy SG/Head of Expert Pool participated, as a panellist, in the EPC–RCC–The Balkan Trust for Democracy Policy Dialogue “Unity in diversity”– an EU motto fit for the Balkans, together with the Deputy DG for Enlargement in the EC, the Assistant Minister of Serbian MFA and the CEO of Brainswork. The event discussed ways to advance regional cooperation and how can the EU better promote regional cooperation in the W.Balkans in the present economic and political climate in Europe, what can individual W.Balkans countries and existing regional structures do to seize the benefits of regional cooperation, to what extent is the SEE 2020 strategy part of the solution in the current context etc.

The RCC LO hosted a Coordination meeting on Human Capital Development, Employment and Competitiveness between DG Enlargement, DG Employment, DG Education and Culture, ETF, OECD, WB and RCC in order to exchange information on the current and further developments in the field of employment, social inclusion, human capital development, innovation and competitiveness and, to coordinate the activities among institutions, with participation of RCC Head of Expert Pool and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development.

The RCC Head of Expert Pool and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development also held meetings with the World Bank Lead Economist on further coordination of the activities in light of the WB implementation of the project devoted to Regional Research and Development Strategy for Innovation.

The RCC LO representative participated in the DG Enlargement meeting with the Deputy Director General and Executive Director of the CDRSEE to discuss the continuation of the History Books Project. The RCC LO representative also participated in the 8th Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage devoted to the intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development in SEE. During the latter meeting, the representative used the opportunity to hold informal consultations with the Director General of UNESCO and representatives of some countries related to streamlining regional cooperation in the area of culture.

The EU Enlargement process continued to mark encouraging results. The ongoing process of ratification of Croatia’s Accession Treaty evolves, the steps taken by the Commission and Turkey to implement the positive agenda in line with the Negotiating Framework were welcomed, the accession negotiations with Montenegro opened in June 2012 are progressing, the possible decisions to open accessions negotiations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia shall be examined on the basis of reports to be presented by the EC in spring 2013, the possible decision on granting a candidate status to Albania will be examined on the basis of the report of the EC, the launch of the EC’s High-Level Dialogue on the Accession Process with Bosnia and Herzegovina was welcomed and further progress in the implementation of commitments is pending, and a possible decision to open negotiations for SAA for Kosovo\* will be examined on the basis of a report to be presented by EC and HR/VP in spring 2013.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

### ***Regional cooperation in the field of media***

The RCC has acted as a facilitator in the media field, bringing together different state and non-state actors. In this context, it has helped the European Broadcasting Union to sign a five-year partnership agreement with the European Union on enabling the democratic role of public service media in the EU enlargement countries. The RCC Secretariat met with representatives of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe and CEI to prepare for launch of the SEE documentary “How do I see my neighbour”.

The RCC Secretariat took active part in a seminar on the role of national parliaments in ensuring the independence of public service broadcasters in the Council of Europe Member States, the 6th South East Europe Media Forum, a conference on financing digitalization in Eastern Europe, and a conference on the role of the Internet in shaping policies to advance media freedom.

### ***Communication activities***

The RCC Secretariat has continued to advance the organization’s mission of promoting mutual cooperation and European and Euro-Atlantic integration of SEE in order to inspire development in the region to the benefit of its people, by interacting with the media on a regular basis and by working in developing relationships and positioning the RCC as a key regional player through conducting permanent outreach among politicians, opinion-makers, think-tanks, diplomats, public officials, academia, students, business community, etc.

The Secretariat supported press aspects of the policy dialogue *Unity in diversity – an EU motto fit for the Balkans*, held in Brussels. The event was organized by the European Policy Centre, in cooperation with the RCC and the Balkan Trust for Democracy, a project of the German Marshall Fund of the United States. The Secretariat also met with journalists and editors of leading media in Greece, Albania and Brussels to advance the goals of the RCC Secretariat’s communication strategy.

The RCC Secretariat was engaged in the preparations to celebrate RCC’s 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 27 February 2013 to be marked by an event that will gather high-level officials from the region as panellists and by the introduction of an annual RCC award – Champion of Regional Cooperation.

In the reporting period, to the knowledge of/available to the RCC Secretariat, 171 articles, interviews and statements on the RCC were published in South East European and international media, bringing the total to 4,531 available articles published since the beginning of operations of the RCC Secretariat. The same period witnessed 532,101 hits, 119,021 page views and 18,544 visits of the website, bringing the total to some 14,125,877 hits, 4,809,583 page views and 439,442 visits over the past four years since the website statistics has been gathered. The RCC currently also has 284 tweets and 288 followers at its Twitter account. Two issues of the RCC newsletter were published, devoted to energy, infrastructure, parliamentary cooperation, and regional cooperation in South East Europe at the end of 2012, with 23 prominent contributors. They were circulated to an audience of around 2,800 subscribers. The Secretariat continued promoting RCC activities and other important regional events in SEE by preparing and distributing a monthly overview based on its daily press review, as well as by sharing with members of the RCC Board reports prepared by the RCC Secretariat officials.

### ***Evaluation of general and institutional aspects***

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps in the context of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, particularly aimed at the efficient and target-oriented, regionally owned and all-inclusive regional cooperation. In parallel, the RCC Secretariat was fully engaged with preparatory activities for the new RCC SWP for the period 2014-2016, in preparing appropriate amendments regarding the Annex I (List of Participants of RCC) and in Annex II (Statute of RCC) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC related only to Kosovo\*'s proposal to be effectively represented within RCC, as well as in preparing the draft of the new RCC Statute. In order to maintain the momentum of the development of regional cooperation and continue with the affirmation of the principle of regional ownership as well as highlighting the importance of moving towards regional responsibility, the strategic character of relations between the SEECP and the RCC remains pivotal. Drawing on the successful cooperation with the previous as well as incumbent SEECP C-i-O, the regular Coordination meetings of the SEECP Troika and the RCC Secretariat with the participation of the EU representatives proved to be a very useful tool in providing guidance and enhancing overall coordination.

The RCC SG Mr. H. Bišćević, following the consultations with the new RCC SG and in accordance with the provisions of the RCC Secretariat Personnel Policies and Procedures, has extended the employment contract of the Head of Expert Pool for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 (the employment contract of the Head of the Expert Pool due to the age limit provisions prescribed in the RCC Secretariat Personnel Policies and Procedures should have been seized on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012). In addition, as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012, upon a request of the Head of Expert Pole, her entitlement as Deputy Secretary General has been seized. The RCC SG Mr. H. Bišćević has also extended the employment contract of the RCC Secretariat staff for one year (until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013).

The RCC received the traditional *Sloboda* (Freedom) award for an extraordinary contribution to humanism, fight for human rights and freedom in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe and the world. The award reflects a growing recognition of RCC's work to bring people in SEE closer together, through dialogue, good neighbourly relations, in an atmosphere of tolerance and cooperation.

### **III. Priority areas of the RCC Activities**

#### **Activities of the Deputy Secretary General and Head of the Expert Pool**

In the reporting period, the most important activities of the RCC Secretariat were related to the preparation of the RCC SWP 2014-2016, as well as to the adoption of main objectives and further development of the SEE 2020 strategy. A wide consultation process has been initiated and numerous workshops and brainstorming meetings have been organized.

The RCC Secretariat was intensively involved in different activities organized in the SEECP framework, in particular in preparing a number of sectoral meetings organized by the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 and related to the RCC SWP 2011-2013 (parliamentary dimension, ministries of culture etc.), as well as of other events of general importance for the RCC.

The dialogue with the DG Enlargement continued to be regular and substantial, as well as with CEFTA, OECD Investment Compact SEETO, SEECCEL, RESPA and other key partners. Consultations have been regularly held with other donors interested in regional projects (UNDP, OSCE, IBRD, SDC, SIDA, FES, GIZ, HBS, US AID etc).

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Furthermore, RCC Secretariat intensified contacts with other DGs in the EC (DG REGIO, DG MOVE, DG Research, Innovation and Science, DG Education and Culture, DG International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, DG Employment etc) as well as with the specialised units within the European External Action Service for security cooperation area. The RCC Secretariat is further strengthening cooperation with other regional structures in SEE and the Western Balkans as it is shown in detail per each priority area.

The new RCC SG presented main aspects of the SEE 2020 Strategy, as a core part of the RCC SWP 2014-2016, at the Brussels Conference on IPA II, held on 25 January, 2013, and took part in the general debate. As part of its activities of coordinating donor efforts in the region, the RCC Secretariat took part in donor-organized activities such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional NIPAC Workshop: Reviewing the WBIF Environment and Advancing Regional Investments and IPA Multi-Beneficiary Programme Coordination Meeting. Given the focus of the new multi-beneficiary IPA programme to respond to a common strategic framework with clear results and impacts, it was noted that the IPA II programme development will track the process of the development and implementation of the SEE 2020 strategy, in an effort to align the two as much as possible. Furthermore, the Social Agenda 2020 is expected to respond directly to one of the new priority policy areas of MB IPA, which focuses on employment, social policy and human resources. In that respect, a project coordination meeting was held with the World Bank, DG Enlargement, DG Employment, DG Education, ETF and SEECEL in order to coordinate joint activities to start in 2013.

A permanent dialogue continued with different stakeholders from the region: private companies and associations, NGOs and NGO related organizations (TACSO team, Eco-Social Enterprises Network from SEE, BFPE, SEE Change Net etc), operating RI&TFs and newly established regional networks (Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies etc.) discussing the issues and modes of cooperation and developing common activities. The dialogue further widened to include think tanks from the region and beyond (i.e. LSE Network of SEE researchers, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Vienna Institute for World Economy) developing and coordinating joint programmes, as well as other EC and IFIs partners. The RCC Secretariat was also represented at the different events relevant for the development of regional cooperation – from think-tank and academic conferences to the EC dialogue with civil society in the region. The RCC Secretariat established and deepened working contacts with regional Civil Society networks in different areas (National Councils of the European Movement from SEE, WB Social Entrepreneurs Network, SEE Public Broadcasting Agencies Network, JHA-related NGOs networks etc) and extended regional coordination with CSO structures.

In preparing the next RCC multi-annual strategy and developing SEE 2020 strategy, the RCC Secretariat is upgrading the relations with other RI&TFs on the programme and project basis through coordinated programming and defining legal framework for joint actions. Coordination and streamlining of the RCC Secretariat activities have been further advanced and an open debate on prioritizing its activities regularly held, especially related to the SEE 2020 framework.

## **1. Economic and Social Development**

### ***Investment and Business Enabling Environment***

The 11<sup>th</sup> SEEIC Meeting co-chaired by the RCC Secretariat and the Republic of Albania, brought together SEEIC Country Economic Teams, representatives of NIPAC offices, EC, international organizations and donor and business community with main objective of discussing and endorsing the initial set of 11 SEE 2020 headline targets. The 9 targets set for integrated, smart, inclusive and sustainable growth within good governance framework in the region until 2020 have been endorsed

by the SEEIC, with two additional targets dealing with entrepreneurship and education being adopted through the written procedure. The SEEIC has also finalized a draft Statement for the Ministerial Conference of the SEEIC, integrating the proposed regional targets into a coherent and ambitious document to guide the further development and implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The 11 headline targets of the SEE 2020 Strategy have been officially adopted at the SEEIC Ministerial Conference, held in Tirana, Albania, on 9 November 2012. The proposed targets for the SEE 2020 Strategy include growing the region's total value of trade in goods and services to almost quarter trillion EUR, reducing the trade deficit, and growing intra-regional trade in goods by over 230%. The Strategy envisages increasing overall foreign direct investment inflows to the region by at least 120%, increasing GDP per person employed as well as exports per capita, increasing the overall employment rate from 40 to 45%, adding 300,000 highly educated people to the region's workforce and improving government effectiveness by 20% by the end of this decade.

Following the adoption of regional targets, RCC took the first steps towards the development of the SEE 2020 by organizing a series of workshops dealing with specific pillars of the strategy. The workshops were aimed at associating regional platforms with SEE 2020 pillars, identifying main dimensions for policy intervention and laying down a clear roadmap for RCC and its regional partners in this area. The first workshop on Integrated Growth, organized in cooperation with the GIZ Open Regional Funds, identified three main dimensions – trade facilitation, trade liberalization and investment climate - with CEFTA Secretariat and SEEIC taking the lead roles in developing these dimensions further.

The second workshop was organized within the Inclusive growth pillar of the SEE 2020 Participants included representatives of Ministries of Labour and Social Policy, forming an inter-governmental working group which was also joined by various regional and international organizations. It was agreed that a regional strategy in the areas of employment would be formalized. Further important dimensions of the inclusive growth pillar include education and health. This work will build on the knowledge accumulated during the regional events organized by the RCC Secretariat and FES during the previous two years.

Finally, a third workshop held within the Smart Growth pillar of the SEE 2020, was attended by the representatives of regional and international organizations in the areas of education, culture and creative industries, which discussed the ways and part takers in the pillar development, implementation and prospective monitoring. The ERI SEE, Regional Research Platform, Task Force on Culture and Society and e-SEE Initiative were identified as respective coordinators for the dimensions of (i) education, (ii) R&D and innovation, (iii) cultural and creative industries, and (iv) digital society. Two additional workshops on Sustainable growth and Governance for growth pillars of SEE 2020 are envisioned by the end of February 2013.

