



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

For the period 4 May – 5 October 2012

**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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CONTENTS

I. Summary of activities	4
II. General and institutional aspects of the RCC Secretariat's activities	6
- RCC Board Meeting	6
- Coordination between the SEECP and the RCC	7
- RCC Annual Meeting	8
- Participation of the RCC Secretariat delegation at the SEECP high-level meetings of the SEECP C-i-O 2011-2012, held in the period 12 – 15 June 2012 in Belgrade	9
- Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC members	10
- Participation of the RCC Secretary General in other regional meetings and events	11
- Cooperation with the EU and other Brussels based institutions	11
- Regional cooperation in the field of media	12
- Communication activities	13
- Evaluation of general and institutional aspects	14
III. Priority areas of the RCC Activities	15
- Activities of the Deputy Secretary General and Head of the Expert Pool	15
1. Economic and Social Development	16
- Investment and Business Enabling Environment	16
- Access to finance	17
- Social Development	17
- Information Society Development	18
2. Energy and Infrastructure	18
- Energy	18
- Transport	19
- Environment	20
2. Justice and Home Affairs	21
- Strategic coordination: events and actions	21
- Fighting organized crime	22
- Anti-corruption	23
- Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters	23
- Cooperation in civil and commercial matters	24

4. Security Cooperation	24
- Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation	24
- Disaster preparedness and prevention	26
5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues	26
- Education	26
- Science and Research	27
- Culture	27
- Parliamentary Cooperation	28
IV. Operation of the RCC Secretariat	29
V. Staff Changes in the RCC Secretariat	29
VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat Budget for 2012	30
ANNEX I	31
Report on the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 4 May – 5 October 2012	
ANNEX II	44
List of Meetings and Events Attended by the RCC Secretary General and the RCC Secretariat Officials in the Period 4 May – 5 October 2012	
ANNEX III	56
List of Planned Events and Activities of the RCC Secretariat in 2012	
ANNEX IV	62
List of Officials of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat	
ANNEX V	64
List of Abbreviations	

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 4 May – 5 October 2012.

I. Summary of activities

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps for 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 members (Annex I: Report on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 4 May – 5 October 2012, Annex II: List of events and meetings attended by the RCC SG and the RCC Secretariat officials in the period 4 May – 5 October 2012, Annex III: List of Planned events of the RCC Secretariat in 2012, Annex V: List of Abbreviations).

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

The seventeenth RCC Board meeting, among other issues, discussed and accepted the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in South East Europe (SEE) for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012 and approved the Report of the RCC SG on the activities of the RCC Secretariat and on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 6 March - 3 May 2012. The ninth Coordination meeting between the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) Troika, the RCC Secretariat and European Union (EU) discussed important issues related to the cooperation of the previous and the current SEECP Chair-in-Office (C-i-O) 2012 - 2013 and the RCC Secretariat.

The Fourth RCC Annual meeting and the high-level SEECP meetings have confirmed the key role of the RCC in promoting and developing a comprehensive, sustainable and more stable regional cooperation in SEE and adopted the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in South East Europe (SEE) for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012.

The meetings also marked the appointment of Mr. Goran Svilanovic as a new Secretary General of the RCC, which becomes effective as of 1 January 2013, as well as the assuming of the SEECP C-i-O by The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The RCC SG actively took part at the Informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs, organized by the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013, on the margins of the 67th UN General Assembly in New York, emphasizing, among the other, the need to consolidate regional cooperation and proposing different steps in strengthening its essential framework – the SEECP. Prior to the Informal meeting, in a separate bilateral meeting, the Bulgarian MFA N. Mladenov awarded the RCC SG with Golden Laurel Medal for his valuable contribution to and inspiring leadership in promoting tolerance, dialogue, moderation and mutual understanding as essential pillars of regional cooperation in the complex SEE environment.

The RCC SG, within the permanent dialogue with RCC members, held consultations with high-level officials from Prishtina (UNMIK, EUSR and Kosovo* authorities), Podgorica, Skopje and Washington D.C., as well as with senior officials from the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

*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 Secretariat, and in particular the Deputy RCC Secretary General (DSG) and the Expert Pool, continued to be intensively 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).

The 11th South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Meeting confirmed that the process of transferring the SEEIC to the RCC proved to be a major catalyst to accelerated development of the SEE 2020 Strategy and that the SEEIC has become a central point on the map of the regional cooperation playing, with the back-up of the RCC, a key role in the development of regional strategies to advance the region's economic development and integration with the EU. The set of nine targets for integrated, smart, inclusive and sustainable growth in the region until 2020 was supported by the members of the SEEIC. The proposed targets for the SEE 2020 Strategy include growing the region's total value of trade in goods and services to more than a quarter trillion USD compared to 2010, reducing the trade deficit, and growing intra-regional trade in goods by over 200%.

The SIDA financed project Women Entrepreneurship (WE) – a job creation engine for SEE to be implemented by the South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (SEECLE) and the Gender Task Force (GTF) and coordinated by the RCC Secretariat, has been officially launched on 21 September 2012.

The RCC Secretariat was engaged in different activities with the Energy Community Secretariat and in preparation of important regional events in the area of air transport, railways and road safety.

The Third Congress on Roads, organized by the RCC Secretariat and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, under the auspices of the Ministry of Communication and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina discussed and analyzed results and future challenges in the development of the road infrastructure in the Western Balkans.

The RCC Secretariat made full use of the existing regional instruments, frameworks and networks in the area of Justice and Home Affairs – *inter alia* the Steering Group on Regional Strategy (SGRS), the Monitoring and Evaluating Mechanism (M&EM) and the Expert Teams on Judicial Cooperation, with the aim of developing a comprehensive and holistic approach to the rule of law sector, together with a judicial and democratic control of regional actions. The RCC Secretariat finalised the commissioning of the data base application designed to collect and integrate the statistical indicators of the M&EM and the first centralized statistical data is available from the end of September 2012.

The RCC Secretariat continued to intensify cooperation between the defense structures and intelligence services of the countries from the region. The 2nd conference of the National Security Authorities of South East Europe Countries (SEENSA) adopted a number of specific documents and decisions related to future activities in areas of common interest for the Heads of the Classified Information Authorities. The 4th meeting of the South East Europe Military Intelligence Chiefs (SEEMIC) adopted the first regional common intelligence analysis on contemporary challenges.

The role of the RCC Secretariat has grown in the Building Human Capital and Parliamentary Cooperation regional programmes and projects. The focus was put on the implementation of the Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans, support to the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society where it has signed with the EC a grant contract regarding the project “Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage”, developing the project “Parliamentary Cooperation in the Western Balkans and Turkey - Support to the Cetinje

Parliamentary Forum”. 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, following the interest the countries of SEE expressed in the Declaration of the Annual Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Culture of SEE (CoMoCoSEE), held in Belgrade in April 2012 and the conclusions of the Regional Film Forum, held during the Sarajevo Film Festival in July 2012.

The RCC Secretariat continued with its communication activities and efforts in fostering freedom of media in the region. One of the most important events in this respect was the First Academy on Media Law held under the auspices of the RCC Secretariat.

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.

II. General and institutional aspects of the RCC Secretariat’s activities

RCC Board Meeting

The seventeenth RCC Board meeting was held on 15 May 2012. The RCC SG presented his Annual Report on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012, which highlights the wider regional developments in SEE, the state of play of the regional cooperation from the point of view of the RCC activities and in the general context, points to the political and socio-economic difficulties in the region, the state of institutional relations of the SEE countries with the EU and focuses on the results attained in each priority area following the completion of the implementation of the first year (2011) of the RCC SWP 2011 – 2013. The RCC SG also presented his Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period 5 March – 3 May 2012, briefed on the results of the Coordination meeting between the SEECF Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU, on the most important current and incoming activities of the RCC Secretariat and on his intention to continue holding regular consultations with RCC members in view of raising the awareness and importance of further strengthening regional cooperation and enhancing the role of RCC.

The DSG/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 second phase (2012) of the RCC SWP 2011-2013.

The Serbian SEECF C-i-O informed on the process of nominating the Secretary General of RCC, with the RCC Board members reviewing subsequently the proposed candidates. The RCC Board members exchanged views on the procedure of consultation and selection of the candidates, pointing out that the RCC statutory documents on this particular issue are not sufficiently clear and will need to be addressed within the foreseen work on the RCC Statute.

The RCC Board members welcomed and commended the Annual Report of the RCC SG, particularly the comprehensive analysis of the wider regional cooperation process in SEE and of the results accomplished in every priority area of cooperation in the region.

The RCC Board meeting reached the following conclusions: the RCC Board accepted the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012 with the proposed amendments; approved the Report of the RCC SG on the activities of the RCC Secretariat and on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 6 March - 3 May 2012 and approved the Financial Report of the RCC SG for the year 2011. The RCC Board meeting took the following decisions: 1) Decision on the Amendment to the Budget of the RCC Secretariat

for the year 2012 and 2) Decision on the Adoption of the Addendums to the Financial Management Manual of the RCC Secretariat.

Coordination between the SEECP and the RCC

The ninth Coordination meeting of the SEECP Troika – Montenegro, Serbia and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - the RCC Secretariat and the EU (representative of the European Commission and the representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy) was held on 14 May 2012.

The agenda of the meeting included: presentation of the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012; information on the most important recent and future activities related to the priorities of the Serbian SEECP C-i-O and of the RCC, in particular those pertaining to the implementation of its SWP 2011 – 2013; information by the Serbian SEECP C-i-O on the process of nominating the Secretary General of RCC, i.e. review of the proposed candidates and further steps in the process of streamlining regional taskforces and initiatives in SEE.

The Serbian SEECP C-i-O informed on the process of nominating the Secretary General of RCC. The participants, without entering into discussion on the nominated candidates, touched upon the issues related to the procedure of consultation with the RCC Board members and selection of the candidates.

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in its capacity as the SEECP C-i-O for the period June 2012 - June 2013, informed on the activities related to the preparation of their programme.

The RCC DSG/Head of Expert Pool reflected on the current state of affairs of the implementation process of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and on the steps undertaken in the streamlining of regional task forces and initiatives in SEE.

The conclusions of the Coordination meeting, inter alia, welcomed and appreciated the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 12 May 2011 – 15 May 2012; commended the achievements of the RCC Secretariat in implementing its SWP 2011- 2013 and expressed full support to its present and future work as well as reiterated the determination of the RCC Secretariat and the incoming SEECP C-i-O to continue cooperating dynamically with the aim of further increasing the synergy and coordination of their activities.

The RCC SG actively participated in the Informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs, organized by the current SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013, on the margins of the 67th UN General Assembly in New York. The MFAs reiterated their countries' full commitment to the EU enlargement policy, stressing its transformative and stabilization impact on the region and shared views and ideas on strengthening regional cooperation and consolidating its essential framework – the SEECP such as to hold thematically focused and targeted SEECP Summit meetings, to have more regular meetings of the MFAs, to enhance the position of the RCC National Coordinators, etc. The MFAs pointed out that the work of the RCC Secretariat is an invaluable platform for providing tangible and concrete results in many priority sectors. They called for a smooth transition of the RCC management to the incoming SG and highly praised the work done since the inception of the organization by current RCC SG. The RCC SG, inter alia, expressed support for the suggestions made by the MFA's in particularly those regarding the concept how the countries could support each other on their way

toward EU and NATO and underlined the need of developing joint large trans-regional infrastructural projects and, in general, regional recovery and development plan.

The RCC SG was invited for consultations with the MFA of the current SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 in Skopje. The parties exchanged views regarding the overall developments in SEE and the perspectives for strengthening regional cooperation in light of the discussions at the high-level SEECP events in Belgrade last June, further improving cooperation and enhancing the coordination between the SEECP C-i-O and the RCC Secretariat, in particular on issues related to the implementation of the priorities of their respective work programmes and organization of important joint activities.

RCC Annual Meeting

The fourth RCC Annual Meeting took place on 13 June 2012 in Belgrade, back to back with the meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Heads of State and Government of the SEECP. The meeting was co-chaired by the Secretary General of RCC and the Serbian SEECP C-i-O and was attended by 37 members of the RCC, including all members of the SEE. The Agenda of the meeting included introductory remarks by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and by the Secretary General of the RCC; the Annual Report of the Secretary General of the RCC on regional cooperation in South East Europe for the period 12 May 2011–15 May 2012 – presentation and endorsement; Presentation of the RCC Secretariat's Self-assessment Report on the First year of the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013; Endorsement of the nomination proposal for the Secretary General of the RCC.

In presenting the main achievements and challenges of regional cooperation, the RCC SG emphasized that the region reached a point of crucial decisions regarding its EU future, pointed out to the advancements in the process of reconciliation and rapprochement whilst commending the relaxed and widened human contacts across the region. He highlighted the necessity for a consolidated and sustained cooperation process among the SEE countries, especially in the context of the remaining unresolved issues. The RCC SG informed that RCC is half way through the implementation process of the triennial SWP, and has delivered on almost two thirds of the assigned tasks. He also informed the meeting about the formal request received from Kosovo* to become a member of the RCC in accordance with the EU facilitated Arrangements Regarding Regional Representation and Cooperation.

The RCC DSG/Head of Expert Pool presented the RCC Secretariat's Self-assessment Report on the First year of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, focusing on the most important achievements and the ways ahead.

The RCC members that took part in the discussion recurrently emphasised the RCC Secretariat's important role in building and strengthening ties among SEE countries and in promoting regional stability and prosperity, as well as that of the RCC SG, and reconfirmed their full support to the RCC.

They underlined the need to further strengthen the already ongoing prolific coordination of the RCC with the SEECP C-i-O, discussed the potential role of the RCC in the development of the regional transport infrastructure and expressed support to its current initiatives, especially in the field of railways rehabilitation.

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They also stressed the importance of preserving the principle of all-inclusiveness as an important prerequisite for fruitful cooperation between all the RCC members. The importance of a financial sustainability of the RCC Secretariat was reinforced by a call to the RCC Board members to allocate their annual financial contributions within the agreed timeframes. The meeting endorsed the Annual Report of the Secretary General of the RCC on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 12 May 2011–15 May 2012 and the nomination proposal of the Committee of the SEECP Political Directors for appointing Mr. Goran Svilanovic as new Secretary General of the RCC.

The concrete results achieved by the RCC in the implementation of its SWP 2011-2013 and the discussions during the RCC Annual Meeting confirmed that a prioritized and project orientated regional cooperation, coordinated with the EU agenda, can serve as an impetus to the multifaceted development of SEE. The meeting provided strategic guidance for the period ahead and reaffirmed the principle of regional ownership and all-inclusiveness. The RCC SG expressed gratitude to the RCC members of the region for their growing awareness of the added value that regional cooperation brings to the national and regional level. He also underlined the pertinent role that the EU and its institutions, particularly the European Commission but also other RCC members outside the region, have in supporting the RCC.

The RCC SG congratulated the new RCC Secretary General and expressed his readiness and that of the RCC Secretariat to assist him during the transition period and to ensure a smooth transfer of duties.

Participation of the RCC Secretariat delegation at the SEECP high-level meetings of the SEECP C-i-O 2011-2012, held in the period 12 – 15 June 2012 in Belgrade

The RCC Secretariat delegation actively took part at the meetings of the Political Directors, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Heads of State and Government of the SEECP Participating States by providing substantial contribution in the drafting of the SEECP Belgrade Declaration and in the plenary sessions.

The delegations of the SEECP Participating States commended the work of the RCC SG and of the RCC Secretariat, marked by concrete results in the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, welcomed the RCC Secretariat's Self-assessment report on the implementation of the first year of the RCC SWP 2011 – 2013 and emphasised the important role that RCC should exert in addressing the needs of the region through concrete regional projects, such as, in the field of railway transportation. They also praised the advanced level of synergy between the SEECP and the RCC, stressing that the SEECP should use the institutional backbone provided by the RCC in order to transform the political declarations into concrete projects and agreed to look how to promote further the concept of regional ownership, including through a "Group of the Wise".

The SEECP MFAs approved and, subsequently, the SEECP Heads of State and Government adopted the Annual Report of the RCC SG on regional cooperation in SEE for 2011 – 2012, appointed Mr. Goran Svilanovic as new Secretary General of the RCC and the SEECP Heads of State and Government approved the appointment, which becomes effective on 1 January 2013. The SEECP Belgrade Declaration was not adopted due to differences on one paragraph between two SEECP Participating States. The meetings in Belgrade marked the end of the Serbian SEECP C-i-O and the beginning of the SEECP C-i-O of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for the period June 2012-June 2013, as well as the agreement on the SEECP C-i-O of Romania for the period June 2013 - June 2014.

Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC members

The RCC SG, in the framework of the permanent dialogue with RCC members, held consultations with high-level officials in Prishtina (UNMIK, EUSR and Kosovo* authorities), Podgorica, Skopje, Washington D.C. (U.S. Department of State and the World Bank), as well as in Brussels with senior officials from the EC and the EEAS.

The RCC SG presented views on the most important current political and socio-economic developments in SEE and on the dynamics of the EU enlargement process. He stressed the duality of positive trends in the process of European integration, meaning that the countries in general are on the reform path, and by unresolved open issues, by temporary economic revivals and by a lack of a long-term sustainable economic growth, by sporadic attempts at improving social cohesion and by deep social dissonances. The challenges posed by the duality of these developments require collective action and solidarity. Furthermore, the need to continue improving regional cooperation, particularly by ensuring all-inclusiveness and greater inputs from the national authorities of the RCC members from SEE, remains of an utmost importance.

In the light of the SEECP debate on the future of regional cooperation, the RCC SG underlined that the region needs to work on consolidating regional cooperation and assuming greater regional responsibility, including addressing open issues. In this sense, he made suggestions related to development of joint strategic regional economic and infrastructural projects, e.g. on the railways rehabilitation in SEE highlighting that this approach would additionally contribute to durable stability, in particular in light of the open issues and prolonged EU accession process. Following the reference on this issue in the SEECP Summit Belgrade Declaration, the RCC SG launched the idea of organizing an expert meeting, with representatives of the current SEECP C-i-O, SEETO, EC, World Bank, RCC Secretariat, Western Balkans Investment Framework and SEE countries, to be held by the end of 2012.

He also informed about RCC Secretariat's intention to commence the preparatory work on the SWP for the period 2014-2016 to be adopted at the SEECP Summit in June 2013, which overall aim should be to reflect better the priorities of the countries of the region. The top priority of the new SWP, in the opinion of the Secretariat, should be the inclusion of the economic and infrastructure development area, in addition to the main aspects of the most important current activities. The RCC SG presented the main arguments in support of the expressed need by some of the RCC Board members to adjust the present Statute of the RCC or, in the opinion of the RCC Secretariat, to prepare a draft of a new document that would reflect the current realities of the five year existence of the RCC.

The counterparts from the aforementioned RCC members reiterated their support to the RCC Secretariat's activities, reflected on the value of the RCC in promoting regional cooperation, expressed an interest in supporting the process of consolidating regional cooperation in SEE, noted the importance of aligning further the work of the RCC with the EC enlargement agenda and assessed positively the initiative for preparing a new Statute of the RCC.

*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.

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

The RCC SG participated at a number of high-level regional events and international meetings with a regional dimension such as the XI meeting of the Western Balkans Working Group Committee of the Regions, the international Donor's Conference on the implementation of the Joint Housing Program of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, the Regional Ministerial Conference on Organ Donation and Transplantation, Croatia Summit – State Building and the EU experience, the first Media Law Academy in SEE, the 26th meeting of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council of MFA, Regional conference on Government's Energy Policy, Bled Strategic Forum, the OSCE Workshop on International Response to Major Natural and Man-made Disasters, South East Defence Ministerial etc, and used the opportunity to present the main activities of the RCC.

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, taking into account the importance of regional cooperation as a key element of the Stabilization and Association Process and as a part of the EU Enlargement Agenda, 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 the cooperation with the EU institutions, primarily the EC, the European Parliament (EP) and the EEAS and other relevant Brussels based institutions and stakeholders, such as NATO, IFI Coordination Office, European Policy Centre, Friends of Europe etc. In this sense, the RCC LO had a number of meetings with different representatives of the EC, including with the Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection, the Director General of OLAF, as well as with several MEPs working on the Western Balkans, the Permanent Chair of COWEB, the EEAS policy officer for regional cooperation, etc. The main topics discussed were the current state of implementation of RCC SWP 2011 - 2013, the RCC Secretariat self-assessment report, 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 budget situation of the RCC Secretariat, etc.

Despite all difficulties and challenges, the EU Enlargement process continued and marked several very encouraging results. The Croatia Accession Treaty was ratified by more EU member states, the accession negotiations with Montenegro were opened, the second and third rounds of the High Level Accession dialogue with The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were held, the candidate status to Serbia was granted, a High Level Dialogue on Accession with Bosnia and Herzegovina was launched, an agreement on a list of deliverables on the key priorities with Albania was reached and a Feasibility Study on Kosovo* was launched.

The RCC Secretariat, following the interest expressed by the EU institutions, provided appropriate inputs for the Annual Progress Reports and the EC Enlargement Strategy and information on the practical implementation of the Arrangements Regarding Regional Representation and Cooperation.

In the context of regular consultations with the EU institutions, the RCC LO organized and participated in the meetings of the RCC Secretariat delegations with the Deputy Director General for Enlargement in the EC, the Director for the Western Balkans and Turkey in the EEAS, the briefing for COWEB, the Head of Regional Cooperation and Programs Unit and Head of Strategy and Policy Unit in DG Enlargement. In addition, the RCC LO organized a separate meeting of the RCC SG with the Director General for Enlargement in the EC.

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The RCC Secretariat representatives presented assessment of the overall political and economic developments in the region of SEE, highlighted the need for consolidating the regional cooperation and elaborated on the possible steps in this regard, including the preparation of a new Statute of the RCC. They also presented an overview of activities in a number of sectors covered by the RCC SWP 2011-2013, informed about the plans for preparing the new RCC SWP 2014-2016, discussed RCC inputs for the Annual Progress Reports and the EU Enlargement Strategy and exchanged views on the future financing requirements for RCC activities.

The RCC LO participated in the meeting of RCC Deputy SG and DG MOVE. The parties discussed the overall coordination between the RCC Secretariat and DG MOVE in the transport area and the Commission's support for the RCC Secretariat application for the Airspace Feasibility Study proposal submitted under the 8th Call for proposals launched by the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF).

The RCC LO took part at the Third RENA Ministerial Meeting with the participation of the Commissioner for Environment and the Environment Ministers from the enlargement countries. The meeting provided an overview of the implementation of the RENA network activities, a forum to discuss and endorse the Road Map for RENA future regional and multi-beneficiary activities in the environmental and climate change fields in the pre-accession context; and the role of RENA network as a platform for exchange of information and experiences.

The RCC LO participated in the DG Employment seminar at which the report of the IFI Coordination Office "Financing Social Sector Projects in the Western Balkans – Challenges and Opportunities for the WBIF" was presented and in the launching of the UNODC new regional program for SEE 2012-2015 "Countering illicit trafficking and organized crime for improved governance, justice and security " where the readiness of the RCC Secretariat to continue its collaboration with UNODC on the implementation of the new program for the benefit of the citizens of the region was conveyed.

The RCC LO participated as a speaker at the EPC event: „The euro-zone crisis, economic developments and policy challenges in the Balkans: what prospects for growth? “, presenting the activities of the RCC Secretariat in the areas of economic and social development, in particular the transfer of the SEEIC from OECD to the RCC Secretariat and the results of the 10th meeting of SEEIC. Regional cooperation frameworks in areas such as free trade, electricity market, transport, investment, agriculture, health and numerous other important fields have emerged, which helps connect the fractured markets in the region, but has also enabled sharing of experience and knowledge which is an excellent opportunity to deepen and strengthen regional cooperation.