Two standing Working Groups, on Innovation (WGI) and Investment Policy and Promotion (WGIPP), of the SEEIC have been formed. WGI, comprised of the Western Balkans administration representatives from the sectors of industrial competitiveness, innovation, and business incubators, held its first study tour under the auspices of the SEEIC, to the AREA Science Park in Trieste, obtaining an insight into improving business innovation, and exploring opportunities for transfer of knowledge and technology in this field of expertise. First meeting of the WGIPP is scheduled for last week of February, in support to the development of the integrated growth pillar of the SEE 2020.

Also, a comprehensive Communication strategy has been developed to help guide the efforts of the RCC and SEEIC in spreading out the message on SEE 2020 importance to stakeholders and partners within and outside of the region. During December 2012, RCC also partnered with the EU



Delegation in Sarajevo to hold a series of briefings to the officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina on the SEE 2020 Strategy and the framework of the upcoming IPA II.

Following the official launch of the SIDA-financed project Women Entrepreneurship (WE) – a job creation engine for SEE, the implementing agencies coordinated by the RCC Secretariat, have successfully executed national launches of the Project. Key experts have been selected as coordinators of the Working Groups to be established to support the project implementation, along with two key international experts for two project pillars: WE Indicators and WETNAS. Preparatory activities have been undertaken in finding the best solution for producing the first database on WE in each country. Among other activities, the Project also took part in different national events organized in countries of the SEE region and in dissemination of the information on the WE project. This Project aims to raise awareness on the specifics of the entrepreneurship of women in the region and to enhance the capacities of women entrepreneurs' networks and associations through constructive policy dialogue between public and private sectors in line with Small Business Act for Europe.

### ***Access to Finance***

The RCC Secretariat took part at the launch event of the Western Balkan Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF) which is a novel and comprehensive set of complementary measures for improving access to finance for SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) and helping economic development in the Western Balkans. WB EDIF is to promote the emergence and growth of innovative and high-potential companies, as well as the creation of a regional venture capital market. The 145 million EUR of initial capital pulled together under this facility by the EU, international financial institutions (IFIs), beneficiaries and bilateral donors will effectively translate into over EUR 300 million of direct financing for SMEs in the region. The RCC Secretariat will actively work on supporting this instrument going forward and will, together with its partners, explore EDIF's links with the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WBIF Steering Committee which gathered representatives of the EC, partner IFIs (EBRD, EIB, KfW, the World Bank and the CEB) and of both the beneficiary and donor countries. The Steering Committee meeting, co-chaired by Austria and the EC (the CEB ensuring co-chairmanship of the "Project Financiers Group" (PFG)), approved € 11 million of grants for key infrastructures. These grants are expected to leverage loans from the IFIs in the region of € 586 million. The Steering Committee emphasized the importance of aligning the WBIF objectives with regional strategies, with particular emphasis on the SEE 2020 strategy.

### ***Social Development***

The RCC Secretariat and Friedrich Ebert Foundation co-organized the third regional conference on the theme New Skills for New Jobs in the Western Balkans that brought representatives of governments, social partners, researchers from the Western Balkan countries, the SEE Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning and international institutions (EC, WB, ETF). Based on the deliberations of these events, a regional position paper on skills and jobs has been prepared that will serve as a platform for guiding future actions in this field. It highlights the need to increase coordination and synergies among key stakeholders in the skills and labour markets, to improve data and analysis for better evidence based policy making, and to ensure education, training and lifelong learning become more responsive to the current and future labour market needs.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the final conference of the Eco-Social Economy Network for SEE (ESENSEE). RCC recognizes social entrepreneurship as an important tool for promoting economic and social development and will seek to build on the knowledge and experience of the

members of ESENSEE network in setting out a regional platform for social entrepreneurship, which will be the focus of the next RCC planned event of social economy during the first half of 2013.

The RCC Secretariat attended a workshop organized by the Slovenian social enterprise forum in order to explore pathways of how the Western Balkan countries can promote social entrepreneurship and learn from the experience of Slovenia.

The RCC Secretariat took part in the Social Sector Workshop organized by the IFI Coordination Office which was used as an opportunity to review new developments regarding IPA II and the SEE 2020 development and discuss the need for a strategic framework to guide social investments. In regard to the social sector, inclusive growth is viewed as a key pillar and the World Bank under the EC/World Bank/RCC Partnership on Inclusive and Social Development and ETF's programmes should be key technical advisors under this pillar. The network of social sector officials developed under the RCC's Social Agenda can provide a valuable regional platform to advance work under this pillar. It will also be crucial to ensure coherence between the SEE 2020, its 2020 Social Agenda and the Structured Policy Dialogue in the area of Employment and Social Reform Programmes that the Commission/DG EMPL is about to launch. It was agreed that parallel agendas should be avoided.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the South Eastern Europe Health Network (SEEHN). The Secretariat of the SEEHN has been established in Skopje and members of the network focused their discussions on the need for strategic planning in implementing the Banja Luka Pledge on health in all policies. The RCC representative emphasized the importance of health as an important pillar of the Social Agenda 2020, alongside employment and education. Simultaneously, the horizontal dimension of health can play a part in all other priority areas through specific objectives or indicators that contribute to better health outcomes. RCC agreed with the SEEHN to jointly propose a health focused contribution to the Social Agenda 2020.

The RCC Secretariat took part at the 3<sup>rd</sup> National IPA coordinators workshop. The social session, chaired by the RCC representative, emphasized the need to identify concrete regional social infrastructure projects that can contribute to achieving the objectives of the SEE 2020 strategy.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Entrepreneurship – Education Regional Ministerial Summit where the Charter for Entrepreneurial learning was approved. The Charter aims to reinforce government commitment to systematic development and progress in lifelong entrepreneurial learning through continued policy improvement, good practice sharing and regional cooperation. The SEE Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning plays a pivotal role in promoting this agenda.

## **2. Energy and Infrastructure**

### ***Energy***

The RCC Secretariat continued to cooperate closely with the Energy Community and took part at several events organized or co-organized by the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS). It initiated preliminary consultations with the ECS representatives on integrating Energy Community achievements into the SEE 2020 Strategy. The RCC Secretariat also promoted Energy Community activities in the environmental area linked to retrofitting of power plants in the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Energy Community Treaty (ECT).

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, with the EC within the Local Administration Facility (LAF) program and Analytica think tank, Regional Conference on Implementing Energy Policies at Local level. The conference gathered local authorities of the Western Balkans, EU representatives, experts

as well as private sector representatives, civil society organizations and relevant international organizations in order to discuss possibilities, strategies and policies for strengthening local authorities' capacities in energy project management and fundraising. Main topics discussed were: the state of energy policies at local level throughout the region; the added value of regional cooperation; the challenge of funding local energy projects as well as the importance of inter-sectoral cooperation. This conference indicated important follow-up potential that will be taken into account in planning LAF activities for the next year.

The third meeting of the Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI) Task Force was co-organized by the CEI Executive Secretariat, the RCC Secretariat and the Serbian Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection which hosted the event. The meeting discussed the SEDRI achievements and major issues in its implementation, prospects for further enriching and profiling of the initiative.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council meeting of the Energy Community, organized by the EC, ECS and Ministry of Economy on behalf of Montenegro as Presidency in Office of the Energy Community. The meeting resulted in expanding the Energy Community *acquis communautaire* and in adoption of the Energy Strategy of the Energy Community. This strategy, initiated and launched alongside the RCC support, will create new opportunities for strengthening the regional energy cooperation and will focus its first implementation activities on defining the energy infrastructure projects of wider regional impact and interest, so called Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI).

### ***Transport***

The RCC Secretariat submitted to the WBIF an Application Form for funding of the Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector in Enhancing Economic and Social Development and Cooperation in the SEE to the Western Balkans Investment Framework. Although the Application Form received a positive screening and ranked at a high technical level, the project was rejected at the WBIF Project Financiers Group with a comment that is not right time for a very specialised project. Having in mind that this initiative has been strongly supported by the national administrations, civil aviation authorities and air industry in the region, as well as several NIPACs, RCC intends to continue with the activities on its realization in the coming period. This Study should give a more comprehensive picture of the development of the air transport sector role in supporting the economic growth in the region.

The RCC Secretariat presented an initiative on providing wide political support to the railway sector development at the South East European Transport Observatory (SEETO) Railway and Intermodal Working Group with the aim of exploring the willingness and interest of the Working Group to support and to join the initiative. The RCC representative explained the steps already taken and future ones seeking for their full involvement in organizing a railway expert's meeting to be held possibly in the first half of 2013. SEETO praised continued efforts in this respect stating that the RCC is welcome to the next SEETO event to present the progress made on this issue and reconfirmed its readiness to contribute in organizing the railway conference.

Furthermore, the RCC Secretariat had a preparatory meeting with the President of the Association of Consulting Engineers of BiH (ACE) with the aim to jointly organize the Conference on Railways, to be held on 26-27 September 2013 in Sarajevo. The main topics of the event will be the strategy of railway traffic development, safety issues, infrastructural planning and operations, available financing instruments, environmental aspect and interoperability.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Transport Ministers on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network. The event was an opportunity to enshrine the established regional transport cooperation and to give further fresh impetus for catching up the European integration processes in the area of transport. The participants welcomed the future Regional Transport Study which will update REBIS Study and serve as a ground for definition of investment plan for removal of physical and non-physical barriers in the region. They also encouraged the established cooperation with other relevant regional organizations, notably with the CEFTA Secretariat and the RCC in achieving the common aims to tackle the urgent horizontal policy and infrastructure issues.

### ***Environment***

The RCC Secretariat continued to support the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EU SDR), in particular by promoting ``bottom-up`` approach and integrated approach as well as by assisting other institutions and initiatives relevant for EU SDR implementation. In that respect, the RCC Secretariat agreed with the representatives of the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR) and the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina chairing the Commission, on organizing joint event which will promote ICPDR implementation activities primarily in relation to water quality and will mobilize less active Danube Region countries in the implementation of the EU SDR. It also continued to support civil society organizations in promoting sustainable energy development as the main component of the overall sustainable development. At the First Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region the RCC Secretariat presented its views and promotional activities in relation to this strategy.

The RCC Secretariat, in view of its role in initiating the mapping of regional climate change adaptation activities and strengthening cooperation between the major regional players in this area, participated at the SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation (SEEFCCA) Regional Conference, organized by the Austrian Red Cross (ARC) as the major implementer of the EU co-funded SEEFCCA project. Project tasks are primarily to link national activities on regional level and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships across the region. It is designed to strengthen capacities of civil society in the region in the area of climate change adaptation, awareness raising and policy dialogue. The RCC Secretariat assisted SEEFCCA in organizing this conference which gathered civil society organizations, government officials, representatives of international organizations and researchers in order to discuss recent developments in this area, explore potentials for cooperation and future strategies to address climate change in the region. On this ground, the RCC will co-organize and host next regional event to be realized within the SEEFCCA framework.

### **3. Justice and Home Affairs**

#### ***Strategic coordination: events and actions***

The RCC Secretariat finalised the commissioning of the data base application designed to collect and integrate the statistical indicators of the *Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism (M&EM)* which rests fully on the RCC Secretariat costs. First centralized statistical data is available from the end of September 2012 and will be presented during the envisaged Joined Meeting between Steering Group on Regional Strategy under RCC coordination and the IPA-MB Strategic Working Group.

The High Level Meeting of the Treptower Group emphasized necessity of joint efforts in policing targeting Western Balkans including coherence of projects implemented. Participants were informed about establishment of EU Project Matrix and its functioning, including possibility for all to get access to the database that contain info on all developmental projects financed by the EU institutions

and EU members. Representatives of Europol presented ongoing transformation process of Europol that targeting simplification of the organized structure and more efficient management of the organization. Results of the implementation of Police Cooperation Convention for SEE were presented as well as reshaping of the Brdo Process. RCC presented M&EM and corresponding database as well as future activities related to monitoring of regional JHA developments.

The purpose of the Brdo Process meeting was to talk about national priorities related to the preparation for accession negotiations on Chapter 24. Participants (Western Balkan countries, Slovenia, European Commission and DCAF) were asked to propose national priorities within the Chapter 24 related topics. Importance of the exchange of information in the accession process was particularly emphasized as well as strategic importance of substantial measures in the Chapter and indicators that will measure what has been achieved in the process. Significance of TAIEX and other available tools to help implementation of National Action Plans was underlined.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the meeting of the Heads of the Consular Services of the SEECPC Participating states organized by the SEEP C-i-O 2012-2013. The meeting discussed the issues of visa policy and migration challenges in and from SEE, the consular cooperation and mutual representation in third states and the SEE virtual Consulate.

### ***Fighting organized crime***

Criminal Justice Response to Human Being Trafficking in SEE, organized by the Serbian Academy of Justice and UNODC, emphasized necessity to continue with strengthening the judicial cooperation in criminal matters in SEE concerning anti-human trafficking through coordinated regional approach of different stakeholders from the criminal justice systems of the SEE countries. A need for further analysis of conditions and possibilities for developing and piloting a regional anti-human trafficking curriculum for criminal justice professionals, through an informal network of the judicial training institutions in close cooperation with MARRI THB Network for Cooperation, Southeast Europe Law Schools Network (SEELS) and other relevant regional institutions in the area of justice and home affairs such as RCC, SEEPAG, PCC, etc. was underlined. This is considered as a prerequisite for harmonization of the existing legal and institutional framework for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, with special focus on criminal justice response to human trafficking.