The RCC LO representative held regular meetings with the Local Administration Facility (LAF) Team Leader and Project Managers, Institution Building Unit, DG Enlargement, to discuss the arrangements of joint event to take place in October 2012 in Skopje, 'Implementing energy policies at local level'.

Regional cooperation in the field of media

The RCC Secretariat, in line with the conclusions of the international seminar South East Europe 20 Years On: Transformation from State to Public Broadcasting continued activities to foster freedom of the media in the region, particularly in the field of public broadcasting.

The most important event in this respect was the First Academy on Media Law, held in Zagreb, under the auspices of the RCC Secretariat and with support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and implemented by ARTICLE 19: Global Campaign for Free Expression and the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe. The five-day Academy, the first of a kind in SEE, gathered media experts from all countries of SEE who exchanged ideas and sought solutions to common issues concerning freedom of expression and media freedom. They discussed issues aimed at safeguarding media freedoms by enhancing regional cooperation and by building up capacity of media lawyers to use the best national media laws and formulated recommendations for legal reforms based on the best practices in the region in line with international and European media standards.

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, with the RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation, the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe and the Croatian Radio-Television, a conference on investigative journalism and data protection as a follow-up activity to the conference on public media and security in SEE (held in November 2011 in Zagreb). The meeting included journalists and spokespeople/public relations professionals from the Ministries of Defence of the SEE countries as well as representatives of relevant international organizations. It discussed ways of increasing regional cooperation by using dialogue and exchange of information, knowledge transfer, views and ideas, with the goal of disseminating international standards related to investigative journalism and data protection and building a more open, transparent and stable environment in SEE.

The RCC Secretariat took part in the 2nd OSCE South East Europe media conference in Belgrade and the 1st conference on media platform within the EU Strategy for the Danube Region in Vienna.

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.

Following the Fourth Annual Meeting of RCC and the high-level SEECP meetings, the RCC Secretariat organized a briefing for the diplomatic community in Sarajevo to inform of the mentioned events. Further on, the Secretariat met with twelve representatives of six leading Slovenian media.

In the reporting period, the RCC Secretariat organized press coverage of 22 different events, and to the knowledge of/available to the RCC Secretariat, 389 articles, interviews and statements on the RCC were published in South East European and international media, bringing the total to 4,000 available articles published since the beginning of operations of the RCC Secretariat. The same period witnessed 1,728,533 hits, 460,326 page views and 57,966 visits of the website, bringing the total to some 12,652,862 hits, 4,467,982 page views and 386,432 visits over the past four years since the website statistics has been gathered. The RCC currently also has 224 tweets and 211 followers at its Twitter account. Three issues of the RCC newsletter were published, devoted to the following topics: South East Europe Investment Committee, investment promotion, Western Balkan enterprise development and innovation facility (EDIF); RCC Annual Meeting 2012; as well as regional cooperation in justice and home affairs – implementation of the Regional Strategic Document 2011–

2013, and exchange of classified information in South East Europe. The issues included 30 prominent contributors and were circulated to an audience of over 2,700 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 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 proved to be a very useful tool in providing guidance and enhancing overall coordination.

The Fourth Annual meeting of RCC and the high-level SEECP meetings have confirmed the key role of the RCC in promoting and developing a comprehensive, sustainable and more stable regional cooperation in SEE.

The period ahead will be of particular importance for the shape of the regional cooperation in the context of the debate within SEECP and consequently for the future role of RCC. In parallel with the efforts related to the implementation of the remaining objectives of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, the RCC Secretariat, in close cooperation with the RCC Board members of SEE, the EU and the other interested stakeholders, will start the process of preparing the new SWP for the period 2014-2016 which should be endorsed at the SEECP Summit in June 2013. The successful implementation of the current and the new SWP is and will be dependent on timely honoring of the financial contribution of all RCC Board members to the operational budget of the RCC Secretariat. In this respect, the intention of the EC to continue with its contribution for the period beyond 2013 is highly encouraging. Another important issue on the RCC Agenda will be the process of adjusting the RCC Statute to the new realities in SEE.

The appointment of the new RCC SG has been seen as a new opportunity of further upgrading the role of RCC, building up on the results it has achieved so far, and successful fulfillment of its mandate and the expectations the RCC members have expressed in that respect.

Taking into account the very important and challenges tasks ahead of RCC in particular the preparation of the new RCC SWP 2014-2016, the current RCC SG established close communication with the incoming RCC SG in order to ensure a smooth transition of the duties and continuity of the strategic and daily work of the RCC Secretariat. To that effect, it has been agreed, upon the initiative of the Director General for Enlargement, to have a joint trilateral meeting in the course of November 2012. Also, following the consultations with the incoming RCC SG, the current RCC SG has extended the employment contract of the Head of Expert Pool for six months (due to the prescribed age limit in the Policy on Personnel of the RCC Secretariat) and to the RCC Secretariat staff for one year.

III. Priority areas of the RCC Activities

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

The RCC Secretariat was intensively involved in different activities organized in the SEECF framework, in particular in preparing a number of sectoral meetings to be organized by the current SEECF C-i-O 2012-2013 and related to the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013 (parliamentary dimension, ministries of defence, civil society event).

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

As part of its activities of coordinating donor efforts in the region, the RCC Secretariat took part in donor-organized activities. The RCC Secretariat took part in USAID's annual meeting for the SEE and Central Asia region to present some of its activities on developing a regional SEE 2020 platform and explore potential joint regional activities. The RCC Secretariat had regular consultations with GIZ and signed a MoU on cooperation with the GIZ Open Regional Funds for South East Europe. Common activities were organized or supported by the SIDA, Swiss Aid, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, DVV etc. The RCC Secretariat and the UNDP extended for another three year period their cooperation on the implementation of the regional activities of South East European Clearinghouse for Small Arms Control.

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, ICDT, SEE Change Net etc), operating RI&TFs and newly established regional networks (SEE Public Private Partnership Network, 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) developing and coordinating joint programmes, financial institutions (presidents of the securities regulators and directors of the stock exchanges from Southeast Europe), 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.

The RCC DSG organized regular brainstorming on issues related to preparing the next RCC multi-annual strategy, strengthening RCC Secretariat's capacities and 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 were further advanced and an open debate on prioritizing its activities regularly held, especially related to

the SEE 2020 framework. The RCC Expert Pool took part and contributed in preparing events of general importance for the RCC (with EC, SEECP C-i-O, RCC Board members, individual donors etc).

The implementation of the CEI-led project “Improving Cooperation in South-East Europe by Actions for Strengthening the Regional Cooperation Council” has started. In the framework of the project, a study visit of a several RCC Secretariat’s staff members to Nordic Institutions (the Secretariat of the Council of the Baltic Sea States and the Secretariat of the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being) was held, with the purpose of exchanging know-how among the sister organizations, increasing knowledge and learning from symmetrical experience.

1. Economic and Social Development

Investment and Business Enabling Environment

Following the conclusions of the 10th meeting of the South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC), RCC/SEEIC Team engaged in extensive consultations with the representatives of the SEE governments, ensuring understanding and commitments for their contribution in the development of headline quantifiable targets, indicators and measures with common regional goals for the SEE 2020 Strategy. As a result, the Task Force on SEE 2020 was established and mandated to determine proposals for the main regional headline targets with quantification within each of the priority areas, along with the proposals of corresponding national targets. Two meetings of the Task Force on SEE 2020 have been held during July and September 2012 where proposals for regional baseline and headline targets have been agreed upon.

The 11th 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 the main objective of discussing and endorsing the initial SEE 2020 headline targets. The set of nine targets for integrated, smart, inclusive and sustainable growth in the region until 2020 was supported by the members of the SEEIC. The proposed targets for the SEE 2020 Strategy include growing the region’s total value of trade in goods and services to more than a quarter trillion USD compared to 2010, reducing the trade deficit, and growing intra-regional trade in goods by over 200%. The Strategy envisages increasing overall foreign direct investment inflows to the region by 150%, increasing GDP per person employed as well as exports per capita, increasing the overall employment rate, and improving government effectiveness by 20%. Together with a common set of regional goals, SEEIC has finalized a draft Statement for the Ministerial Conference of the South East Europe Investment Committee planned for 9 November 2012 in Tirana, integrating the proposed regional targets into a coherent and ambitious document to guide the further development and implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy. The participants of the meeting underlined that the very process of transferring the SEEIC to the RCC proved to be a major catalyst to accelerated development of the SEE 2020 Strategy and that the SEEIC has become a central point on the map of the regional cooperation and, with the back-up of the RCC, it has a key role to play in the development of regional strategies to advance the region’s economic development and integration with the EU.

The RCC Secretariat presented the work of the SEEIC to the Western Balkans Investment Framework Steering Committee with the aim of further positioning the SEEIC as the main regional sectoral project for private sector development. The WBIF SC welcomed the ambitious work programme of the SEEIC, hoping that the Committee would become a key interlocutor on private sector development for the WBIF going forward.

The SIDA financed project Women Entrepreneurship (WE) – a job creation engine for SEE has been officially launched on 21 September 2012. This extensive 3-year project, implemented by the South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (SEECLE) and the Gender Task Force (GTF) and coordinated by the RCC Secretariat, 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. Back-to-back with the launching conference, GTF and the RCC Secretariat organized the second strategic expert workshop, including prominent women from business, civil society and government sectors, chambers of commerce, gender experts, SIDA, etc. In addition to providing regional inputs to strategic planning for the 3 year WE project and national activity planning for 2012-13, the meeting provided a forum for identifying entry points for improving the climate for entrepreneurship and especially WE in the framework of the SEE 2020 process and synergy with several existing WE initiatives and events. Nine National Project will be launched during October and November 2012, as well as national workshops for building WE platforms as partners in policy dialogue will be held.

To further the development of public-private partnerships in the region, the RCC Secretariat took part in the Conference on Promoting Public-Private Partnerships in SEE organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe and the Montenegrin Commission on Concessions. The conference took stock of the progress in PPPs in the region, outlined some of the best practices and determined the viability of establishing a regional PPP Centre of Excellence. The RCC supported the idea, accepted to participate in the Working Group on establishing the regional PPP Centre and suggested stronger links with existing regional sectoral organizations that have been doing considerable work on identifying potential regional projects and priorities.

Access to Finance

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, with USAID and SIDA, a conference dedicated to access to finance *SEEnovate: Supporting Intelligent Growth in South East Europe*, which attracted more than 180 participants, including over 30 venture capital and private equity funds and a number of SME representatives and policy makers. Given the strategic focus of RCC on expanding access to finance for innovative and high-growth SMEs, the event addressed equity finance, including its availability in the region, obstacles to its further development and possible policy options. The RCC Secretariat used the event to showcase some of the new financing facilities becoming available to the SMEs in the region, including the WBIF's Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF) and Venture Capital Investment Programme (VCIP) being rolled out by the EBRD.

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, together with USAID, a seminar on the implementation of the regional integration model of SEE capital markets. A proposed "T-REX integration model" was presented by the consultants on the project enabling the creation of a regional marketplace. The project was endorsed by all of the stock exchanges from the Western Balkans as well as the Ljubljana Stock Exchange. Capital market experts from EBRD were also present at the meeting to help with outlining some of the project's dimensions and assessing its possible role.

Social Development

The RCC Secretariat organized, in cooperation with Friedrich Ebert Foundation, a conference on New Skills for New Jobs in the Western Balkans. Representatives of governments, social partners, researchers from the Western Balkan countries and international organizations discussed and exchanged experience on the issue of skills and jobs in the region. A common position was reached with respect to the need to establish a regional information base, education and training, local level policy making and innovation, and working together towards a regional approach to accessing

funding and know how. Special attention was dedicated to discussing, with the participants, the concrete regional social headline targets and indicators developed under the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat participated at a tripartite regional conference, which was organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation to present a regional study on employment policies and discuss specific topics on the current situation, challenges and recommendations for improvement of employment policies.

The First Regional Conference on Organ Donation and Transplantation, organized under the Croatian presidency of the SEE Health Network, aimed at engaging policy makers to provide support and commitment to further developing and strengthening the implementation of successful organ donation and transplantation programs. The 29th meeting of the SEE Health Network, organized back to back with the Ministerial Conference, aimed to start and develop the process of the implementation of the 2011 Banja Luka Ministerial Pledge. In light of the Health in All Policies approach to regional cooperation in public health, the RCC Secretariat is well positioned to act as a platform for strengthened cooperation among different regional initiatives that can capitalize on their unique sector strengths to reach common goals. On the other hand, the RCC Secretariat recognized the importance of social determinants of health and contributed to a meeting of the World Health Organization on discussing implications for governance for health equity through action on social determinants of health with a specific focus on Serbia.

The SEE Health Network (SEEHN) Secretariat has been fully established in Skopje in September 2012. The Secretariat will provide the SEEHN with an independent legal base and will assist in preparing strategic plans as well as in the day to day activities of the network.

The RCC participated and contributed to an appraisal mission of the World Health Organization in Serbia on governing for social determinants of health and health equity. The mission confirmed the recognition and increasing interest in the region to strengthen the coherence of actions across sectors for addressing health inequities, while emphasizing the important contribution of health to economic and social development.

Information society development

The RCC Secretariat organized a meeting of the electronic SEE initiative as a follow up to the 2011 high level conference for Information Society. The meeting focused on identifying concrete regional actions that can contribute towards the implementation of the eSEE Agenda+ and constitute the region's response to the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the regional forum for Europe on broadband organized by the International Telecommunications Union and Minister for Innovation and ICT of the Republic of Albania, where the role of broadband development for social and economic development was discussed.

2. Energy and Infrastructure

Energy

The RCC Secretariat sustained close cooperation with the Energy Community and took part at a few events organized by the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS). Taking into account the RCC Secretariat's involvement in launching and preparing the initiative on creating the Regional Energy Strategy (RES) accepted by the Energy Community Ministerial Council, the RCC Secretariat continued to contribute to the Regional Energy Strategy Task Force (RES TF) established with the aim to prepare the RES. 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 Regional Education and Information Centre for Sustainable Development in SEE (REIC), and under the auspices of Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the roundtable Best Available Techniques for Large Combustion Plants in Western Balkans. The purpose was to back the endeavours of the CPs to the ECT from the Western Balkans, relying on electricity production from low quality coal - lignite, in implementing the Directive on Large Combustion Plants, which is the most challenging requirement within the Annex II of this Treaty. The event also presented and discussed Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive and Industrial Emissions Directive introducing more stringent duties to the accession countries. This regional roundtable will be followed by other events primarily tailor-made national trainings.

The second meeting of the Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI) Task Force, co-organized by the CEI, the RCC Secretariat and the Serbian Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (SMIE), ensured the support of IPF Country Office from Bosnia and Herzegovina and particularly from EBRD for improving project proposals from regional inventory of small scale sustainable energy projects. In addition, INOGATE Technical Secretariat expressed its readiness to support SEDRI beneficiaries from the EU Neighbourhood Policy in improving their project proposals from inventory.

The RCC Secretariat continued to back the network of schools for political studies from the region, led by the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence (BFPE), in implementing the Project on Strengthening Public Dialogue on Sustainable Energy Use in the SEE currently financially supported by the GIZ and Visegrad Fund. The RCC Secretariat committed to support the network of CSOs led by the SEE Change Net in developing and promoting the Western Balkan Sustainable Energy Strategy. In addition, the RCC Secretariat participated at and contributed to relevant regional energy events such as Institute of Energy for SEE 6th SEE Energy Dialogue and World Energy Council Energy Forum National and Regional Energy Policies and Strategies - The Security of Supply.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 7th Energy Community Gas Forum, which gathered representatives of the ministries, regulatory authorities and industry from the Contracting Parties (CPs), participants and observers, as well as representatives of the Donors' Community, business and international organizations. It discussed gas policy and market developments both in the EU and Energy Community, the necessity to implement effectively the 3rd Energy Package, gas infrastructure development, the need for strengthened cooperation between a variety of stakeholders and exchange of information, particularly during emergency situations and security of gas supply issues.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 5th Regional Energy Strategy Task Force (RES TF) meeting. The event gathered CPs to the Energy Community Treaty (ECT), EC, EBRD, ECS discussed the criteria for the Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) selection, indicators and their weights; the questionnaire template for infrastructure project proposals; the approach to project data collection; the methodology for assessing the projects and organization of work building on EU experience; and the EU experience in the identification of Projects of Common Interest (PCI).

Transport

The RCC Secretariat has prepared, together with the DG MOVE and ISIS Programme Secretariat, a Project Grant Application Form, which was submitted to the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) for funding of a Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector in Enhancing

Economic and Social Development and Cooperation in the SEE by assessing the airspace, its capacity and transport links. The study intends to provide an overview of the current airspace structure, air traffic flow and existing air transport links in SEE including recommendation for the reorganization of the airspace and establishment of Functional Airspace Block(s).

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, together with the Implementation of Single European Sky in SEE (ISIS) Programme Secretariat and DG MOVE, the Third ISIS Governing Body meeting. The relevant aviation authorities assessed the current state of play with regards to the transposition and implementation of Single European Sky (SES) legislation in the region, presented their achievements and challenges related to the ISIS II Programme since the last ISIS GB meeting. The RCC Secretariat committed to provide further political support in finalising the second phase of ISIS Programme and beyond. Furthermore, the above-mentioned Airspace Study was presented and supported by the regional civil aviation authorities.

The RCC Secretariat organized the Third Congress on Roads, together with the Association of Consulting Engineers of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ACE BiH), under the auspice of the Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Conference gathered the relevant authorities in the transport field, regional organizations, transport experts and academics to discuss and analyse up to the date results and future challenges in development of the road infrastructure in the Western Balkans. It established a strong forum for the interactive development process in the roads sector focusing on the issues on road safety, infrastructural planning, environmental protection, available financial instruments as well as on the current developments in relation to the construction of motorways in the region.

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, jointly with the European Commission Local Administration Facility (LAF) and Analytica, the RCC Secretariat took part in preparatory activities for organization of the conference to strengthen local authorities and civil society capacities in establishing and implementing local energy policies and to enhance their communication and cooperation.

It also participated at the International Conference Danube Strategy Implementation – Challenges and Perspectives and the Workshop EU SDR Project Facilitation and Exchange of Experiences, presenting its views on the event`s topics and its activities in relation to the EU SDR.

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 foundational event and supported the establishment of the SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation (SEEFCCA). Its tasks are primarily to link national activities on regional level and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships across the region. The establishment of the SEEFCCA was one of the major achievements of the IPA-funded project designed to strengthen capacities of civil society in the region in the area of climate change adaptation, awareness raising and policy dialogue. In addition, the RCC Secretariat was asked by the SEEFCCA to assist in drafting the agenda for the conference to gather civil society organizations, government officials, representatives of international organizations and researchers in order to discuss recent developments in the field, explore potentials for cooperation and future strategies to address climate change in the region.

3. Justice and Home Affairs

Strategic coordination: events and actions

The RCC Secretariat efforts were directed to enhance the convergence, strategic complementarities and growth of reciprocal support among regional cooperation mechanisms. To this purpose, the RCC Secretariat made full use of the existing regional instruments, framework and networks – *inter alia* the Steering Group on Regional Strategy (SGRS), the Monitoring and Evaluating Mechanism (M&EM) and the Expert Teams on Judicial Cooperation - to develop a comprehensive and holistic approach to the rule of law sector, together with a judicial and democratic control of regional actions. In this respect, the RCC Secretariat's actions and active participation in several important events with strategic consequences for the region should be mentioned.

Launching in Vienna the second Regional Program Countering illicit trafficking and organized crime for improved governance, justice and security (2012 – 2015) UNODC increased its contribution to regional cooperation. The Programme comprises 3 sub-programmes: Illicit Trafficking and Organized Crime - Integrity and Judicial Development - Prevention, Treatment and Care for drug users, HIV-AIDS patients, trafficking victims and risk groups. By virtue of the MoU signed on 21 May 2009, the RCC Secretariat and UNODC are sharing a common regional strategic perspective and have established a strong partnership and coordination, constantly supporting and actively participating in common programmes, projects and activities.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Partner Workshop assessing the results of GIZ Programme (2007-2012) Open Regional Fund for SEE - Legal Reform. The progress findings, the results achieved and the future fields and models of cooperation were discussed, as well as the M&EM presented by the RCC Secretariat.

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. The first centralized statistical data is available from the end of September 2012 and could be presented during the envisaged Jointed Meeting between Steering Group on Regional Strategy under RCC coordination and the IPA-MB Strategic Working Group.

The RCC Secretariat organized the First and Second Meeting of the Experts Teams for International Cooperation and Legal Assistance in Criminal and Civil matters. Acting within the mandate established by the SEECP JHA Ministers, the Expert Teams on Judicial Cooperation, during the first round of consultations in this format, decided to develop an inventory of relevant shortcomings in the implementation of the legal and institutional framework on mutual legal assistance, to periodically analyze the conditions and implementation of the EU Regulations, to propose measures and formulate expert recommendations addressing the identified shortcomings, to focus on the needs of citizens and practitioners and the appropriate regional responses to address those needs.

During Brdo Process Ministerial Conference, the RCC SG pointed out that Brdo Process together with SEECP and RCC strategic approaches in the area of Justice and Home Affairs complemented the EC enlargement policy in the Western Balkans. With the RCC Secretariat support, more practical and operational approach in the regional cooperation has been obtained and more concrete and measurable results were acquired in mutual legal assistance and judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters.

The meeting of the Steering group of Priority Area 11 of the EU Strategy for Danube Region, informed the participants about the activities of the Coordination Bureau and Priority Area

Coordinators (PAC) implemented from the previous meeting. In particular, the meeting included the Europol preparation and presentation of the DOCTA (Danube Organized Crime Threat Assessment), the setting up of the Danube Centres for Co-operation and Information, the introduction of the Police Equal Performance Project, harmonization of the system of border control and documents inspection system and the strengthening the rule of law and combating corruption. The RCC Secretariat representative requested certain changes to be inserted in the text of report in order to reflect clear the position of the Steering Group that existing initiatives from the region have to be involved in the development and implementation of the projects.

The RCC Secretariat, the Executive Directorate of the United Nations Counter Terrorism Committee (CTED), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC) and the Republic of Turkey as the host country, co-organized a SEE Workshop on “Countering Violent Extremism”. The event, which brought together representatives of law enforcement agencies from SEE, observer and partner countries, as well as officials of international, regional and sub-regional organizations and mechanisms, discussed regional trends and good practices in countering violent extremism with the aim to enhance regional cooperation in the area. The conclusion underlined that prevention, awareness-raising, advanced use of information and communication technologies, engaged civil society, and public-private partnerships are crucial in countering violent extremism.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Regional Security (SRS) Conference Crisis Management in the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans: A 'Smart Power' Approach, focused specifically on regional security dynamics and acknowledged the continued prominence of territoriality on the one hand and the necessity to prioritize regional analysis over global, on the other hand, when a systematic learning process from these crises is required.