In the scope of the DET ILECU's II Project, the Project team organized DET-ILECUs II Regional Cooperation Symposium (Profiling) and Closing Conference of the Project. Symposium covered the major topics and current trends in regional cooperation as well as international cooperation, emphasising the importance of all parties involved working together including the police, prosecutors and judiciary. Discussion was held on the current state of criminal procedure codes and the responsibilities of the prosecutors, police and courts, and cooperative procedures for interactions between them and what works well and what works poor in the beneficiaries. Activities of the ILECU's Units were presented with particular attention to their functional links and importance for regional operational police cooperation. Summary of all project activities was presented while continuation of the Project named ILECU's III is announced as a bilateral project financed by the Austrian Government.

At the Workshop on the Structure of Organized Crime in and from the Western Balkans, participants presented profiles of Western Balkan Organised Crime (WBOC) Groups active in the Western Balkans and the EU Member States. Europol presented WBOC Threat Assessment together with Interpol's South-East European Threat Assessment on Criminality (SEETAC). Three thematic workshops dealt with the structure of organised crime, two way process (co-operation) and financial

investigation. Workshop identified the obstacles and challenges linked to the topic discussing possible practical solutions or approaches aimed at minimising commonly identified problems and issues with investigations and prosecutions.

### ***Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters***

The purpose of the Workshop on Strengthening International Cooperation in Criminal Matters in SEE Countries, organized by UNODC was to discuss Mutual Legal Assistance, problems in its implementation as well as good and bad examples of cooperation in that area. Participants concluded that continuation of the strengthening of international cooperation in criminal matters in SEE through organization of regular meetings and periodical consultations among representatives from the Central Authorities, and through improving horizontal and vertical cooperation is considered as a must. Harmonization of statistical data, data collection and parameters for data on international cooperation in criminal matters for various reporting purposes towards international organizations and improvement of records in this area was highlighted. In the same time, mutual support between SEE Central Authorities through exchange of experiences in the EU integration process, in particular concerning the negotiations on and implementation of Chapters 23 and 24, and harmonization of the existing legal and institutional framework for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters with principles developed through *acquis communautaire* was discussed.

Ninth Meeting of the PCC Expert Working Group discussed preparation of the Agenda of the incoming Committee of Ministers, including renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Support regarding the PCC SEE Secretariat. Secretariat presented report on activities in previous six months. Special focus was on the ongoing activities related to the EU Commission-financed project “Developing E-learning Modules on Cross-Border Police Cooperation Tools for Police Education” and present the outcomes from the Expert Level Opening Conference held in Ljubljana in January 2013. Outcomes of the first meeting of the Surveillance Expert Network for Southeast Europe, held in December 2012 were presented.

### ***Cooperation in civil and commercial matters***

The RCC Secretariat and GIZ organized several working meetings dedicated to mutual cooperation of partners and regional negotiation in the area of civil and commercial matters. GIZ supported finalization of the M&EM and testing of the M&EM database.

## **4. Security Cooperation**

### ***Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation***

The RCC Secretariat participated in the annual RACVIAC MAG meeting. In his report the RACVIAC Director mentioned RCC among the international contributors to the planned activities, together with NATO, OSCE, EC/TAIEX. As an important trend for the near future, the regional ownership is increasing, while the associate member’s contribution is decreasing. The European Commission has contributed within its TAIEX funding mechanism. It was mentioned that the three areas of the RACVIAC’s activities are not equally covered. While the Security Sector Reform receives funds from Austria and Norway and the Cooperative Security Environment receives funds from Germany, the International and Regional Cooperation activities have no financial support secured and therefore most of them are subject to case by case approval by the MAG.

The RCC Secretariat participated in the South-East Europe Clearinghouse (SEEC – Western Balkans Forum on security cooperation) meeting of the Defence Policy Directors attended by NATO and

RACVIAC representatives as well. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss some aspects about the future development of the initiative and to analyse the activities of the regional centres created under the SEEC auspices.

The RCC Secretariat co-chaired the SEESAC Regional Steering Group meeting and on the margins of the event held consultations with the Assistant Minister for Defence Policy of the Serbian MoD and experts from the MoD regarding the process and achievements in the implementation of the RCC SWP in the security cooperation priority area with special attention on SEEMIC and SEENSA and on the main issues reflected in the draft of the new RCC SWP under development; with UNDP Resident Representative for Serbia and representative of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS on the future of SEESAC and the development of projects in the field of Human security and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR); with SEESAC project team leaders WPON and GMSSRWB project implementation regarding the ways of streamlining and synergy with SEDM projects; with the Director of RACVIAC on the future cooperation between both organizations.

The RCC Secretariat had also consultations with relevant institutions and structures of several RCC participants (Republic of Croatia, Romania, Albania, EU, the current SEEC C-i-O, NATO etc) discussing the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and the preparation of the new RCC SWP 2014-2016. In light of the preparations of the next SEEC Summit to be devoted to the disaster risk reduction, the RCC Secretariat held consultations with the SEEC C-i-O representatives (from the MFA and the Cabinet of the President of the Republic) in Skopje which have been assessed as very useful.

### ***Disaster preparedness and prevention***

The RCC Secretariat took active part and contributed to the works of the XXV DPPI SEE Regional Meeting. The participants proposed and adopted activities for inclusion in the 2013 Work Plan and discussed important aspects related to the future of the DPPI and its Secretariat, such as: the DPPI Memorandum of Understanding, the Host Country Agreement, the legal documents (Rules of Procedure and the Financial Management Rules), as well as the Secretariat's Staff employment contracts.

The RCC Secretariat had consultations with the Romanian Senior representative in the DPPI Steering Group on issues of interest related to the future of the DPPI and its Secretariat.

## **5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues**

### ***Education***

The Regional Conference on Lifelong Learning and Non-formal Adult Education in South East Europe, co-organised by the RCC Secretariat and the Head Office for South East Europe of the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education, gathered around 80 representatives of institutions responsible for adult education in SEE, as well as relevant international organisations, civil society networks, independent experts and other stakeholders. The event aimed to contribute to building knowledge-based societies in the region by increasing participation in adult learning, strengthening social partnership for further development of adult education sector in SEE, addressing common quality standards and inclusion of marginalized groups. Participants expressed support to further implementation of European and international goals for lifelong learning and adult education through exchange of experience, promotion of good practice and identification of points of intervention for regional cooperation. Conclusions of the event will serve for consideration of further regional initiatives, activities and programs.

RCC Secretariat took part at the Regional Conference on Higher Education, organised in Cavtat, Croatia, by DG Education and Culture with support of TAIEX, under the auspices of the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training. Present were high-level representatives of higher education institutions and authorities from the Western Balkans and the EU, representatives of international organisations, civil society as well as renowned independent experts. The main objective of the regional conference was to produce a set of recommendations for the next Western Balkans Platform Ministerial meeting in the spring of 2013, on the basis of shared experiences and good practices from the EU and the Western Balkans. The recommendations identified opportunities for regional cooperation as well as actions needed at the national level in order to advance the modernisation and reform process.

### ***Science and Research***

The focus of the RCC Secretariat activities was on fulfilling its role in the process of development of the Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI). At the Steering Committee meeting organised by the World Bank, apart from the regular agenda related to guiding the process of drafting the Strategy and Action Plan, the draft Strategy was presented also to the relevant geographical desk officers from EC DG Enlargement, covering the Western Balkans. Participants exchanged preliminary thoughts on the modalities and frameworks for potential follow-up joint investments, first of all between different sectors in the European Commission and possible synergies between National and Multi-beneficiary IPA Funds, and then eventual involvement of other interested parties.

The RCC Secretariat also took part at the Meeting of the RSRDI Steering Committee, which was followed by the workshop of the project Advisory Body. The Steering Committee agreed on the need of further developing of the national reform agendas and joint initiatives, ensuring ownership and coordination with other regional initiatives and strengthening communication and broad-based consultation. It was concluded to hold the Ministerial meeting endorsing the Strategy to early summer 2013. Steering Committee tasked the World Bank to prepare separate detailed fiches on each of the 5 follow-up initiatives in the action plan.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the SEE Ministerial Round Table on Science Technology & Innovation, organized by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe from Venice. Apart from the host country minister, event gathered ministers of science and education from Croatia and Montenegro, high level representatives from the ministries of Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as ambassadors of Greece and Turkey. Representatives of the EC and other international organizations also took part at this event. The high level discussions led to adoption of a Joint Declaration that outlines a coherent roadmap of science priorities at national and regional levels and enhancing of a science-policy-society interface based upon equity, inclusion, participation and sharing of knowledge.

The RCC Secretariat took part at the meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan co-chaired by the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Serbia - who hosted the event on behalf of the Western Balkan Countries - and the European Commission DG Research and Innovation. It gathered representatives of Ministries of Science from the Western Balkan countries and EU Member States as well as representatives of international initiatives and organizations (WBC-INCO.NET, SEE-ERA.NET Plus, COST, and Eureka). The participants shared a joint view on strong correlation between the measures taken at national level to strengthen the research and innovation capacity and successful participation in Horizon 2020. In this context, the importance of synergy between Horizon 2020, the Structural Funds, IPA as well as the Smart



Specialization Strategy was emphasized. The Platform welcomed the efforts of RCC on the development of the SEE 2020 Strategy, with a view on potential possibilities for continuation of the role done by Steering Platform and WBC-INCO.NET.

### *Culture*

The main activities of the RCC Secretariat were focused on supporting the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society (TFCS). The fourth Meeting of the TFCS adopted the Narrative Report on the activities of the TFCS Secretariat for the period 15 June – 1 October 2012, the Communication Strategy aiming to enhance both internal and external communication and promotion of the Ljubljana Process activities, as well as the project Training Strategy, focusing on training in the methodology and in progress monitoring. TFCS was informed on planned activities and application procedures for the 0.5 mil € grant, signed by the EC and the RCC in August 2012. The EC member of the TFCS presented the proposal for the European Commission's decision to provide additional 3 mil € grant to Ljubljana Process.

In relation to the implementation of the 0.5 mil € grant, all the TFCS members participating in Ljubljana process expressed their concern regarding the rule for obligatory co-financing of the planned activities envisaged with the Grant Contract. The main reason for raising this issue was the fact that in almost all countries national budgets (including for the institutions responsible for the implementation of the Ljubljana Process) for 2013 have already been adopted, but without allocating the costs of the planned project activities. Therefore, countries asked the EC and RCC, as signatories of the Grant Contract, to consider undertaking appropriate steps that would enable smooth implementation of the project activities. The RCC Secretariat sent a letter with relevant documents, proposing to the EC that the necessary changes in the text of the Grant Contract are made, allowing successful continuation of the planned activities.

The Ministerial Conference on National Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships, co-organized by the RCC Secretariat, Ministry of Culture of the host country and the RCC TFCS, under the framework of the SEECPC-i-O for the period 2012-2013, was held in Skopje. The conference, as the first high-political-level event devoted to museums in SEE, gathered ministers of culture from the region, directors of national museums, as well as representative of the European Commission, International Council of Museums and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Ministers adopted a Joint Statement, setting the ground for establishment of the South East European Museums Network, which will enhance cross-border cooperation between these cultural institutions, aiming to develop projects at regional and international level.

The RCC Secretariat has been engaged in the process of exploring the ways for realizing of the initiative of establishment of the Regional Film Fund. The initiative follows the interest the countries of SEE expressed in the Declaration of the Annual Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Culture of South East Europe (CoMoCoSEE), held in Belgrade in April 2012 and the conclusions of the Regional Film Forum, held during the Sarajevo Film Festival in July 2012. Establishment of the Regional Film Fund would complement available funds at national and the European level (EURIMAGES, NORDISK FILM & TV FOND), with the aim of strengthening cross-border market for audio-visual works in SEE. It would also channel public funding into independent audio-visual projects from the region with a view to creating multiplier effect for generating further investment, thus producing the potential for larger returns from this growing market, strengthening the companies and achieving sustainability for the sector.

### ***Parliamentary Cooperation***

The RCC Secretariat participated at the International Conference 15 Years of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - Past, Presence and European Future of Region, organized by the Parliament of the SEECP C-i-O, for the period 2012-2013, in Skopje to mark the 15-th anniversary of Parliamentary Cooperation in SEE. The main scope of the event was to give an insight of the beginnings, achievements, challenges and perspectives of the inter-parliamentary cooperation in the region, in the context of the European integration processes. The conference was an occasion to underline the important and remarkable role of the parliamentary dimension on evolving the SEECP into an authentic voice of the region, as a dynamic forum for dialogue and cooperation. The conference emphasized that is time for the regional cooperation to gain momentum.