Fighting organized crime

A working level meeting on the Treptower Group introduced new members of the Group-Bulgaria, Interpol, PCC SEE and Federal German Police (BuPol). All partners presented their scope of developmental aid in the Western Balkans. The EC presented IPA MB 2013 Programme and development of EU web based Matrix while the RCC Secretariat presented the M&EM for JHA, its technical aspects and implementation. The High Level Meeting, held in mid-May, in Rome, discussed the issue of strategic coordination of activities implemented by different EU police services in the Western Balkans. A particular emphasize was placed on the trans-border police cooperation in the Western Balkans and more regional than international cooperation, EMPACT Western Balkans, a platform for the fight against organized crime in the Balkans and development of “EU Matrix” (within the CIRCABC Web Site). The RCC Secretariat presented M&EM and noted interest of most of the Treptower Group member countries to have access to the reports created through the M&EM. The last Working Level Meeting was dedicated to developments in this field in Western Balkan countries, overview of the PCC and the RCC Secretariat activities, and current status of the related EU Projects and possibility of financing of EMPACT projects.

The International Conference Balkan Security, Technology and Education: the challenges within cyber infrastructure brought together six Ministers of Interior (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey) discussing Cyber Security and International Security of the region, necessary approaches required to tackle the problems including possible strategies for prevention of the problem(s). The Ministerial Joint Statement particularly emphasized responsibility for the security of the citizens and importance of regional cooperation, mutual understanding and coordinated action for an effective prevention and repression of all forms of crime.

Anti-corruption

The RCC Secretariat held several consultations with the representatives of Regional Anticorruption Initiative (RAI) regarding the Conference launching the Southeast Europe Judicial Training Network, under the project "Establishment of Framework for Integrated Anti-corruption Legal Education in South-Eastern Europe" financed by US State Department through the RCC Secretariat. At the Conference, it was decided to establish the Regional Network for Judicial Training (RNJT) as a tool for strengthening regional cooperation and exchange of information, experience and best practices in the area with focus on anticorruption legal education. The RAI Secretariat will function as Secretariat for RNJT. The first RNJT national contact points meeting took place in June to prepare and present the forms of cooperation among RNJT, SEELS and other networks.

At the Summer School for Junior Magistrates from South-Eastern Europe classes, the RCC Secretariat representative made a presentation on the SEE networks on judicial cooperation in criminal matters and anti-corruption, focused on the impact of the Lisbon Treaty and the way SEE region is moving forward creating institutions, structures and capabilities to get judicial systems closer to EU and international standards.

Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters

The 20th Meeting of the SEEPAG discussed criminal associations, types of organized crime groups, cases processed in the SEEPAG countries and problems that arise in practical work. SEEPAG Member States were called to pay particular attention to experience sharing in practical action. During the meeting, Hungary joined the organization as fully fledged member and presented its judicial system. The representatives of the SELEC informed the participants about launching of SELEC and encouraged members to use in their work secured communication channels available through SELEC. They also briefed about development of SELEC secondary legislation, underlining that SEEPAG is mentioned in the Organization and Administrative Rules of SELEC as well as SELEC Task Force Rules and Procedures as recognition of SEEPAG's importance to SELEC. The RCC Secretariat informed about developments of interest for prosecutors, M&EM, briefed about meetings of the Expert Groups on Cooperation in Criminal and Civil and Commercial Matters and elaborated idea about development of Conventions covering two mentioned areas.

Within the EU funded IPA 2010 project "Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network", the RCC Secretariat took part at the Expert Working Group Meeting on Data Collection and Data Protection. The representatives from prosecutors' offices, ministries of justice, EUROJUST and independent experts acknowledged that the UNODC lead project "Development of Monitoring Instruments for Judicial and Law Enforcement Institutions in the Western Balkans" prepared Technical Assessment Reports and Programme Guidelines and took note of the conclusions and recommendations of these reports; took note of the Monitoring & Evaluation Mechanism under development of the RCC; acknowledged the importance and relevance of data protection standards and were informed of the standards developed by EUROJUST.

One of the main tasks of the EU funded IPA 2010 project "Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network" is to develop recommendations to streamline cooperation platforms and initiatives in the Western Balkans and between the Prosecutors' Network and SEEPAG in particular. This project is entrusted to facilitate a sustainable solution with regards to the future of the WBNP and elimination of existing duplication between WBNP and SEEPAG. Integrating WNPB in SEEPAG as a sub-network (BALKANJUST), specifically lifting the sub-network to a compatible EUROJUST level might be the best option, from which SEEPAG will profit too.

The RCC Secretariat, in cooperation with GIZ, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia, organized the First Meeting of the Southeast Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters. Experts decided that, based on regular meetings and the RCC M&EM, to develop an inventory of the most relevant shortcomings in the implementation of the existing SEE legal and institutional framework for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters (MLA), periodically analyze the implementation of MLA conventions and agreements, advance on the path of studying the prerequisites for closer judicial cooperation, police operations, police and prosecution activities in criminal investigations.

The Second Meeting of the Southeast Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters focused on specific areas of cooperation: a) extradition and decided to draft a legal text upon a future regional extradition mechanism; b) analysis of the cooperation between regional networks and EU judicial agencies and networks, and c) discussed the strategic goals for the next years.

Cooperation in civil and commercial matters

The RCC Secretariat and GIZ co-organized two Meetings of the Expert Team for International Cooperation and Legal Assistance in Civil and Commercial matters. The content of the meetings was described under the strategic coordination chapter. As punctual issues has been agreed to continue the work on a regional Convention, based on the Lugano Convention of 2007, as initiated by the Republic of Slovenia. Membership to the new Convention shall be open to countries from the region of South-East Europe that are willing and able to become members.

4. Security Cooperation

Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation

The RCC Secretariat co-organized, with the Slovenian NSA, the Second SEENSA Conference, which adopted a number of specific documents and decisions related to future activities in areas of common interest for the Heads of the Classified Information Authorities.

The 4th SEEMIC Conference adopted the first Regional Common Intelligence analysis on contemporary challenges and agreed on the second Common Annual Intelligence Assessment on Contemporary challenges to be executed by WG of Intelligence experts. The ToR for SEEMIC were adopted and Turkey Military Intelligence officially joined SEEMIC by signing the Statement of SEEMIC. NATO representative took part, for the first time, in the SEEMIC conference.

Consultations for initiating the SEE Counter-Intelligence Chiefs Forum (SEECIC) with RCC Members from SEE Slovenia, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey and a second round of discussions with the German BfV were held.

The RCC Secretariat participated in the 27th RACVIAC MAG meeting. A new director of RACVIAC was elected and different issues related to the 2013-2015 activities were discussed. The idea of organising SEEMIC activities with the support of RACVIAC was introduced.

The RCC Secretariat co-organized with the Bulgarian NSA, the first meeting of the SEENSA Thematic Working Group on Training (TWG T) . The coordinators of the TWG T informed other colleagues on the preparatory work done and the results of the analysis made on the answers to the Questionnaire sent. The debate was focused on the Overview of the interest expressed by the SEENSA Members on Trainings. During the meeting the coordinators of the other three TWGs, on Security Agreements, Industrial Security and Cyber Defence presented their proposals for the way forward.

As a follow-up to the SEENSA TWG and SEEMIC meetings, planning discussions were organised with the Coordinator of the SEENSA TWG on Cyber Defence for the next steps and with the management of RACVIAC for the implementation of the activities envisaged by the SEEMIC project.

The RCC Secretariat participated in the seminar Integration and Contribution of SEE to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU, organized by the TAIEX, in cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia and RACVIAC.

The RCC Secretariat also participated in NATO special training on Grants Programme related to the mechanism of funding projects and activities in the region according to the NATO priorities, in the seminar 'Integration and contribution of SEE to the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)' and held a meeting with the SEDM Deputy Chief of Defence.

The RCC Secretariat took part in the DCHOD SEDM meeting, which made a review of the SEDM objectives and relationship with the main International Organizations, as well as the current status of SEDM projects – Senior Female Leadership in security and defence, Building Integrity, and SEESIM. Update on the ongoing progress of SEDM Strategic review was delivered. Slovenia presented the Non Paper on Rationalization of Regional Defence Cooperation. The RCC Secretariat representative offered RCC support in the preparation of the assessment and reminded of the document submitted to SEDM upon their request – Overview of Security Cooperation RI&TF.

The RCC Secretariat representatives participated in the work of the SEDM Group of Experts, which was organized by the Italian Chairmanship and was attended by all the representatives of the participating states in SEDM. The WG discussed important aspects having strategic political, diplomatic and military implications over the next developments in streamlining the security cooperation initiatives in SEE, focused on the text of the SEDM Strategic Review. RCC representatives have actively participated with proposals regarding conclusions and recommendations parts, based on the Security Cooperation Overview on Regional Initiatives and Task Forces realised also at the request of the SEDM. The SEDM Strategic Review offers ideas aimed at improving four dimensions: the usability of SEEBRIG, the decision-making process, the linkages with international and regional organizations and initiatives, and the evaluation of SEDM projects based on effective criteria.

The RCC SG participated in the meeting of the Southeast Europe Defence Ministers (SEDM), which brought also representatives of regional and international organizations. RCC aligned itself with the findings of the SEDM WG that nowadays in SEE we are dealing with a new security environment, new challenges and constantly changing security architecture.

The RCC Secretariat representatives participated in the 12th SEEC meeting. In the meeting Kosovo* took part as an observer. There were no Serbian representatives. SEEC – Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation made a review of the on-going projects and regional centres activities. The Slovenian Non Paper on Rationalization of regional defence cooperation was presented and supported by the representatives of Norway, Greece, RCC and USA. The idea of a permanent SEEC Secretariat was discussed. NATO representative suggested that RACVIAC (or another regional organization) can take this responsibility. The issue was left for the DPD to decide.

*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.

Disaster preparedness and prevention

The RCC Secretariat was officially informed by the DPPI Secretariat that the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina via Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina launched the procedure of transfer of the DPPI SEE Secretariat to another DPPI SEE Member State. Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina initiated the transfer procedure in order to reduce the total annual costs in relation to overcoming the difficult economic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues

Education

The RCC Secretariat took part at the International Conference on Higher Education Reform, which was organised by the Ministry of Education and Sport of Montenegro, in cooperation with the Universities of Montenegro and Novi Sad, in the framework of the Tempus Project “Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkan Countries”. The conference, held under the auspices of the RCC Secretariat and Novi Sad Initiative, gathered representatives of the ministries of education from the RCC members from the Western Balkans and the EU, rectors, vice rectors and professors from the Universities in the region, higher education authorities from the EU, as well as representatives of respective regional and European agencies involved in creation of policies in higher education. The conclusions of Petrovac Conference will serve as valuable inputs in development of a joint roadmap on structural higher education reform in the region, based on rich and diverse regional academic heritage and clear democratic will of regional authorities to continue to work together.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 5th Meeting of the South East Europe Regional VET Network (SEEVET-Net), which was organised by the National VET Centre of Montenegro and temporary Secretariat of ERI SEE – Center of Education Policy.

The meeting gathered representatives of Vocational education training institutions from the RCC members from SEE and the EU, as well as representatives of relevant international organisations. The focus of the 5th SEEVET-Net meeting was on mutual policy learning in VET through the exchange of experience on social partnership among the countries of the SEE and EU Member States.

SEEVET-Net approved presented Work Programme for 2012 and discussed outline of the future regional cooperation activities for the year 2013 in defined areas of joint interest. Experts were informed and asked for suggestions regarding planned regional conference on adult education and lifelong learning, to be organised by the RCC and DVV in the autumn 2012 in Sarajevo.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Regional Higher Education Strategic (RHES) Forum. The event gathered, apart from the STREW Consortium members, representatives of the ministries of education from the RCC members from the Western Balkans and the EU, rectors, vice rectors and professors from the Universities in the region, higher education authorities and institutions from the EU, as well as representatives of respective regional and European agencies involved in creation of policies in higher education and independent experts. The participants discussed the overall report on the project development, along with the reports concerning each work package, focusing on concrete action plans to be realised by the countries and the region, in order to further develop and disseminate project results and make sure the multiple effects of the project.