The RCC Secretariat took part at the seventh meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group organized by the Parliament SEECP C-i-O for the period 2012-2013 which was attended by all its members. The agenda of the meeting included discussions on the Comprehensive Report, which represents an analysis of the existing proposals for the future of the SEECP PD (National Assembly of Sofia and Grand National Assembly of Turkey) with a view to find the most appropriate formula to overcome the present bottleneck encountered in the process of discussing the future of the SEECP PD. The participants of the SEECP PD WG are expected to propose a decision on the future shape of the SEECP PD by the end of the current SEECP CiO.

The RCC Secretariat attended the Meeting of the European Parliament with National Coordinators for Parliamentary Cooperation in Western Balkans and Turkey, for the assessment of the parliamentary seminars in 2012 and the Support Programme for WB parliaments during 2013. The programme of parliamentary seminars in 2012 was discussed, based on the content and quality of debate, choice of dates/timing, logistical and financial aspects etc. Representatives of EP from Directorate D, Democracy Support Directorate and of the Institutional Cooperation Unit expressed satisfaction regarding the cooperation with the RCC Secretariat in organizing common activities in the region and readiness to continue with this cooperation in the future.

The RCC Secretariat took part at the eighth meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension (PD) Working Group organized by the current SEECP C-i-O. The meeting continued the discussions on the future of the SEECP PD with a view to find the most appropriate formula for transforming the SEECP PD into a SEECP Parliamentary Assembly. The discussions were focused on the criteria for the creation of the Secretariat and the budget for functioning of the future SEECP Parliamentary Assembly. The issue will be further discussed in order to submit a common proposal to the next Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of SEECP Participating states.

#### **IV. Operation of the RCC Secretariat**

A remaining open issue related to the setting-up of the RCC Secretariat concerns the implementation of the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat, which regulates the status of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels. The Kingdom of Belgium has conditioned the implementation of relevant provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat providing for the fiscal privileges and immunities of the Head and Deputy Head of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels with the issuing of an official authentic interpretation concerning the implementation of Article 17.1.(d) of the Agreement between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Governments of the other SEECP Participating States, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo on behalf of Kosovo in accordance with the United Nations Security Council

Resolution 1244, on the Host Country Arrangements for the Secretariat of the Regional Cooperation Council (Host Country Agreement) by the Parties to this Agreement in which the principle of taxability of the officials of the RCC Secretariat in their countries/places of origin and/or permanent residence would be explicitly confirmed. After a consultation procedure initiated by the RCC Secretary General in August 2008 it became evident that the adoption of an interpretative declaration amending the Agreement would not be acceptable to some of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement, as they consider that such declaration would run counter to the spirit of the current provisions of the Agreement and would lead to its *de facto* amendment. In light of the principles of general international law, the only recourse in this situation would be to proceed with amending the Host Country Agreement accordingly, in light of the request from the Kingdom of Belgium. This, however, remains subject to the will of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement. In this view, the RCC Secretary General sent a communication to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in early January 2009, proposing to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Party to and, at the same time, a depositary of the Host Country Agreement to consider the possibility of initiating the process of amending relevant provisions of the Agreement in order to provide for requested confirmation of taxability. This proposal of the RCC Secretary General is still under consideration by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **V. Staff Changes in the RCC Secretariat**

The Senior Expert in Justice and Home Affairs has left the RCC Secretariat and consequently the vacancy for the position was announced. The interviews and written examinations with the short-listed candidates were conducted in December 2012. The decision on the selected candidate was taken and the new Senior Expert in Justice and Home Affairs Ms. Suzana Ivanovic, will assume the duty as of 15 March 2013.

The employment contract with the Deputy Head of the Liaison Office in Brussels has been seized in accordance with the age limit provisions prescribed in the RCC Secretariat Personnel Policies and Procedures on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

Following the leave of the Project Manager in the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society Secretariat in Cetinje, the RCC Secretariat has announced the vacancy of this position and, following the interviews and written examinations, the decision on the selected candidate was taken and Ms. Milena Filipovic will assume the duty as of 1 March 2013.

**VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat budget for the year 2012**  
**Until 31 December 2012**

Contribution		Commitments	Received	Date Received
<b>Contributing Countries (Donors)</b>				
	Austria	50.000,00	50.000,00	19.12.2012
	Czech Republic	50.000,00	50.000,00	14.11.2012
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00	50.000,00	12.7.&6/11.12
	Finland	50.000,00	50.000,00	24.9.2012
	France	50.000,00	49.986,05	3.4.2012
	Hungary	50.000,00	50.000,00	19.6.2012
	Italy	50.000,00	49.788,68	15.12.2011
	Ireland	50.000,00	50.000,83	24.5.2012
	Latvia	50.000,00	50.000,00	3.4.2012
	Norway	50.000,00	52.594,22	12.6.2012
	Sweden	50.000,00	79.247,19	3-Dec-12
	Switzerland	100.000,00	99.888,00	10.5.2012
	United States of America*	120.000,00	115.893,22	14.11.2011
	<b>Total contributing countries donors:</b>	<b>770.000,00</b>	<b>797.398,19</b>	
<b>European Commission 2011-2013 contract</b>				
		<b>800.000,00</b>	799.557,79	27.8.2012
<b>South East Europe Contributors</b>				
	Albania	60.000,00	60.000,00	25.5.2012
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60.000,00	60.000,00	18.5.2012
	Bulgaria	140.000,00	140.000,00	29.3.2012
	Croatia	80.000,00	80.000,00	30.4.2012
	Greece	140.000,00	140.000,00	15.10.2012
	Moldova	40.000,00	40.000,00	11.5.2012
	Montenegro	40.000,00	40.000,00	29.5.2012
	Romania	140.000,00	140.000,00	29.3.&12/12.12
	Serbia	80.000,00	80.000,00	18.4.2012
	Slovenia	80.000,00	80.000,00	27.12.2013
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**	60.000,00		
	Turkey	140.000,00	140.000,00	5.3.2012
	UNMIK on behalf of Kosovo in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244***	40.000,00		
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding	100.000,00	100.000,00	
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding		143.000,00	
	<b>Total South East Europe Contributors:</b>	<b>1.200.000,00</b>	<b>1.243.000,00</b>	
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2.770.000,00</b>	<b>2.839.955,98</b>	

\* The equivalent of the USA contribution in Euro. The payment schedule of USA contribution is linked to the fiscal year of the USA (September - September).

\*\* The contribution to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2011 and 2012 was not paid.

\*\*\*The contribution to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2012 was not paid.

**State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat budget for the year 2013**  
**Until 15 February 2013**

Contribution		Commitments	Received	Date Received
<b>Contributing Countries (Donors)</b>				
	Austria	50.000,00		
	Czech Republic	50.000,00		
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00		
	Finland	50.000,00		
	France	50.000,00		
	Hungary	50.000,00		
	Italy	50.000,00	50.000,00	5.11.2012
	Ireland	50.000,00		
	Latvia	50.000,00		
	Norway	50.000,00		
	Sweden	50.000,00		
	Switzerland	65.000,00		
	United States of America*	120.000,00		
	<b>Total contributing countries donors:</b>	<b>735.000,00</b>	<b>50.000,00</b>	
<b>European Commission 2011-2013 contract</b>				
		<b>700.000,00</b>	<b>459.280,00</b>	<b>**</b>
<b>South East Europe Contributors</b>				
	Albania	60.000,00		
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60.000,00	60.000,00	11.2.2013
	Bulgaria	140.000,00	140.000,00	30.1.2013
	Croatia	80.000,00	80.000,00	6.2.2013
	Greece	140.000,00		
	Moldova	40.000,00		
	Montenegro	40.000,00	40.000,00	25.12.2012
	Romania	140.000,00		
	Serbia	80.000,00		
	Slovenia	80.000,00		
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	60.000,00		
	Turkey	140.000,00		
	UNMIK on behalf of Kosovo in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244	40.000,00		
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding	200.000,00	200.000,00	1.1.2013
	<b>Total South East Europe Contributors:</b>	<b>1.300.000,00</b>	<b>520.000,00</b>	
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2.735.000,00</b>	<b>1.029.280,00</b>	

\* The equivalent of the USA contribution in Euro. The payment schedule of USA contribution is linked to the fiscal year of the USA (September - September).

\*\*Cumulative prepayments on contract for the period 2011 - 2013

## REPORT

## On the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013

*Horizontal activities*

Horizontal Functions:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Representing the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy Dialogue “Unity in diversity” – an EU motto fit for the Balkans, organized by the RCC Secretariat and EPC - Brussels, 7 December 2012</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South East Europe Media Forum - Budva, 22 – 23 October 2012.</li> <li>Conference on Financing Digitalization in Eastern Europe: The Challenges for Public Service Broadcasters - Vienna, 29 October 2012.</li> <li>EU – Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs - Tirana, 5 – 6 November 2012.</li> <li>IV Western Balkans Civil Society Forum - Zagreb, 26 – 27 November 2012.</li> <li>MARRI Regional Forum – Sarajevo, 30 January 2013.</li> <li>Balkan Forum on Regional Cooperation – Thessaloniki, 7 – 8 February 2013.</li> </ul>
2. Coordination and cooperation with the SEECP C-i-O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the European Union - Sarajevo, 17 October 2012.</li> <li>Ministerial Conference “Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships” - Skopje, 13 November 2012.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First meeting of the SEECP Political Directors – Skopje, 10 October 2012</li> <li>International Conference: “15 Years of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension – Past, Presence and European Future of the Region” - Skopje, 15 October 2012.</li> <li>Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Chair-in-Office of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) for the period 2012-2013 and signing of the Agreement on the Assumption of duties of the new Secretary General of RCC - Skopje, 7 November 2012.</li> <li>Consultations with high level officials of the Chair-in-Office of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) for the period 2012-2013 – Skopje, 4 February 2013</li> <li>Meeting of the Heads of Consular Services of the SEECP Participating States – Skopje, 12 February 2013</li> </ul>
3. Exerting strategic leadership in regional cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting of the RCC Financial Sub-Committee - Sarajevo, 17 October 2012.</li> <li>RCC Board meeting - Sarajevo, 18 October 2012.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>4. Consultations with RCC Participants</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with high-level officials from the European Commission and European External Action Service - Brussels, 20 November 2012.</li> <li>• Meeting with the EU Council General Secretariat - Brussels, 21 – 22 November 2012.</li> <li>• Meeting with the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Austria at the RCC Secretariat - Sarajevo, 4 December 2012.</li> <li>• Meeting with the Secretary General of the OSCE – Vienna, 18 December 2012.</li> <li>• Meeting with officials of the European Commission, European Parliament and European External Action Service – Brussels, 24 – 25 January 2013.</li> <li>• Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 30 January 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of Greece - Athens, 6 - 7 February 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with Government officials of Romania – Bucharest, 11 February 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with Government officials of Serbia – Belgrade, 14 February 2013</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Providing regional perspective in donor assistance, notably in EU assistance under the Instrument for pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Regional NIPAC Workshop - Dubrovnik, 8 November 2012.</li> <li>• IPA MB Coordination Meeting - Zagreb, 14 – 15 November 2012.</li> <li>• WBIF Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility - Paris, 5 December 2012.</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the WBIF - Paris, 6 December 2012.</li> <li>• IPA II Conference, organized by the EC – Brussels, 25 January 2013</li> </ul>

<p>6. Supporting increased involvement of civil society in regional activities</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International PASOS Conference “Open Government, Deeper Democracy” - Skopje, 9 November 2012.</li> <li>• RCC presentation on regional cooperation, RCC and SEE 2020 to the group of civil society representatives from Kosovo* during their study visit to Bosnia Herzegovina organized by Foreign Policy Initiative - Sarajevo, 29 November 2012.</li> </ul>
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*Priority area 1: Economic and Social Development*

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Investment climate - Transfer and management of the SEEIC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEEIC Ministerial Conference – Tirana, 9 November 2012</li> <li>• Integrated Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 28-29 November 2012</li> <li>• Briefing on SEE 2020 and IPA II for the Directorate for European Integration for Bosnia and Herzegovina (organized together with the EC Delegation) – Sarajevo, 10 December 2012.</li> <li>• Briefing on SEE 2020 and IPA II for the State-level and Entity officials and SPOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina (organized together with the EC Delegation) - Sarajevo 17 December 2012.</li> <li>• Briefing on the SEE 2020 to the staff of the EC Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 19 December 2012</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 Economic Summit – Belgrade, 22-23 October 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenter</li> <li>• Women Entrepreneurship national project launching Conference - Belgrade, 24 October 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenter</li> <li>• CEFTA Week – Tirana, 7 November 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenter</li> <li>• TACSO Conference on Social Entrepreneurship – Sarajevo, 14 November 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenter</li> </ul>
<p>2. Identifying ways and means for improving access to finance for private sector</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WB EDIF Launch and 1<sup>st</sup> Platform Advisory Group meeting - Paris, 5 December 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> observer to PAG</li> <li>• Steering Committee of the Western Balkans Investment Framework - Paris, 6 December 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> observer<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> \*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