Science and Research

The Meeting of the Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI) Steering Committee, which was followed by the workshop of the project Advisory Body, was held in Dubrovnik. The events were organised by the World Bank, as the project Implementation Agency, together with the RCC Secretariat, in accordance with the implementation plan of the RSRDI and in compliance with the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013. The project Steering Committee overviewed the achievements made since its last meeting and discussed possible initiatives that could be included in the future Regional Action Plan, as the follow-up to the Strategy, based on the principles of stable institutions, predictable funding, meritocratic structure and scalable initiatives. Steering Committee made a decision (based on the proposal of the RCC) that the main RSRDI event, Regional Conference of Science Ministers, which will present the Regional Strategy and launch the follow-up activities, will be held in Skopje, under the auspices of the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013, in March 2013.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 19th International Conference Technology, Culture and Development – Western Balkans on the Road to the European Union, organised by the association “Technology and Society”, Science and Technology Policy Research Centre Mihajlo Pupin Institute from Belgrade, Faculty of Electrical Engineering Podgorica and Faculty of Economics Subotica. The event gathered representatives of universities and scientific institutions, governmental agencies, cultural, political and non-governmental organisations, professional associations and private business, who made presentations on selected topics, trying to contribute to a reliable understanding of the reasons, benefits and implications of the EU membership. The participants expressed noticeable dissatisfaction with the results and model of transition, especially economic, and discussed the possibilities to develop new models for reforms and growth.

Culture

The main activities of the RCC Secretariat were focused on supporting the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society (TFCS). The RCC Secretariat attended the Third Working Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society, organised by the TF CS Secretariat, which discussed and adopted Narrative Report of the RCC TFCS Secretariat for the period 1 April- 15 June 2012. The representatives of the countries participating in Ljubljana Process reported on the state of play in establishment of National Task Forces and development of Priority Intervention Lists. Improvements in both activities were evident since the Second meeting of the TFCS. A simplified procedure was offered for acquiring available direct financial assistance. Crucial role of National Task Forces in the process was reiterated. Improvements to the TFCS website (<http://tfcs.rcc.int>) and Collaborative Platform were explained by the TFCS Secretariat. TFCS discussed possibilities for raising visibility of the Ljubljana Process., including development of printed brochures and electronic presentations of rehabilitation projects.

Negotiations between the RCC Secretariat and the DG Enlargement of the European Commission on the text of the project proposal and draft budget of the project “Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage” have been finalized and the grant contract was signed by both parties on 28 August 2012. It is expected that the implementation of this project worth EUR 500,000 by the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society will start in mid October 2012, complementing ongoing activities of Ljubljana Process.

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. It was agreed that the existing Regional Film Network, in cooperation and coordination with the SEECP C-i-O and RCC Secretariat, should be gathered with the aim to further develop project proposal and related structure of the Regional Film Fund.

Parliamentary Cooperation

The RCC Secretariat continued to be actively involved in promoting regional parliamentary cooperation both in SEE and WB frameworks by paying particular attention to strengthening of the parliamentary dimension of the SEECP and to developing the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum for enhancing coordination of parliamentary activities in the Western Balkans, through establishment of a sustainable Secretariat.

The RCC Secretariat has participated at the 6th meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension (PD) Working Group focused on the most appropriate formula on two potential models of SEECP PD institutionalization: the establishment of the SEE Parliamentary Assembly (proposed by Turkey) or, the establishment of the SEECP Parliamentary Conference (proposed by Bulgaria). During the discussions the Working Group agreed on the aims, objectives and basic guidelines of the future structure, decision making/voting, membership and composition, chairmanship, working language, organizational structure and international and regional cooperation objectives of the future shape, whilst highlighted the need to continue the exchange of views on the remaining components: International Secretariat and the Budget at the next meeting.

The RCC Secretariat is carefully pursuing the final steps in developing the project: “Parliamentary Cooperation in the Western Balkans and Turkey - Support to the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum”. The project aimed to strengthen the role and effectiveness of Parliaments in the region in the EU integration process and access to public documents, is finalized and consultations were held with DG Enlargement representatives regarding detailed description of the activities, optimal model for project contracting and respective budgeting. In this context, the RCC Secretariat has started contacts with Montenegrin Parliament for joining efforts on assuring that the next steps of project implementation to be efficient and transparent.

Upon a special invitation, the RCC Secretariat attended the Conference of the Baltic Parliamentary Assembly during which a fruitful exchange of experiences and best practises was made. The experience and the contribution of the Baltic States in the work of the EU institutions and their common efforts to represent interests of the Baltic States, were underlined by the BS representatives, while the progress on institutionalizing the parliamentary dimension in SEE and the discussions on the preparation of a proposal for the creation of a Parliamentary Assembly/Conference for SEE, were part of information delivered by RCC Secretariat.

The RCC Secretariat has continued the fruitful cooperation with the European Parliament in preparing and organizing jointly events in the region. The Parliamentary seminar Modernization of agriculture and implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy, was organized jointly by the EP and the Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in SEE, as part of a series of seminars that aims at strengthening the capacity of parliaments of the Western Balkans in the enlargement process. The event, consisted of several panels on the specific topics in field of agriculture, was a useful tool on the periodic trainings and other capacity-building activities for the parliamentary officials.

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

During the reporting period, pursuant to the rotational principle of the functioning of the RCC Liaison Office in Brussels, the Secretary General of the RCC has decided to appoint Mr. Stanislav Daskalov to the position of the Head of the RCC Liaison Office in Brussels as of 15 July 2012. Following the above principle, the Secretary General of the RCC has decided to appoint Mr. Basil Coronakis to the position of the Deputy Head of the RCC Liaison Office in Brussels. There were no other staff changes in the RCC Secretariat (Annex IV, List of Officials of the RCC Secretariat).

VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat budget for the year 2012

As of 18 October 2012

Contribution		Commitments	Received	Date Received
Contributing Countries (Donors)				
	Austria	75.000,00		
	Czech Republic	50.000,00	9.848,83	
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00	30.000,00	12.7.2012
	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		
	Switzerland	100.000,00	99.888,00	10.5.2012
	United States of America*	127.551,00	99.047,81	14.11.2011
	Total contributing countries donors:	802.551,00	591.154,42	
European Commission 2011-2013 contract				
		800.000,00	702.211,55	27.8.2012
South East Europe Contributors				
	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	70.000,00	29.3.2012
	Serbia	80.000,00	80.000,00	18.4.2012
	Slovenia	80.000,00		
	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	
	Total South East Europe Contributors:	1.200.000,00	950.000,00	
	Total:	2.802.551,00	2.243.365,97	

* 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 was not paid.

REPORT

On the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 4 May – 5 October 2012

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"> • RCC Briefing for Embassies and International Organizations in Sarajevo – Sarajevo, 22 June 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XI Meeting of the Western Balkans Working Group Committee of the Regions – Sarajevo, 22 May 2012 • XV Dubrovnik Diplomatic Forum “Diplomacy and Intercultural Dialogue” – Dubrovnik, 24-26 May 2012 • Sofia Forum: The Balkans in the Globalized World-Fostering the Region’s European Agenda – Sofia, 8-10 June 2012 • XXVI Meeting of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs – Belgrade, 11 June 2012 • Croatia Summit – State Building and the EU Experience - Dubrovnik, 6 - 7 July 2012 • Briefing for the Council Working Group for the Western Balkans - Brussels, 16 July 2012 • Bled Strategic Forum – Bled, Slovenia, 3 September 2012
2. Coordination and cooperation with the SEECP Chairmanship in Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to a number of sectoral meetings organized by the SEECP C-i-O and related to the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013. • IX Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, EU and the RCC Secretariat - Sarajevo, 14 May 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Meeting of Political Directors of the South East European Cooperation Process – Belgrade, 29 May 2012 • Third Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP– Belgrade, 12 June 2012 • Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP – Belgrade, 14 June 2012 • Meeting of the Heads of States and Governments of the SEECP – Belgrade, 15 June 2012 • Consultations with officials from the MFA of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in its capacity of the SEECP CiO – Skopje, 19 June 2012 • Consultations with Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Skopje, 11 September 2012 • Informal Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP – New York, 27 September 2012

<p>3. Exerting strategic leadership in regional cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent dialogue with different stakeholders from the region: private companies and associations (Summit of 100 Business Leaders of SEE), operating RI&TFs and newly established regional networks (SEE Public Private Partnership Network, Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies etc.) discussing the issues and modes of cooperation and developing common activities. • XVIII RCC Board meeting - Sarajevo, 15 May 2012 • IV RCC Annual Meeting – Belgrade, 13 June 2012 	
<p>4. Consultations with RCC Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensified contacts with other DGs in the EC (DG REGIO, DG MOVE, DG Education and Culture, DG International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, etc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations with high officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro - Podgorica, 31 May 2012 • Consultations with high-level officials of UNMIK, EUSR and Kosovo* authorities under UNSCR 1244 - Pristina, 1 June 2012¹ • Meeting with the Head of Unit Regional Cooperation and Programs, DG Enlargement - Brussels, 16 July 2012 • Meeting with the Head of the World Bank Office in Brussels - Brussels, 16 July 2012 • Consultations with high-level officials of the EC – Brussels, 6-7 September 2012 • Consultations with officials of the World Bank – Washington, 25 September 2012 • Consultations with the officials of US State Department – Washington, 26 September 2012

^{1*}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>5. Providing regional perspective in donor assistance, notably in EU assistance under the Instrument for pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations with representatives of financial institutions (presidents of the securities regulators and directors of the stock exchanges from Southeast Europe), as well as EC and IFIs partners. • Consultations have been regularly held with other donors interested for regional projects (UNDP, ADA, SIDA, FES, GIZ, USAID, OSCE etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPA MB Donor Coordination meeting - Brussels, 26 June 2012
<p>6. Supporting increased involvement of civil society in regional activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RCC Secretariat established and deepened working contacts with regional Civil Society networks in different areas (National Councils of the European Movement from SEE, Eco-Social Entrepreneurs Network from SEE, SEE Public Broadcasting Agencies Network, JHA related NGOs networks etc., regional network of political schools supported by the Council of Europe) and extended regional coordination with other CSO structures (TACSO team, ICDT, BFPE etc), • The dialogue further widened with the think tanks from the region and beyond (i.e. LSE Network of SEE researchers) developing and coordinating joint programmes. • Strengthening local level of the SEE regional cooperation. • Promoting social dialogue. 	

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"> • Consultation on the SEE 2020 Strategy with the Government Officials of the WB Countries and other international and regional SEE initiatives – May-June 2012 • I meeting of the SEE Task Force - Bled, Slovenia, 3 July 2012 • II meeting of the SEEIC Task Force - Jahorina, 11 September 2012 • XI Meeting of the SEEIC - Sarajevo, 3 October 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Economic Growth Workshop for the Europe & Eurasia Region - Tirana, 15 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> speaker • Conference „Leadership against Crisis: Public-Private Cooperation for Growth“- Thessaloniki, 31 May – 1 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> speaker • XII edition of the Forum of the Chambers of Commerce of the Adriatic and Ionian area - Brindisi, 7-8 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> speaker • Western Balkans Investment Framework Steering Committee - Vienna, 14-15 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> speaker, observer • II RCI working group on innovation, 21-22 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> member and speaker • Inauguration of Small Business Days Conference 2012 – Pristina, 27 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> guest • Conference and Expo on Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship - Pristina, 29 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> guest • Women Entrepreneurship project launching conference - Zagreb, 21 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenter • Conference on Promoting Public-Private Partnerships in Southeast Europe – Podgorica, 18-19 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> panellist and presenter
<p>2. Identifying ways and means for improving access to finance for private sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEEnovate: Supporting Intelligent Growth – Sarajevo, 19 June 2012 • SEE Capital Markets Integration Seminar – Zagreb, 29 June 2012 	

<p>3. Mainstreaming employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Skills for New Jobs for the Western Balkans – Sarajevo, 12-13 July 2012 • Kick off meeting of the project “Women Entrepreneurship – a Job Creation Engine for South East Europe” – Zagreb, 20-21 September 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO - Strengthening governance for socio-economic determinants of health to address health inequities - Venice, 10 May 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: discussant • FES – Employment Policies in SEE: Situation and Challenges - Sofia, 22-23 May 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter • I Regional Conference on Organ Donation and Transplantation “Heart to the Region” – Beating Towards Self-Sufficiency - Zagreb, 4 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: introductory address • XXIX Meeting of the SEE Health Network - Zagreb, 5-6 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: speaker • Decent Work Balkan Network - Joint efforts for the achievement of Decent Work in the Western Balkans - Skopje, 14-15 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: discussant
<p>4. Promoting Information Society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic South East Europe meeting - Sarajevo, 10-11 July 2012. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisory Board of the Center for eGovernance Development - Ljubljana, 5 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: guidance and supervision of activities • ITU Regional Forum for Europe on Broadband - Tirana, 6-7 September 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter

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"> • Assisted to the SEDRI Task Force Chairmanship. • Cooperated with Project Manager of CEI led project on strengthening the RCC capacities in order to back the initiative implementation. • Preparatory activities for organizing the III SEDRI TF meeting. • Committed to support CSOs led by SEE Change Net in Western Balkan Sustainable Energy Strategy preparation and promotion. 	