<p>3. Mainstreaming employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Skills for New Jobs for the Western Balkans – Sarajevo, 22 November 2012</li> <li>• Inclusive Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 30 January 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slovenia Coop2012 – a vector of change in Europe - Ljubljana, 16-17 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: discussant</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the SEE Center for Entrepreneurial Learning - Zagreb, 22 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: speaker</li> <li>• Entrepreneurship – Education Regional Summit - Zagreb, 23 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: speaker</li> <li>• The Small Business Act for Europe – Launch of the 2011 assessment report for the pre-accession countries of SEE and Turkey – Zagreb, 24 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: participant</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional NIPAC Workshop: “Reviewing the WBIF Environment and Advancing Regional Investments” - Dubrovnik, 8-9 November 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: session chair and presenter</li> <li>• IPA Multi-Beneficiary Programme Coordination Meeting - Zagreb, 14-15 November 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter</li> <li>• Final Conference of the Eco Social Economy Network for South East Europe - Zagreb, 29 November 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter</li> <li>• 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEE Health Network - Tel-Aviv, 10-11 December 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: introductory speaker and presenter</li> </ul>
<p>4. Promoting Information Society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No activities were carried out under this objective during the reporting period</li> </ul>	

*Priority area 2: Energy and Infrastructure*

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Continue implementation of Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted to the SEDRI Task Force Chairmanship.</li> <li>• Cooperated with Project Manager of CEI led project on strengthening the RCC capacities in order to back the initiative implementation.</li> <li>• Cooperated with Short Term Expert engaged within the project on strengthening the RCC capacities.</li> <li>• Preparatory activities for organizing the 3<sup>rd</sup> SEDRI TF meeting.</li> <li>• Committed to support CSOs led by SEE Change Net in Western Balkan Sustainable Energy Strategy preparation and promotion.</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> SEDRI TF meeting – Beograd, 7 December 2012, organized by CEI, RCC and Serbian Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection. <u>RCC role:</u> support to the initiative implementation, presenting the RCC position concerning the prospects for enriching the initiative and expected outcomes of the EU funded project on “Improving Cooperation in SEE by Action for Strengthening the RCC”.</li> </ul>	
<p>2. Explore potential for cooperation with the Energy Community Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoted the Energy Community activities in the environmental area linked to retrofitting of power plants in the CPs to the ECT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security of Supply Coordination Group meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> Permanent High Level Group (PHLG) meeting and 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council meeting – Budva, 17-18 October 2012, organized by the European Commission (EC), ECS and Montenegrin Presidency in Office of the Energy Community. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments and consultations on related RCC activities.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Energy Community Oil Forum – Beograd, 21-23 November, 2012, organized by the ECS. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments and meeting with the STE engaged within the project on strengthening the RCC capacities.</li> <li>• Meeting with the ECS officials – Vienna, 21 January 2013, initiated by the RCC. <u>RCC role:</u> discussing with ECS representatives on integrating the Energy Community achievements into the SEE 2020 and preparation of the Workshop on Sustainable Growth Pillar within the SEE 2020 Strategy.</li> <li>• 6<sup>th</sup> Energy Community Strategy Task Force meeting, 25 January 2013, organized by the ECS. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments, participation in the TF and consultations on related RCC activities.</li> </ul>

<p>3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing consultative process with the National Administrations and other stakeholders of the RCC members from SEE.</li> <li>• Backing civil society actors and local authorities and strengthening their role.</li> <li>• Cooperation with and supporting the IFI CO.</li> <li>• Support to the MB IPA Strategy WGs and WBIF SC as the permanent task.</li> <li>• Assisted to the SEEFCCA.</li> <li>• Regional Conference ``Implementing Energy Policies at Local Level`` - Skopje, 29 – 30 October, organized by EC (LAF), RCC Secretariat and Analytica. <u>RCC role</u>: opening the event, presenting the RCC related activities and preparing the conclusions of the event.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Conference “SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation” – Zagreb, 10-11 October 2012, organized by the Austrian Red Cross (ARC) and hosted by the Croatian Red Cross. <u>RCC role</u>: support to implementation of IPA funded project designed to back civil society in the area of climate change adaptation.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region – Regensburg, 27-28 November 2012, organized by the EC and Government of Bavaria. <u>RCC role</u>: presenting the RCC positions and activities in relation to EU SDR.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitted a Project Grant Application Form for funding of a Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector to the WBIF Steering Committee, together with ISIS PS and DG MOVE.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISIS Workshop on occurrence reporting &amp; accident and incident investigation in ATM – Belgrade, 10 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring the development under the Single European Sky II.</li> <li>• Meeting with representatives of the Croatia Airlines – Zagreb, 14 December 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: exchanged new developments regarding the Airspace Study as well as discussed the next steps in this respect.</li> </ul>

<p>5. Contribute to the promotion of road safety</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings with representatives of the Serbian Ministry of Infrastructure and SEETO representatives – Belgrade, 11 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: presented the RCC initiative in railway sector as well as strengthen links with national administration.</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional NIPAC Workshop: “Reviewing the WBIF Environment and Advancing Regional Investments” – Dubrovnik, 8-9 November 2012, organized by IPF office. <u>RCC role</u>: supporting identification and realization of regional infrastructure projects including transport, energy, environment and social sector.</li> <li>• SEETO Railway and Intermodal Working Group – Podgorica, 14-15 November 2012, organized by SEETO. <u>RCC role</u>: presented the RCC initiative in railway sector.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> SEETO Ministerial Conference – Zagreb, 4 December 2012, organized by SEETO and Croatian Ministry of Transport. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring the development of the SEETO Comprehensive Transport Network.</li> <li>• Preparatory meeting with the President of Association of Consulting of Engineers of BiH (ACE) – Sarajevo, 23 January 2013, organized by ACE. <u>RCC role</u>: engagement in the preparatory activities related to the organization of the Conference on Railways.</li> <li>• Meeting with BiH Assistant Minister of Transport – Sarajevo, 4 February 2013, organized by RCC. <u>RCC role</u>: possible RCC support in establishing the PPP centre in Sarajevo as well as in co-organizing the PPP conference in October 2013.</li> </ul>
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*Priority area 3: Justice and Home Affairs*

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p><b>1. Coordinate drafting and adoption of Regional Strategic Document and Action Plan on Justice and Home Affairs 2011-2014, and monitoring its implementation</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Level Meeting of the Treptower Group - The Hague, 30 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>• Brdo Process Meeting, organized by Slovenian Ministry of Interior - Brussels, 30 November 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: strategic coordination and leadership in regional cooperation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Criminal Justice Response to Human Being Trafficking in the Southeast Europe</b> - organized by the Serbian Academy of Justice and UNODC – Belgrade, 15 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring regional developments.</li> <li>• <b>DET-ILECUs II Cooperation Symposium</b> – organized by the DET ILECU’s Project Team - Budva 17-18 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>• <b>Workshop on Strengthening International Cooperation in Criminal Matters in Southeast Europe</b>, organized by UNODC – Arandjelovac, 27-28 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring regional developments.</li> <li>• <b>Closing Conference of the DET ILECUs’ II Project</b> - organized by DET ILECUs II Project Team – Berlin, 11-12 December 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring regional developments and representing the region.</li> <li>• <b>Workshop on the structure of Organized Crime in and from the Western Balkans</b> – organized by the Europol, Interpol, SEPCA and PCC SEE – The Hague, 22-24 January 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>• <b>IX Meeting of the PCC SEE Expert Working Group</b> – organized by the PCC Secretariat – Tirana 12-13 February 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring regional developments.</li> </ul>

<p>3. Support existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n/a</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n/a</li> </ul>	
<p>5. Initiate regional cooperation in private and civil law matters and in protection of fundamental rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n/a</li> </ul>	

**Priority area 4: Security Cooperation**

<b>Objectives:</b>	<b>Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC</b>	<b>Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions</b>
<p><b>1. Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms with low-cost activities and high impact on confidence building</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Steering Group (RSG) meeting on Small Arms and Light Weapons – Belgrade, 7 December 2012 , co-organized by SEESAC, UNDP and RCC.</li> <li>• Consultations with relevant institutions of the Republic of Croatia on the RCC SWP 2014-2016 in the Security priority area implementation – Zagreb, 22-23 January 2013</li> <li>• Meetings with the Symantec company for the training within the SEEMIC project; meetings with Military Intelligence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Security Advisor to the President of the Romania – Bucharest, 22-25 January 2013</li> <li>• Meetings with representatives of NATO, EC, UNISDR and EEAS – Brussels, 28 January – 1 February 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with relevant institutions of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the RCC SWP 2014-2016 in the Security priority area implementation – Skopje, 6 - 8 February 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with relevant institutions of the Republic of Albania on the RCC SWP 2014-2016 in the Security priority area implementation – Tirana, 11 – 14 February 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RACVIAC’s Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) meeting - Zagreb, 8-10 October 2012.</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Defence Policy Directors Meeting – Ohrid, 31 October 2012.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Continue its work towards establishment of regional structures for disaster risk reduction, in cooperation with international partners</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• XXV DPPI SEE Regional Meeting – Sarajevo, 13 -14 November 2012.</li> </ul>

**Priority area 5: Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Taking over coordination of the Ljubljana Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Conference – National Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships - Skopje, 13 November 2012, organized by the RCC, Ministry of Culture of the host country and the RCC TFCS, under the framework of the SEECP C-i-O. Ministers adopted a Joint Statement, setting the ground for establishment of the SEE Museums Network, which will enhance cross-border cooperation between these cultural institutions, aiming to develop projects at regional and international level.</li> <li>• In relation to the implementation of the 0.5 mil € grant, all the TFCS members participating in Ljubljana process expressed their concern regarding the rule for obligatory co-financing of the planned activities. The RCC Secretariat sent a letter, proposing to the EC that the necessary changes in the text of the Grant Contract are made, allowing successful continuation of the planned activities.</li> <li>• Following the resignation letter of the TFCS Secretariat Project Manager, the RCC Secretariat started the process for recruiting a new staff member, in accordance with the usual RCC procedures.</li> <li>• The RCC Secretariat facilitated enhanced regional cooperation in the film industry in SEE. The Conclusions of the regional and European film industry experts at the Regional Film Forum, expressed political support by the countries and international partners providing the basis for regional actions. Establishment of the Regional Film Fund would complement available funds at national and the European level, with the aim of strengthening cross-border market for audio-visual works in SEE. It would also channel public funding into independent audio-visual projects from the region with a view to creating multiplier effect for generating further investment, thus producing the potential for larger returns from this growing market.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society - Skopje, 12 November 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Advising on the principal procedures of decision making process; coordinating the process of adoption of major documents.</li> </ul>



<p>2. Support to education reform, with emphasis on higher education</p>	<p>Regional Conference Lifelong Learning and Non-formal Adult Education in South East Europe was co-organised in Sarajevo, on 3-5 October 2012, by the Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat and the Head Office for South East Europe of the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education. The meeting gathered around 80 representatives of institutions responsible for adult education in South East Europe, as well as relevant international organisations, civil society networks, independent experts and other stakeholders. Event aimed to contribute building knowledge-based societies in the region by increasing participation in adult learning, strengthening social partnership for further development of adult education sector in South East Europe and addressing common quality standards and inclusion of marginalized groups. Participants expressed support to further implementation of European and international goals for lifelong learning and adult education through exchange of experience, promotion of good practice and identification of points of intervention for regional cooperation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Conference on Higher Education, under the auspices of the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training - Dubrovnik, 20-21 November 2012. <u>RCC Role</u>: Informing on the RCC Secretariat activities; reporting from the workshop 1 of the Conference, expanding partnerships.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Development of Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RCC Secretariat took part at the Meeting of the RSRDI Steering Committee, which was followed by the workshop of the project Advisory Body, which was held in Tirana on 18-19 November. Steering Committee agreed on the need of further development of the national reform agendas and joint initiatives, ensuring ownership and coordination with other regional initiatives and strengthening communication and broad-based consultation. It also concluded that it would be useful to push back the Ministerial meeting endorsing the Strategy to early summer 2013, which would allow more time for the outreach-process ahead of the meeting. Steering Committee tasked the World Bank to prepare separate detailed fiches on each of the 5 follow-up initiatives in the action plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South East European Ministerial Round Table on Science Technology &amp; Innovation - Sarajevo, 23 November 2012. <u>RCC Role</u>: Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy.</li> <li>Meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries - Belgrade, 6 December 2012. <u>RCC Role</u>: Presenting the concept of SEE 2020 Strategy, with special emphases on smart growth pillar – including the areas of research and innovation.</li> </ul>

**Priority area 6: Parliamentary Cooperation**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p><b>1. Assisting the development of the Parliamentary dimension of the SEECP</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Conference: 15 Years of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - Past, Presence and European Future of the Region - Skopje, 15 October 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Addressed the plenary session of the Conference. Advising and coordinating the process of adoption of major documents.</li> <li>• Seventh meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group - Skopje, 16 October 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Participating in the process of drafting the Comprehensive Report, which represents an analysis of the existing proposals for the future of the SEECP PD.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group – Skopje, 11-12 February 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u> Assisting the work of MPs on their discussions to reach compromise decision on future parliamentary dimension structure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Assisting the institutionalization of the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The European Parliament remains an important partner for the WB parliamentary cooperation, regularly organizing seminars for parliamentarians of the region on topics related to the EU <i>acquis</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting of the European Parliament with National Coordinators for Parliamentary Cooperation in Western Balkans and Turkey - Brussels, 19 October 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Active contribution on the assessment of the programme of parliamentary seminars in 2012. Suggesting and proposing concrete topics for the next Support Programme for WB parliaments during 2013.</li> </ul>