<p style="text-align: center;">2. Explore potential for cooperation with the Energy Community Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the RES TF and submitted comments and suggestions on drafted documents in the framework of RES preparation. • Promoted the Energy Community activities in the environmental area linked to retrofitting of power plants in the CPs to the ECT. • Roundtable ``Best Available Techniques for Large Combustion Plants in Western Balkans`` – Tuzla, 6-8 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> to support and complement Energy Community in implementing relevant requirements to decrease negative environmental impact of energy activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Meeting on the Commission Proposal on the Implementation of the Directive 2009/28/EC and Energy Community (EnC) Environmental Task Force III meeting – Vienna, 22-23 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments and meeting with EnC environmental expert in order to agree on future activities and cooperation in this area. • VI SEE Energy Dialogue – Thessaloniki, 30-31 May 2012 <u>RCC role:</u> presenting relevant RCC activities and participation in related discussions. • Energy Forum ``National and Regional Energy Policies and Strategies - The Security of Supply`` – Neptun, 18-21 June 2012 <u>RCC role:</u> presenting relevant RCC activities focusing on sustainable energy development and participation in related discussions. • V meeting of the RES TF and 7th Gas Forum – Bled, 25-27 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> contribution to the RES preparation and monitoring of the Energy Community developments. • 16th EnC Energy Efficiency Task Force meeting and related Workshop on preparation of II National Energy Efficiency Action Plans – Vienna, 4 - 5 October 2012, organized by ECS. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments and consultations on related RCC activities.
<p style="text-align: center;">3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing consultative process with the National Administrations and other stakeholders of the RCC members from SEE. • Backing civil society actors and local authorities and strengthening their role. • Cooperation with and supporting the IFI CO. • Support to the MB IPA Strategy WGs and WBIF SC as the permanent task. • Communication and cooperation with the Co-coordinator of the second priority area (to encourage more sustainable energy) within the EU SDR. • Took part in organizing the conference to strengthen local authorities and civil society capacities in establishing and implementing local energy policies and to enhance their communication and cooperation. • Assisted to the SEEFCCA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation – Sutomore, 12 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> support to implementation of IPA funded project designed to back civil society in the area of climate change adaptation. • International Conference ``Danube Strategy Implementation – Challenges and Perspectives`` – Beograd, 29 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presenting the RCC position on the event`s topics and RCC activities in relation to EU SDR. • Workshop ``EU SDR Project Facilitation and Exchange of Experiences`` - Ljubljana, 5-6 July 2012 <u>RCC role:</u> presenting the RCC position on the event`s topics and RCC activities in relation to EU SDR.

<p>4. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • III ISIS Governing Body Meeting – Ohrid, 12 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> co-chaired the ISIS GB and confirmed political support in relation to the second phase of ISIS Programme towards the extension of Single European Sky to SEE. • Prepared a WBIF Project Grant Application Form for funding of a Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector, together with ISIS PS and DG MOVE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISIS Workshop on Challenges and Opportunities of implementation of a Functional Airspace Block (FAB) – Brussels, 7 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring the development of the SES II acquis. • Meeting with DG Enlargement and ISIS PS – Brussels, 8 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> discussed the next steps towards financing the project proposal of Airspace Study and explored the possibility to expand the current cooperation with ISIS. • Meeting with representatives of the Montenegrin Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation Agency – Podgorica, 17 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presented and exchanged the information regarding the RCC transport activities with a focus on prepared WBIF Application form for a Study on Air Transport.
<p>5. Contribute to the promotion of road safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress on Roads – Sarajevo, 20-21 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> contributed to the promotion of the regional approach related to the development of road transport sector in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEETO Road Safety Working Group – Podgorica, 4 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> presented the RCC road safety initiative to launch training of auditors. • III SEETAC Annual Ministerial Meeting and Infrastructure Forum (SEEIF) – Athens, 21-22 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> representing the region • Meeting with representatives of ACE – Sarajevo, 27-28 June 2012 on Roads. • SEETAC Ministerial Conference – Bled, 28-29 August 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring the development of the SEETO Comprehensive Transport Network.

Priority area 3: Justice and Home Affairs

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Coordinate drafting and adoption of a Regional Strategic Document and Action Plan on Justice and Home Affairs 2011-2014, and monitoring its implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEE Regional Workshop on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) was jointly organized by the UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC) and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and hosted by the Government of Republic of Turkey in Istanbul, 1-2 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership and guidance in regional cooperation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial Conference of “Brdo Process” – Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, 17-18 May 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region, introductory speakers, implementing RSD on JHA. • Launching Meeting of UNODC second Regional Program for SEE 2012-2015 "Countering illicit trafficking and organized crime for improved governance, justice and security " – Vienna, 23 May 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region, partner in drafting UNODC present program and the implementation of the previous one; implementing RSD on JHA • Partner Workshop on the results of the GIZ Program “Open Regional Fund of SEE – Legal Reform” 2007 – 2012 - Belgrade, 15 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region, GIZ partner in the implementation of the program; implementing RSD on JHA • III Meeting of the Steering Group of PA11 of the Danube Strategy - Munich, 19 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region and participating in the report drafting for EU Commission; implementing RSD on JHA. • OSCE 2012 Annual Security Review Conference – Vienna, 26-28 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region. • Seminar on Regional Security (SRS) Conference: "Crisis Management in the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans: A 'Smart Power' Approach," - Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 5-7 September 2012. RCC used extensive background and knowledge on the SEE Region. • Budapest Conference on Cyberspace - Budapest, 4-5 October 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region

<p>2. Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters - Bucharest, 29-30 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> exerting strategic leadership and implementing RSD on JHA. • II Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters – Przno, Montenegro, 26-27 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> exerting strategic leadership and implementing RSD on JHA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XX SEEPAG Meeting - Ohrid, 8-9 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring and presenting regional developments. • OSCE Regional Conference on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings – Warsaw, 14-16 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> representing the region. • High Level Meeting of the Western Balkans Network (Treptower Group) – Rome, 21-22 May 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> representing the region. • Expert Working Group Meeting on the data registration, collection and protection - within IPA-MB 2010 Project “Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors’ Network” – Sarajevo, 6-7 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> member in the Project Steering Group, implementing RSD on JHA. • IPA 2010:”Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Public Prosecutors Network”, International Conference, Meeting of the WBPN and Steering Committee Meeting – Hague, 10-11 July 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> representing the region. • VIII Meeting of the Expert Working Group of the Police Cooperation Convention (EWG PCC) – Belgrade, 17-18 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> • Working Level Meeting of the Western Balkans Network (Treptower Group) – Berlin, 24 September 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> representing the region.
<p>3. Support existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer School for junior magistrates from the SEE: International Standards and Cooperation in the Fight Against Corruption – Opatija, 29 May - 2 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring regional developments. • RAI Conference in the Framework of newly established Regional Network for Judicial Training – Budva, 28-29 June 2012. <u>RCC role:</u> project initiator, monitoring and presenting regional developments.

<p>4. Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity</p>		
<p>5. Initiate regional cooperation in private and civil law matters and in protection of fundamental rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters – Bucharest, 29-30 May 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership and implementing RSD on JHA. • Meeting with GIZ representatives – Sarajevo, 5 June 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: consultations with the partners. • II Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters – Budva/Przno, 24-25 September 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership and implementing RSD on JHA. 	

Priority area 4: Security Cooperation

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms with low-cost activities and high impact on confidence building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-organized with the Slovenian NSA the second SEENSA Conference that adopted a number of specific documents and decisions related to future activities in areas of common interest for the Heads of the Classified Information Authorities. • Consultations with relevant partners from Bulgaria, EU, Greece, Turkey, Montenegro and Slovenia took place in order to continue the dialogue on future implementation of SEEMIC and the organization and execution of the 4th SEEMIC meeting. • Consultations for initiating the SEE Counter-Intelligence Chiefs Forum (SEECIC) have been launched with SEE Members of RCC Slovenia, Bulgaria, Greece, Montenegro and Turkey and a second round with the German BfV took place. • Co-organized with the Bulgarian NSA, the first meeting of the SEENSA Thematic Working Group on Training. The debate was focused on the Overview of the interest expressed by the SEENSA Members on Trainings. During the meeting the coordinators of the other three TWGs, on Security Agreements, Industrial Security and Cyber Defence presented their proposals for the way forward. • Consultations on SEENSA and SEEMIC were held with relevant partners from Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey and Albania prior to the I SEENSA TWG meeting and to the IV SEEMIC meeting, both organised in September 2012 in Sofia. • Planning discussions were organised with the Coordinator of the SEENSA TWG on Cyber Defence for the next steps and with the management of RACVIAC for the implementation of the activities envisaged by the SEEMIC project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar - Integration and contribution of SEE to Common Security and defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU – Belgrade, 10-11 May 2012 • Meeting with the SEDM Deputy Chief of Defence, Sofia, 26-28 June 2012. The RCC monitors and participate active in all SEDM activities. • XII SEEC Conference – Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation “Regional Cooperation in the Western Balkans – Smart Defence and Pooling and Sharing” – Skopje, 2 - 4 July 2012 • Workshop on International Response to Major Natural and Man-made Disasters: The Role of the OSCE – Vienna, 17 September 2012 • IV SEEMIC Conference – Sofia, 18 – 20 September 2012 • Meeting of the Ministers of Defence from SEE – Sarajevo, 3 October 2012
<p>2. Continue its work towards establishment of regional structures for disaster risk reduction, in cooperation with international partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RCC Secretariat was officially informed by the DPPI Secretariat that the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina via Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina launched the procedure of transfer of the DPPI SEE Secretariat to another DPPI SEE Member State. 	