## **ANNEX II**

### **LIST OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE RCC SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE RCC SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD 8 OCTOBER 2012 – 15 FEBRUARY 2013**

#### ***GENERAL***

1. Meeting with Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia – Sarajevo, 9 October 2012 (Secretary General)
2. Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP – Skopje, 10 October 2012 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
3. X Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the European Union - Sarajevo, 17 October 2012
4. XVIII RCC Board meeting – Sarajevo, 18 October 2012
5. Meeting with Chief of Protocol in the MFA of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 22 October 2012 (Chief of Staff)
6. Social Sector Working Group – Brussels, 23-24 October 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
7. Conference on Financing Digitalization in Eastern Europe: The Challenge for Public Service Broadcasters - Vienna, 29 October 2012 (Secretary General, Spokesperson)
8. EU – Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs - Tirana, 5 – 6 November 2012 (Secretary General)
9. Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the current SEECP CiO in Skopje – Skopje, 7 November 2012 (new Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
10. 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional NIPAC Workshop – Dubrovnik, 8 November 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Infrastructure and LO Advisor)
11. SEEIC Ministerial Conference – 9 November 2012 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader SEEIC and Spokesperson)
12. International think-tanks’ and policymakers’ Conference “Open Government, Deeper Democracy” - Skopje, 9 November 2012 (Chief of Staff)
13. CEI Seminar “Towards a new role for the RCC: tools for Programme Management” - Sarajevo, 12-13 November 2012 (RCC Secretariat Staff)
14. Ministerial Conference “Museums in South East Europe – Status, Management and Partnerships” – Skopje, 13 November 2012 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
15. IPA MB Coordination Meeting – Zagreb, 14-15 November 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development and LO Advisor)

16. Study Visit to the Secretariats of the European Territorial Cooperation, International Visegrad Fund and Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, organized by CEI - Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest, 18 – 21 November 2013 (Expert Pool group of experts and other staff of the RCC Secretariat)
17. Briefing for the NATO SEE Group - Brussels, 19 November 2012 (new Secretary General, Head of LO)
18. Meeting with the Managing Director for Europe (non-EU) of the EEAS - Brussels, 20 November 2012 (Secretary General, new Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Head of LO)
19. Meeting with the Director General for Enlargement of the EC - Brussels, 20 November 2012 (Secretary General, new Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Head of LO)
20. Meeting with the Director for Enlargement and Europe (non-EU) of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU - Brussels, 21 November 2012 (Secretary General, Head of LO)
21. Meeting with the EPP President - Brussels, 22 November 2012 (Secretary General, Head of LO)
22. 4<sup>th</sup> Western Balkans Civil Society Forum - Zagreb, 26-27 November 2012 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
23. RCC presentation to the civil society representatives from Kosovo\*, study visit to Bosnia Herzegovina, organized by Soros – Sarajevo, 29 November 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool and Political Advisor)
24. Meeting with the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Austria – Sarajevo, 4 December 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff)
25. High-Level European Policy Summit – Brussels, 5 December 2012 (new Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
26. Policy Dialogue “Unity in diversity” – an EU motto fit for the Balkans – Brussels, 7 December 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, LO Advisor, Spokesperson)
27. Meeting with the German delegation, headed by the Director for EU Enlargement, SEE and Turkey in the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology – Sarajevo, 7 December 2012 (Chief of Staff, SEEIC Project Leader)
28. Consultations with Head of section for regional cooperation, DG Enlargement, European Commission – Sarajevo, 11 December 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff)
29. Meeting with the Secretary General of OSCE – Vienna, 18 December 2012 (Secretary General)
30. Meeting with Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 15 January 2013 (Secretary General)

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

31. Meeting with Ambassador of Romania to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 16 January 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
32. Meeting with Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 17 January 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
33. Meeting with Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 17 January 2013 (Secretary General)
34. Meeting with GIZ representatives – Sarajevo, 18 January 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure, Expert on Infrastructure and Project Leader of the SEEIC)
35. Meeting with Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 January 2013 (Secretary General)
36. Meeting with Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 January 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
37. Meeting with Ambassador of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 January 2013 (Secretary General)
38. Working dinner hosted by Ambassador Peter Sorensen, Head of EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 January 2013 (Secretary General)
39. Meeting with Ambassador of Montenegro to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 22 January 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
40. Meeting with the Deputy Director for Enlargement in the EC – Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
41. Meeting with Director of CEFTA Secretariat – Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
42. Meeting with the Director of the European Training Foundation – Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
43. Meeting with the Head of the Regional Cooperation and Programs Unit in DG Enlargement – Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
44. Meeting with the Chair of the EP delegation for the WB countries– Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO)
45. Meeting with the Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy – Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO)
46. Meeting with the Managing Director in the EEAS for Europe (non-EU) and Central Asia – Brussels, 25 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO)

47. IPA II Conference organized by the EC – Brussels, 25 January 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
48. Meeting with Director of RACVIAC - Sarajevo, 29 January 2013 (Secretary General)
49. Meeting with Head of Council of Europe Office for Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 29 January 2013 (Secretary General)
50. MARRI Regional Forum - Sarajevo, 30 January 2013 (Secretary General, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
51. Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 30 January 2013 (Secretary General)
52. Meeting with Deputy Head/US Embassy - Sarajevo, 30 January 2013 (Secretary General)
53. Inclusive Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 30 January 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader of SEEIC, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross Cutting Issues)
54. Meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 31 January 2013 (Secretary General)
55. Consultations with high level officials of the Chair-in-Office of the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECOP) for the period 2012-2013 – Skopje, 4 February 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
56. Consultations with high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece – Athens, 6 - 7 February 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
57. International Peace Committee Award Ceremony “Art of touch” – Sarajevo, 7 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Political Advisor)
58. Balkan Forum on Regional Cooperation – Rockefeller Brothers Fund – Thessaloniki, 7 – 8 February 2013 (Secretary General)
59. Meeting with GIZ representatives – Sarajevo, 8 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
60. Meeting with Director of SEE Change Net – Sarajevo, 11 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
61. Consultations with Government officials of Romania – Bucharest, 11 February 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
62. Meeting with Ambassador of Albania to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 13 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool)
63. Meeting with representative of Igman initiative - Sarajevo, 13 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool)

64. Consultations with Government officials of the Republic of Serbia – Belgrade, 14 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool)

### ***I. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT***

1. Participation at the Slovenian Coop2012 – a vector of change in Europe – Ljubljana, 16-17 October 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. 12<sup>th</sup> Economic Summit of the Republic of Serbia – Belgrade, 22-23 October 2012 (Project Leader SEEIC)
3. 7<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the SEE Center for Entrepreneurial Learning – Zagreb, 22 October 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
4. The Entrepreneurship – Education Regional Summit – Zagreb, 23 October 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
5. The Small Business Act for Europe – Launch of the 2011 assessment report for the pre-accession countries of SEE and Turkey – Zagreb, 24 October 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
6. CEFTA Week 2012 – Tirana, 7 – 8 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader SEEIC)
7. Regional Conference on “New Skills for New Jobs in the Western Balkans”- Sarajevo, 22 November 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Economic and Social Development)
8. SEE 2020 Integrated Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 28-29 November 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader SEEIC)
9. Final Conference of the Eco Social Economy Network for South East Europe - Zagreb, 29 November 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
10. Launch event of the WBIF Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF) – Paris, 5 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
11. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the WBIF – Paris, 6 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
12. 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SEE Health Network - Tel-Aviv, 10-11 December 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
13. Meeting with Vienna Institute representatives – Vienna, 21 January 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
14. Meeting with IFI Coordination representative – Sarajevo, 22 January 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
15. Meeting with USAID representatives – Sarajevo, 7 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)

## ***II. ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE***

1. Regional Conference “SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation” – Zagreb, 10-11 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
2. Meetings with representatives of the Serbian Ministry of Infrastructure and SEETO representatives and on the RCC participation at the ISIS Workshop “Occurrence Reporting and Accident and Incident Investigation in ATM” – Belgrade, 10-11 October 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
3. Security of Supply Coordination Group meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> Permanent High Level Group (PHLG) meeting and 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Council meeting – Budva, 17-18 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
4. 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEETO Railway Working Group – Podgorica, 14 October 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
5. Regional Conference “Implementing Energy Policies at Local Level” - Skopje, 29-30 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
6. 4<sup>th</sup> Energy Community Oil Forum – Belgrade, 21-23 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
7. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region – Regensburg, 27-28 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
8. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers of Transport on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network – Zagreb, 4 December 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
9. 3<sup>rd</sup> SEDRI Task Force meeting – Belgrade, 7 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
10. Meeting with the representatives of Croatia Airlines – Zagreb, 14 December 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
11. Meeting with Energy Community Secretariat Officials – Vienna, 21 January 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
12. Meeting with the President of Association of Consulting Engineers of BIH – Sarajevo, 23 January 2013 (Expert on Infrastructure)
13. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Energy Community Strategy Task Force – Vienna, 25 January 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
14. Meeting with Assistant Minister of Communication and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 4 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Expert in Infrastructure)

## ***III. JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS***

1. Criminal Justice Response to Human Trafficking in the SEE – Belgrade, 15 October 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)



2. ILECUs meeting – Budva, 16-18 October 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
3. High Level Meeting of the Treptower Group - The Hague, 30 October 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
4. Brdo Process meeting – Brussels, 21 November 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
5. Workshop on Strengthening International Cooperation in Criminal Matters in South East Europe – Arandjelovac, 27 - 28 November 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
6. Closing conference DET-ILECUsII – Berlin, 11-12 December 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
7. Workshop “The structure of organized crime in and from the Western Balkans” – The Hague, 22-24 January 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
8. Meeting of the Heads of Consular Services of the SEECP Participating States – Skopje, 12 February 2013 (Chief of Staff)
9. 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Expert Working Group – Tirana, 12-13 February 2013, organized by the PCC SEE Secretariat (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

#### ***IV. SECURITY COOPERATION***

1. RACVIAC’s Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) meeting - Zagreb, 8-10 October 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
2. 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Defence Policy Directors Meeting – Ohrid, 31 October 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
3. XXV DPPI SEE Regional Meeting – Sarajevo, 13 -14 November 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
4. Regional Steering Group (RSG) meeting on Small Arms and Light Weapons – Belgrade, 7 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation)
5. Consultations with relevant institutions of the Republic of Croatia on the RCC SWP in the Security priority area implementation – Zagreb, 22-23 January 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
6. Meetings with the Symantec company for the training within the SEEMIC project; meetings with Military Counter Intelligence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Security Advisor to the President of the Romania – Bucharest, 22-25 January 2013 (Expert on Security Issues)
7. Meetings with representatives of NATO, EC, UNISDR and EEAS – Brussels, 28 January – 1 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
8. Consultations with relevant institutions of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the RCC SWP in the Security priority area implementation – Skopje, 6 - 8 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
9. Consultations with relevant institutions of the Republic of Albania on the RCC SWP in the Security priority area implementation – Tirana, 11 – 14 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)

## ***V. BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL AND PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION***

1. Steering Committee Meeting of the Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation in the Western Balkans – Brussels, 15-16 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
2. International Conference: “15 Years of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - Past, Presence and European Future of Region” – Skopje, 15 October 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
3. 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension – Skopje, 16 October 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
4. European Parliament and National Coordinators of Western Balkan Parliaments – Brussels, 19 October 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
5. Preparatory meeting of the Fourth Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society - Brussels, 24 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
6. Meeting of CEI representatives and RCC TFCS Secretariat - Cetinje, 30-31 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
7. International Conference: Role of Parliaments in the European Integration Process: Constitutional and Legislative Changes? – Sarajevo, 29-30 October 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
8. Torino Process Seminar – Sarajevo, 8 November 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
9. 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society – Skopje, 12 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
10. Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans Steering Committee Meeting – Tirana, 18 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
11. 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop of the Advisory Body for the implementation of the Western Balkan Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation – Tirana, 18-19 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
12. Western Balkans Regional Conference on Higher Education – Dubrovnik, 20 – 21 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
13. South East European Ministerial Round Table on Science Technology & Innovation – Sarajevo, 23 November 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
14. Meeting representatives of the EC DG Enlargement on realisation of the grant “Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans” – Brussels, 4 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
15. Meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries – Belgrade, 6 December 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
16. VIII meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group – Skopje, 11-12 February 2013 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)

## ***VI. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT***

1. Meetings with editors of leading Greek media - Athens, 11-12 October 2012 (Spokesperson)
2. Seminar on the role of national parliaments in ensuring the independence of Public Service Media in the Council of Europe Member States - Zagreb, 15 October 2012 (Spokesperson)
3. VI South East Europe Media Forum (SEEMF) - Budva/Becici, Montenegro, 22-23 October 2012 (Spokesperson)
4. Meeting with editors of leading Albanian media - Tirana, 8 November 2012 (Spokesperson)
5. Meeting with BiH Country Director of Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) – Sarajevo, 15 November 2012 (Spokesperson)
6. Meetings with Brussels-based journalists – Brussels, 6 December 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Spokesperson)
7. Meeting with representatives of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe and CEI to prepare for launching of the SEE documentary “How do I see my neighbour” - Zagreb, 29 January 2013 (Spokesperson)
8. European Certification and Qualification Association (ECQA)’s ‘Europe-wide Certified EU Project Manager’ training - Vienna, 7 - 9 February 2013 (Spokesperson)
9. Conference “Internet 2013: Shaping policies to advance media freedom” - Vienna, 14-15 February 2013 (Spokesperson)

## ***LIAISON OFFICE***

1. Conference “Towards EU 28: The perspectives of Croatian Accession to the EU for the future of EU integration process and regional co-operation – Brussels, 9 October 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
2. Meeting with the Member of European Parliament – Brussels, 11 October 2012, (LO Advisor)
3. Meeting with the Ambassador of Serbia to the EU - Brussels, 15 October 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
4. EPC Meeting with civil society representatives from the Balkans – Brussels, 15 October 2012 (LO Advisor)
5. Meeting with the Ambassador of Bulgaria to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the director for Europe of the Bulgarian MFA – Sarajevo, 18 October 2012 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on security cooperation)
6. Briefing to the representatives of DG Enlargement on the progress of the development of SEE 2020 vision – Brussels, 22 October 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on economic and social development, LO Advisor)
7. Briefing to the Ambassadors and senior diplomats of the missions of the countries of SEE on SEE 2020 – Brussels, 22 October 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on economic and social development, LO Advisor)

8. Meeting with the DG Enlargement and the World Bank representatives on the WB proposal for an EC/RCC/World Bank/WB Countries partnership on employment and social inclusion – Brussels, 23 October 2012 (Senior Expert on economic and social development, LO Advisor)
9. WBIF Policy and Strategy Discussion – Social Sector Workshop – Brussels, 23 October 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on economic and social development, LO Advisor)
10. 8<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on Cultural Heritage “Intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development in SEE” – Sofia, 24 - 25 October 2012 (Head of LO)
11. Meeting with the Director General of UNESCO – Sofia, 25 October 2012 (Head of LO)
12. Meeting with the Deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response – Brussels, 26 October 2012 (Head of LO)
13. Meeting with the Bulgarian representatives in COWEB and COELA groups – Brussels, 29 October 2012 (Head of LO)
14. Meeting with the Ambassador of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the EU - Brussels, 30 October 2012 (Head of LO)
15. Meeting with the Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the EU - Brussels, 12 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
16. Meeting with the Deputy Director General, DG Enlargement and Executive Director CDRSEE - Brussels, 12 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
17. Meeting with the policy officers on regional cooperation in the EEAS - Brussels, 13 November 2012 (Head of LO)
18. Conference “Connecting Europe: Infrastructural priorities for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Developing the Danube Region” - Brussels, 14 November 2012 (Head of LO)
19. Meeting with the Head of section ‘Regional cooperation and programs’ of DG Enlargement D.3 Unit - Brussels, 13 November 2012 (Head of LO)
20. Meeting with the Director in CEPS - Brussels, 21 November 2012 (Secretary General, Head of LO)
21. EC/IFI Environment workshop- Brussels, 21 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
22. Regional Conference Sustainable Reforms Towards EU 2020 Objectives – Skopje, 22 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
23. EPC policy debate with the participation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - Brussels, 27 November 2012 (Head of LO)
24. Meeting with the Head of section ‘Regional cooperation and programs’ of DG Enlargement D.3 Unit - Brussels, 29 November 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)

25. Meeting with Programme Manager, Institution Building, Taiex, Twinning, D.2 Unit, DG Enlargement – Brussels, 29 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
26. Conference on the SEE Law Schools Network, organized by GIZ - Brussels, 30 November 2012 (Head of LO)
27. Meeting with Assistant to Member of European Parliament – Brussels, 30 November 2012 (LO Advisor)
28. Meeting with the Vice-President of the Bulgarian Parliament - Brussels, 3 December 2012 (Head of LO)
29. Meeting with the deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European neighbourhood policy - Brussels, 4 December 2012 (Head of LO)
30. Meeting representatives of the DG Enlargement D.1 Unit on the preparations of the Conference on IPA II in January 2013 - Brussels, 6 December (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
31. Meeting with the DG Enlargement and the World Bank representatives on the WB proposal for an EC/RCC/World Bank/WB Countries partnership on employment and social inclusion – Brussels, 12 December 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
32. European Movement International briefing with the Prime Minister of Croatia – Brussels, 13 December (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
33. Panel discussion: Challenges of European Integration and European Future Enlargements - Paris, 23 January 2013 (LO Advisor)
34. Coordination meeting on Human Capital Development, Employment and Competitiveness between DG Enlargement, DG Employment, DG Education and Culture, ETF, OECD, WB and RCC – LO Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
35. Meeting with World Bank Lead Economist - Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
36. Meeting with Director of Marketing & Business Development - Brussels, 24 January 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
37. Meeting with the Director of the Intelligence Directorate EUMS in the EEAS – Brussels, 28 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
38. Meeting with representatives of DG ECHO in the EC – Brussels, 28 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
39. Meeting with the Director of the Brussels Office of the UNISDR – Brussels, 29 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
40. Meeting with the Deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response – Brussels, 30 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)

41. Meeting with the Head of Section 'Regional Cooperation and Political Criteria' in DG Enlargement D3 Unit and with the Policy Officer for regional cooperation in the Western Balkans Division of the EEAS – Brussels, 30 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
42. Meeting with the Deputy Director General on Security, Safety and Communication and Information Systems of the General secretariat of the Council – Brussels, 31 January 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
43. V Co-operation Committee Meeting of Quality Infrastructure in the Western Balkans and Turkey Project - Brussels, 31 January 2013 (LO Advisor)
44. Meeting with the Ambassador of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the EU – Brussels, 1 February 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
45. Briefing by the Senior Expert on Security Issues to the missions of the SEE countries accredited to the EU and NATO - Brussels, 1 February 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues, LO Advisor)
46. Meeting with the Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia Desk Office, RENA Project Manager, RCC focal point, DG Environment - Brussels, 4 February 2013 (LO Advisor)
47. Meeting with European Commission contracted external evaluator on evaluation of IPA assistance - Brussels, 8 February 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
48. Meeting with a representative of the Dutch State Council - Brussels, 12 February 2013 (Head of LO)

**ANNEX III**

**LIST OF PLANNED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE RCC SECRETARIAT IN 2013**

*Secretary General/ RCC Secretariat Officials*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	<b>Meetings with the Ambassadors, Heads of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations accredited in Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>		March/ April 2013	Sarajevo		
2.	<b>Consultations with the RCC Participants:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republic of Moldova</li> <li>• Germany</li> <li>• Other RCC Participants</li> </ul>		19-20 February 2013 21 February 2013 March/ April 2012	Chisinau Berlin		
3.	<b>Conference “The Balkans in Europe’s Future: The role of Serbia”</b>	Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence	20-21 February 2013	Berlin		
4.	<b>Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU</b>	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	27 February 2013	Sarajevo		

5.	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RCC “Five Years of Regional Cooperation Council: Building on foundations and embracing new challenges”</b>	RCC Secretariat	27 February 2013	Sarajevo		
6.	<b>RCC Board meeting</b>	RCC Secretariat	28 February 2013	Sarajevo		
7.	<b>Brussels Forum</b>	German Marshal Fund	15 - 17 March 2013	Brussels		
8.	<b>Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the RCC Board Participants from SEE</b>	RCC Secretariat	20 March 2013	Sarajevo		
9.	<b>Meeting of the RCC Financial Subcommittee</b>	RCC Secretariat	21 March 2013	Sarajevo		
10.	<b>The Regional Aspects of Security in South Eastern Europe, Balkans and Black Sea</b>	Global Diplomatic Forum	24 - 26 March 2013	Sofia		
11.	<b>Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP (tbc)</b>	SEECP CiO	9 April 2013	Skopje		
12.	<b>Informal Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP (tbc)</b>	SEECP CiO	10 April 2013	Skopje		



13.	<b>Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU</b>	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	24 April 2013	Sarajevo		
14.	<b>RCC Board meeting</b>	RCC Secretariat	25 April 2013	Sarajevo		
15.	<b>10 Years After Thessaloniki: An appraisal of the EU perspective and the challenges in the Western Balkans</b>	Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU	24 May 2013	Dublin		
16.	<b>Meeting of the Speakers of Parliaments of the SEECP</b>	SEECP C-i-O	27-28 May 2013	Ohrid		
17.	<b>Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP</b>	SEECP C-i-O	29 May 2013	Ohrid		
18.	<b>RCC Annual Meeting</b>	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	30 May 2013	Ohrid		
19.	<b>Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP</b>	SEECP C-i-O	31 May 2013	Ohrid		

20.	<b>Meeting of the Heads of States/ Governments of the SEECP</b>	SEECP C-i-O	1 June 2013	Ohrid		
21.	<b>Conference on strategic communications and security institutions</b>	RACVIAC, RCC Secretariat, European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe, HRT	May 2013	Skopje		
22.	<b>Academy on Media Law in South East Europe</b>	RCC Secretariat, FES, OSCE, Article 19, European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe	June 2013	TBD		
23.	<b>Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU</b>	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	1 October 2013	Sarajevo		
24.	<b>RCC Board meeting</b>	RCC Secretariat	2 October 2013	Sarajevo		

*Economic and Social Development*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	<b>SEEIC Working Group on Innovation</b>	RCC Secretariat	January March May 2013	Sarajevo		Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC
2.	<b>SEEIC Working Group on Investment Policy and Promotion</b>	RCC Secretariat	February May 2013	Sarajevo		Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC Action
3.	<b>SEE 2020 Task Force Meeting – Prepare inputs for SEEIC Plenary on SEE 2020</b>	RCC Secretariat	February May September 2013	Sarajevo		Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC
4.	<b>SEEIC Plenary Meetings</b>	RCC Secretariat	March June October 2013	Sarajevo		Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC
5.	<b>SEEIC Ministerial</b>	RCC Secretariat	November 2013	Sarajevo		Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC

6.	<b>Capital Markets Integration Session – EBRD</b>	RCC Secretariat	June 2013	Sarajevo		Action 2: Identifying ways and means for access to finance
7.	<b>Intergovernmental Working Group Meeting on Inclusive Growth</b>	RCC Secretariat	January April September 2013	Sarajevo		Action 3: Mainstream employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations
8.	<b>Inclusive Growth Ministerial Conference</b>	RCC Secretariat	October 2013	TBD		Action 3: Mainstream employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations
9.	<b>Social Agenda Meetings</b>	RCC Secretariat	May September	TBD		Action 3: Mainstream employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations

*Energy and Infrastructure*

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM</b>
1.	<b>Regional Conference within SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation framework</b>	Network of CSOs/RCC Secretariat	TBD	Sarajevo	Strengthening role of civil society, raising awareness and promoting the integration of CCA into sectoral policies	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
2.	<b>Regional meeting to promote ICPDR activities in implementing EU SDR</b>	ICPDR/RCC Secretariat/Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations	June 2013	Sarajevo	Promoting implementation of EU SDR particularly in the area of water quality and more active involvement of Bosnia and Herzegovina in strategy implementation	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
3.	<b>Regional Conference to promote effective integrated trans-boundary water resources management (ITWRM)</b>	GWP-Med/RCC Secretariat/German Environmental Ministry	TBD	Sarajevo	Strengthening regional cooperation in ITWRM and particularly in water sector climate change adaptation and sustainable use of hydro-potentials	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
4.	<b>4<sup>th</sup> ISIS Governing Body meeting</b>	EC DG MOVE/ISIS PS/RCC Secretariat	May-June 2013	Pristine	Supporting implementation of the Single European Sky II	1. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region
5.	<b>Regional Conference to promote an integrated approach towards development of road infrastructure in SEE</b>	RCC Secretariat/European Road Federation	TBD	Brussels	Contribute to overcoming road traffic deficiencies, improved mobility and accessibility in the region.	2. Contribute to the promotion of road safety
6.	<b>Railway expert's conference</b>	RCC Secretariat/SEETO/ERA	TBD	TBD	Discussing regional priority projects, infrastructure needs and financial availabilities as well as the legal and institutional railway reforms and horizontal requirements	

*Justice and Home Affairs*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	<b>Meeting of the SEE region experts on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters</b>	RCC Secretariat /SEEC countries	2013 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	TBD Sarajevo preferred	Studying the prerequisites for closer judicial cooperation, police operations, police and prosecution activities in criminal investigations, sharing of information on issues affecting the police, prosecution and court services	2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters
2.	<b>Meeting of SEE region experts on cooperation on civil and commercial matters</b>	RCC Secretariat /SEEC countries	2013 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	TBD Sarajevo preferred	Analyze the situation of the implementation of existing legal framework; make proposals for better implementation by all countries of the region, as well as to propose the best solutions	5. Develop regional cooperation in private and civil law matters – administrative law, labor law, consumer law -
3.	<b>Meeting of the Steering Group on JHA Regional Strategic Document - SGRS</b>	RCC Secretariat	2013 March /June	TBD Croatia	Preparation of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Progress Report on the Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism of the Regional Cooperation in JHA	1. Coordinate drafting and adoption, monitoring and implementation of the Regional Strategic Document
4.	<b>SEE Meeting of the General Prosecutors</b>	RCC Secretariat	2013 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	TBD Sarajevo preferred	Prosecution role in Regional Cooperation Mechanism  Relevance for the prosecution of the SEE Police Cooperation	2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters

					<p>Convention and SELEC Convention</p> <p>Prosecutors' implication in ILECUs</p> <p>Relevance of the prosecutors' networks SEEPAG and WB Prosecutors' Network</p> <p>Establishment of a working group to study prerequisites for closer cooperation on police operations, police and prosecution services in criminal matters, sharing of information on issues affecting the police, prosecution and courts</p>	
5.	<b>Regional meetings of the SEE Supreme Courts and Judicial Councils</b>	SEEC/ RCC Secretariat	2013 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	TBD	<p>Courts and Judicial Councils role in the Regional Cooperation Mechanism</p> <p>Integrated perspective of the regional judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters</p> <p>Establishment of a working group to study prerequisites for closer cooperation on sharing information on issues affecting the police, prosecution and courts</p>	<p>2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters</p> <p>5. Initiate regional cooperation in private and civil law matters</p>
6.	<b>Meeting of the Steering Group on JHA Regional Strategic Document - SGRS and V Annual Coordination</b>	RCC Secretariat	2013 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	TBD Possible back to back with		<p>1. Coordinate drafting and adoption, monitoring and implementation of the Regional</p>

	<b>Conference of the Regional Organizations and International Partners in the area of Justice Home Affairs and Security Cooperation</b>			SEECF Ministerial Conference on JHA		Strategic Document
7.	<b>Regional Workshop on Counter Terrorism</b>	RCC Secretariat /UN CTED/ RACVIAC	2013 September/October	Zagreb	Continuation of the series of Workshops with Counter Terrorism Topic	2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters

*Security Cooperation*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	<b>SEEMIC WG Meetings and Trainings (2 WG and 2 Trainings)</b>	RCC Secretariat	Autumn	TBD		
2.	<b>SEEMIC Conference</b>	RCC Secretariat	Autumn	TBD		
3.	<b>SEENSA WG Meetings (total of 6)</b>	RCC Secretariat	May 2013	TBD		
4.	<b>SEENSA Conference</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
5.	<b>SEECIC Conference</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
6.	<b>Defence Policy Director Meetings</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		



7.	<b>Defence Procurement Directors</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
8.	<b>Heads of Parliamentary Security Committees</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
9.	<b>Security Advisors to Presidents/PM</b>	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		

*Building Human Capital and Parliamentary Cooperation*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	<b>Training of Education Inspectors II</b>	RCC Secretariat	March 2013	TBD		2. Support to education reform with emphasis on higher education
2.	<b>Meeting of Heads of Cabinets of the Ministers of Culture</b>	RCC Secretariat	April 2013	TBD		1. Taking over coordination of Ljubljana Process II
3.	<b>Ministerial Conference on the Regional R&amp;D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans</b>	WB/ RCC Secretariat	May or June 2013	TBD		3. Development of Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans

4.	<b>Ministerial Conference – Ljubljana Process “Achievements and Way Forward”</b>	RCC Secretariat	September or October 2013	TBD		1. Taking over coordination of Ljubljana Process II
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*Parliamentary Cooperation*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	<b>Parliamentary Cooperation: Western Balkan Parliamentarians Seminars (total of 2)</b>	European Parliament/ RCC Secretariat	March June 2013	TBD		
2.	<b>Meeting of the Independent Regulatory Bodies (Ombudsmen Network)</b>	RCC Secretariat /TBD	September 2013	TBD		

## **ANNEX IV**

### **LIST OF OFFICIALS OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL (RCC) SECRETARIAT**

#### **SECRETARY GENERAL**

1. Mr. Hido Biscević - Secretary General of the RCC (contract expired as of 31 December 2012)
2. Mr. Goran Svilanović - Secretary General of the RCC (assumed his duties as of 1 January 2013)

#### **EXPERT POOL**

1. Ms. Jelica Minić- Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool (as of 1 January 2013 assumes only the function of the Head of Expert Pool)
2. Mr. Sanjin Arifagić, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Head of Economic and Social Development Unit
3. Mr. Miroslav Kukobat- Senior Expert on Infrastructure and Energy, Head of Infrastructure and Energy Unit
4. Mr. Virgil Constantin Ivan Cucu- Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Head of Justice and Home Affairs Unit (left the RCC Secretariat on 1 November 2012)
5. Mr. Efrem Radev- Senior Expert on Security Cooperation, Head of Security Cooperation Unit
6. Mr. Mladen Dragašević- Senior Expert on Building Human Capital, Head of Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues Unit
7. Mr. Sorin Sterie- Expert on Security Issues
8. Ms. Amna Redžepagić- Expert on Infrastructure and Energy
9. Mr. Predrag Vujičić- Expert on Justice and Home Affairs
10. Mr. Nand Shani- Expert on Economic and Social Development
11. Mr. Gjergj Murra - Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation
12. Ms. Maja Taylor- Assistant to the Head of Expert Pool
13. Ms. Elvira Ademović- Assistant to the Expert Pool

- **South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Project**, attached to the Economic and Social Development Unit within Expert Pool

14. Ms. Dragana Đurica, Project Leader
15. Ms. Nedima Hadžibrišević, Project Assistant

#### **FRONT OFFICE**

1. Mr. Jovan Tegovski- Chief of Staff
2. Ms. Dinka Živalj- Head of Media Unit/ Spokesperson
3. Ms. Gordana Demšer – Political Advisor
4. Mr. Dorin Vremis – Junior Political Advisor
5. Ms. Jasna Sinančević- Personal Assistant to the Secretary General
6. Ms. Nataša Mitrović- Assistant to the Front Office
7. Ms. Selma Ahatović- Lihić- Public Affairs Assistant

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT**

1. Mr. Alexandru Murzac- Head of Administrative Unit
2. Mr. Sead Filipović- Finance Officer
3. Ms. Mirela Mahić- Administrative Officer
4. Mr. Maid Medunjanin- IT Officer
5. Ms. Alma Gadžić- Accountant
6. Ms. Adisa Okerić Zaid- Translator (replacement for Ms. Dijana Kešelj who is on maternity leave)

### **LIAISON OFFICE IN BRUSSELS**

1. Mr. Stanislav Daskalov- Head of LO
2. Mr. Basil Coronakis- Deputy Head of LO (contract expired as of 31 December 2012)
3. Ms. Lidija Topić- LO Advisor

### **RCC SECRETARIAT'S TECHNICAL AND SERVICE STAFF**

1. Mr. Siniša Cvetković- Driver/Security (contract expired as of 31 December 2012)
2. Mr. Slađan Rikanović - Driver/Security (assumed his duties as of 1 January 2013)
3. Mr. Fikret Kadrić- Driver/ Courier
4. Mr. Denis Sulić- Driver/ Courier
5. Ms. Vanja Vekić- Receptionist

## ANNEX V

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	Association of Balkan Chambers
ACE	Association of Consulting Engineers of Bosnia and Herzegovina
ACI	Airport Council International Europe
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
AEA	Association of the European Airlines
AII	Adriatic-Ionian Initiative
ALAs	Association of Local Authorities
AREC	Adriatic Region Employers' Centre
ATM	Air Traffic Management
BAC	Business Advisory Council
BCSDN	Balkan Civil Society Development Network
BRESCE	UNESCO Venice Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe
bSEE	Task Force Broadband South Eastern Europe Task Force
BfV	Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CARICC	Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Agreement
CeGD	Centre for e-Governance Development
CEI	Central European Initiative
CGRS	Commission for Global Road Safety
C-i-O	Chairmanship-in-Office
CoE	Council of Europe
CoMoCoSEE	Council of Ministers of Culture of South-East Europe
COSAP	Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States participating in the Stabilization and Association Process
COWEB	Working Group on Western Balkans of the Council of the EU
CP	Contracting Parties
CPESSEC	Centre of Public Employment Services of Southeast European Countries
CPF	Cetinje Parliamentary Forum
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
DABLAS	Danube and Black Sea Task Force
DCAF	Democratic Control of Armed Forces
DCHOD	Deputy Chief of Defence
DCP	Danube Cooperation Process
DPPI	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative
EAS	External Action Service
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECAA	European Common Aviation Area
ECRB	Energy Community Regulatory Board
ECS	Energy Community Secretariat
ECT	Energy Community Treaty
EEAS	European External Action Service
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELFA	European Law Faculty Association
ENIC	European Network of Information Centres
EnC	Energy Community
ERF	European Union Road Federation
ERI SEE	Education Reform Initiative for South Eastern Europe
ERSO	European Road Safety Observatory
eSEE Initiative	Electronic South Eastern Europe Initiative

ESENSEE	Eco Social Economy Network South and East Europe
EU	European Union
EUMS	European Union Military Staff
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FES	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
GRSP	Global Road Safety Partnership
GS Council of EU	General Secretariat Council of European Union
GTF	Gender Task Force
HIDAA	High Inspectorate for Declaration and Audit of Assets
ICDT	International Centre for Democratic Transition
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IEN	Integrity Expert Network
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
IFIAG	International Financial Institution Advisory Group
IFP	Infrastructure Project Facilities
ILECUs	International Enforcement Coordination Units
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOE	International Organization of Employers
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IOs	International Organizations
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
IRI	Investment Reform Index
IRF	International Road Federation
IRTAD	International Road Traffic and Accident Database
ISIS	Implementation of Single European Sky in South East Europe
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
ITF	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
JPM	Joint Parliamentary Meeting
KOGSEB	Small and Medium – sized Enterprise Development Administration of Turkey
LSE	London School of Economics
MARRI	Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative
MB IPA	Multi-Beneficiary Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
MCAASEES	Marshall Center Alumni Association for Southeast European Security
ME CAA	Montenegrin Civil Aviation Agency
MIDWEB	Migration for Development in the Western Balkans
MIPD	Multi Indicative Planning Document
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MONEYVAL	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NALAS	Network of Associations of Local Authorities of SEE
NARIC	National Academic Recognition Information Centres
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NI-CO	Northern Ireland Cooperation Overseas
NIPACs	National IPA Coordinators
NOS	NATO Office of Security
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OLAF	European Antifraud Office
OCTA	Organized Crime Threat Assessment for South East Europe
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OSINT	Open Source Intelligence

PCC Secretariat	Police Cooperation Convention Secretariat
PE	Private Equity
PFS	Partners for Financial Stability
PHLG	Permanent High Level Group
PIDIN	Partnership for Improvement of Danube Infrastructure and Navigation
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PSO	Peace Support Operations
RACVIAC	Centre for Security Cooperation
RAI	Regional Anticorruption Initiative
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
RCC TF FBHC	RCC Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital
RCI	Regional Competitiveness Initiative
REC	Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe
RENA	Regional Environmental Network for Accession
ReSPA	Regional School of Public Administration
RI&O	Regional Initiatives and Organizations
RI&TFs	Regional Initiatives and Task Forces
RNIPA	Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies
RSA	Road Safety Audits
RSD	Regional Strategic Document
RSRDI	Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation in Western Balkans
RSI	Road Safety Inspection
RSPC SEE	Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in South East Europe
RTD	Research and Technical Development
SAP+	Stabilization and Association Process Plus (cumulation zone with EU, EFTA, Western Balkans and Turkey)
SECE CRIF	South East and Central European Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility
SECI	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative
SECI Centre	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, Regional Centre for Combating Organized Crime
SEDM	South East Europe Defence Ministerial
SEDRI	Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative
SEE	South East Europe
SEEC	South East Europe Clearing House
SEECIC	South East European Counter-Intelligence Chiefs Forum
SEECCEL	South East Europe Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning
SEECF	South-East European Cooperation Process
SEE-ERA.NET	South East European – European Research Area Network
SEE-ERA.NET PLUS	South East European – European Research Area Network Plus
SEEFREC	SEE Fire fighting Regional Centre network
SEEHN	SEE Health Network
SEEIC	South East Europe Investment Committee
SEELS	South East European Law School Network
SELEC	Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre
SEEMIC	South East Europe Military Intelligence Chiefs
SEE MoD-GS	South East Europe Ministries of Defence and General Staffs
SEENSA	National Security Authorities of South East Europe Countries
SEE PPP Network	South East Europe Public Private Partnership Network
SEEPAG	Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group
SEPICA	Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association
SEESAC	South East Europe Small Arms and Light Weapons Clearing House
SES	Single European Sky
SEETO	South-East Europe Transport Observatory
SIDA	Swedish Development Agency
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprise
SMEM	Serbian Ministry of Energy and Mining
SPMU	Strategic Police Matters Unit
SSR	Security Sector Reforms
STREW	Structural Reform in Higher Education in Western Balkans Countries
SWG RRD	Standing Working Group on Regional Rural Development

SWP	Strategic Work Programme
SWEROAD	Swedish National Road Consulting
TACSO	Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organizations
TCT	Transport Community Treaty
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport network
TF	Task Force
TFCS	Task Force on Culture and Society
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNCTED	United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VC	Venture Capital
WB	World Bank
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
WBPN	Western Balkans Prosecutor Network
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WINPRO	Witness Protection in the Fight against Serious Crime and Terrorism
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WPON	Women Police Officers Network