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
1. Taking over coordination of Ljubljana Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed negotiations with representatives of DG Enlargement on project proposal and draft budget of the project “Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans”. Project worth EUR 500,000 will bring additional value to the efforts of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society in implementation of ongoing Ljubljana Process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> III Working Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society - Prcanj, 27-28 June 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Advising on the principal procedures of decision making process; coordinating the process of adoption of major documents.
2. Support to education reform, with emphasis on higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Conference on Higher Education Reform - Petrovac, Montenegro, 24-25 May. Event was organised by the Ministry of Education and Sport of Montenegro, in cooperation with the Universities of Montenegro and Novi Sad, in the framework of the Tempus Project - Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkan Countries, under the auspices of the RCC Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference on Higher Education: Towards Joint Regional Roadmap in Higher Education Structural Reforms – Petrovac (Montenegro), 22 - 23 May 2012 V Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Vocational Education Training (VET) Network (SEEVET-Net) - Milocer, 4-5 June 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Informing on the RCC Secretariat activities; expanding partnerships in the light of the forthcoming regional conference on adult education and lifelong learning. Regional Higher Education Strategic (RHES) Forum – Dubrovnik, 26 - 27 September 2012 <i>Lifelong Learning and Non-formal Adult Education in South East Europe – Sarajevo, 3 October 2012</i>
3. Development of Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting of the Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI) Steering Committee, which was followed by the workshop of the project Advisory Body, was held in Dubrovnik, 19-20 June. Events were organised by the World Bank, together with the RCC Secretariat, in order to overviewed achievements made since its last meeting, and discussed possible initiatives that could be included in the future Regional Action Plan, based on the principles of stable institutions, predictable funding, meritocratic structure and scalable initiatives. Important topics were raised such as Building Regional Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialization, Promoting Research Excellence and Innovation, Diaspora for Regional Research Excellence and Innovation and Promoting a Regional Approach to Innovation Financing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> XIX International Conference Technology, Culture and Development – Western Balkans on the Road to the European Union – Tivat, 28-30 August 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Presenting the concept of SEE 2020, with special emphases on regional projects in the areas of education, science and research.

Priority area 6: Parliamentary Cooperation

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Assisting the development of the Parliamentary dimension of the SEECF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RCC Secretariat is following the discussions of the SEECF Parliamentary Dimension (PD) on proposed models of SEECF PD institutionalization: establishment of the SEE Parliamentary Assembly, or establishment of the SEECF Parliamentary Conference. The Meeting of the SEECF Parliamentary Dimension Working Group, held in Belgrade aimed to draft a consolidated document to be presented for possible approval of the Speakers of the Parliaments of SEECF countries, at their annual meeting after additional consultations for reaching common position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliamentary seminar on Modernisation of agriculture and implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy - Sofia, 9-10 July 2012. <u>RCC Role:</u> Representing the RCC activities in related area and discussing models for future cooperation with international partners. VI SEECF PD Working Group – Belgrade, 17 - 18 September 2012
2. Assisting the institutionalization of the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RCC Secretariat paid full attention to the final phase of development of the project on Parliamentary Cooperation in the Western Balkans and Turkey - Support to the Cetinje Parliamentary Forum. To that aim, intense consultations were held with DG Enlargement regarding detailed description of the project activities, optimal model for project contracting and respective budgeting. 	

Regional Cooperation in the Field of Media

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
Promoting regional cooperation and freedom of media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference on investigative journalism and data protection - Pula, 29-31 May 2012 I Academy on Media Law in South East Europe - Zagreb, 3-8 June 2012 Meetings with editors of leading Slovenian media - Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11-12 September 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting of the Education Committee of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe – Zagreb, 28 May 2012 Meeting of the international organizations' working group on media legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 June 2012 II OSCE SEE media conference - Belgrade, 20 September 2012 I Conference on 'Media Platform – EU Strategy for the Danube Region' - Vienna, 21 September 2012

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE RCC SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE RCC SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD 4 MAY – 5 OCTOBER 2012

GENERAL

1. Meeting with Ambassador of Bulgaria to Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 10 May 2012 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
2. IX Coordination Meeting between the SEECP Troika, the Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat and the representatives of the EU – Sarajevo, 14 May 2012
3. XVII RCC Board Meeting – Sarajevo, 15 May 2012
4. XI Meeting of the Western Balkans Working Group Committee of the Regions – Sarajevo, 22 May 2012 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
5. XV Dubrovnik Diplomatic Forum “Diplomacy and Intercultural Dialogue” – Dubrovnik, 24-26 May 2012 (Chief of Staff)
6. II Meeting of Political Directors of the South East European Cooperation Process – Belgrade, 29 May 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Junior Political Advisor)
7. Meeting with high officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro – Podgorica, 31 May 2012 (Secretary General)
8. Meetings with high-level officials of UNMIK, EUSR and Kosovo* authorities under the UNSCR 1244 – Pristina, 1 June 2012 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
9. Regional Expert Discussion “Regional Cooperation and European Integration” – Belgrade, 6 June 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool)
10. Sofia Forum: The Balkans in the Globalized World-Fostering the Region’s European Agenda – Sofia, 8-10 June 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
11. XXVI Meeting of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs – Belgrade, 11 June 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
12. III Meeting of the Political Directors - South East European Cooperation Process – Belgrade, 12 June 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Political Advisor)
13. IV RCC Annual Meeting – Belgrade, 13 June 2012
14. South East European Cooperation Process Ministers of Foreign Affairs Meeting – Belgrade, 14 June 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Spokesperson, Deputy Head of LO, Junior Political Advisor)

*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

15. Meeting of the Heads of States and Governments of the SEECP – Belgrade, 15 June 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff)
16. RCC Briefing for Embassies and International Organizations in Sarajevo – Sarajevo, 22 June 2012 (Secretary General, RCC Secretariat Staff)
17. Grant agreement signing ceremony between RCC Secretary General and German Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, on Germany’s support of the work of the RCC Secretariat in 2012 - Sarajevo, 22 June 2012 (Secretary General, Spokesperson, Head of Administration)
18. Training Workshop in Internet Governance and Diplomacy by DiploFoundation - Sarajevo, 25-26 June 2012 (RCC Secretariat Staff)
19. Meeting with the Director of MARRI Centre – Sarajevo, 27 June 2012 (Chief of Staff)
20. Regional Conference on Government's Energy Policy – Zagreb, 3 July 2012 (Secretary General)
21. CEI Seminar “Improving Cooperation in South East Europe by Actions for Strengthening the Regional Cooperation Council” – Sarajevo, 5 - 6 July 2012 (RCC Staff)
22. Croatia Summit – State Building and the EU Experience - Dubrovnik, 6 - 7 July 2012 (Secretary General)
23. IV Regional forum on the state of the film industry in Southeast Europe – Sarajevo, 13 July 2012 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues)
24. IV Steering Committee of the project “Improving Cooperation in South East Europe by Actions for Strengthening the Regional Cooperation Council”- Trieste, 17 – 19 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation)
25. CEI-RCC project – Study visit to Nordic Institutions – Stockholm, 2 – 5 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Infrastructure, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation, Spokesperson)
26. Bled Strategic Forum – Bled, Slovenia, 3 September 2012 (Secretary General)
27. Meeting with Director General for Enlargement of the EC – Brussels, 7 September 2012 (Secretary General)
28. Political consultations with Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Skopje, 11 September 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
29. Workshop on International Response to Major Natural and Man-made Disasters: The Role of the OSCE – Vienna, 17 September 2012 (Secretary General)
30. Meeting with representatives of Community Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 25 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool)

31. Meeting with the officials of the World Bank - Country Director and Regional Coordinator for Southeast Europe and Regional Vice President's office for Europe and Central Asia (ECA) – Washington, 25 September 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
32. Meeting with the officials of the US State Department – Washington, 26 September 2012 (Secretary General)
33. Informal meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP - New York, 27 September 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
34. Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria – New York, 27 September 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
35. Meeting with Director of the Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 5 October 2012 (Secretary General)
36. Meeting with Ambassador of Republic of Serbia to Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 5 October 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Political Advisor)

I. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. External Team Preparatory Meeting to the Governance of Social Determinants of Health (SDH)/Health Equity appraisal in Serbia – Venice, 10 May 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. Regional Economic Road Workshop and Meeting with SEET Leader and Co-chair of SEEIC – Tirana, 14-16 May 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Team Leader of the SEEIC)
3. Regional Conference on Employment Policies in SEE: Situation and Challenges – Sofia, 22-23 May 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
4. I Regional Ministerial Conference on Organ Donation and Transplantation “Heart to the Region” – beating towards self-sufficiency – Zagreb, 4 June 2012 (Secretary General, Expert on Economic and Social Development)
5. IX Regular Session of the Supervisory Board of the Centre for e-Governance Development – Ljubljana, 5 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
6. XII AIC Forum Edition Invitation – Brindisi, 6 - 8 June 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
7. Regional Workshop on Joint Efforts for the Achievement of Decent Work in Western Balkans – Skopje, 14 - 15 June 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
8. Western Balkan Investment Framework (WBIF) Steering Committee Meeting – Vienna, 14-15 June 2012 (Senior expert on Economic and Social Development)
9. Regional Access to Finance Forum – Sarajevo, 19 June 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)

10. II RCI Working Group on Innovation – Paris, 20 - 22 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
11. Meeting with the EU and Montenegrin Government officials with regard to the SEEIC activities – Podgorica, 25 - 26 June 2012 (Senior expert on Economic and Social Development, SEEIC Team Leader)
12. Meeting with the EU and Government officials with regard to the SEEIC activities – Pristina, 27-28 June 2012 (Senior expert on Economic and Social Development, SEEIC Team Leader)
13. SEEIC Seminar – Bled, 2 - 4 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues, Project Leader SEEIC)
14. EDIF Coordination Meeting – Paris, 5 - 6 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
15. Meeting of the eSEE Initiative – Sarajevo, 10 - 11 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Economic and Social Development)
16. Regional Conference: New Skills for New Jobs – Sarajevo, 12 - 13 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Economic and Social Development)
17. Economic Panel of the Summer School “Dynamics of institutional change under EU’s toolkit of conditionality. Lessons learned from Eastern Europe for the Western Balkans and Turkey” – Freiburg, 31 August – 3 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool)
18. II Meeting of the TF of the SEE 2020 – Jahorina, 11 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues, Project Leader SEEIC)
19. Regional Forum on Broadband for Europe – Tirana, 6 - 7 September 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
20. Joint Mission to Republic of Serbia to Support Strengthening of Governance for Social Determination and Health Equity – Belgrade, 17 - 26 September 2012 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
21. Kick off meeting of the project “Women Entrepreneurship – Job Creation Engine for South East Europe” – Zagreb, 20 - 21 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader SEEIC)
22. Meeting with Director of CEFTA Secretariat – Sarajevo, 28 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
23. XI SEEIC Meeting – Sarajevo, 3 October 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development and Project Leader of SEEIC)

II. ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1. III Road Safety Working Group Meeting and meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Transport of Montenegro – Podgorica, 3 - 5 May 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
2. III Annual Ministerial Meeting of the South East European Transport Axis Cooperation and the South East Europe Infrastructure Forum (SEEIF) – Athens, 22 May 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
3. Technical meeting on the Commission proposal on the implementation of Directive 2009/28/EC and Energy Community Environmental Task Force 3rd Meeting - Vienna, 22 - 23 May 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
4. VI South East Europe Energy Dialogue – Thessaloniki, 30 - 31 May 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
5. Round table “Best Available Techniques (BAT) for Large Combustion Plants in Western Balkans – legal and technical –economic aspect” – Tuzla, 7 - 8 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
6. Workshop on Challenges and Opportunities of Implementation of FAB – Brussels, 6 - 7 June 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
7. Meeting with DG Enlargement regarding the Airspace Study – Brussels, 8 June 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure and LO Advisor)
8. Meeting with representatives of ISIS PS concerning the possibility to expand current cooperation – Brussels, 8 June 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure, LO Advisor)
9. Establishment of SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaption – Sutomore, Montenegro, 12 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
10. Energy Forum “National and Regional Energy Policies and Strategies – The Security Supply” – Neptun/Romania, 18 - 21 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
11. International Conference “Implementation of Danube Strategy – Challenges and Perspectives” – Belgrade, 29 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
12. Meeting with representatives of ACE regarding the organization of the Third Congress on Roads – Sarajevo, 26 June 2012 (Expert on Infrastructure)
13. Workshop “EUSDR Project Facilitation and Exchange of Experiences” – Ljubljana, 5 - 6 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
14. Meeting with IPSA Institute representatives – Sarajevo, 9 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool and Expert on Infrastructure)
15. III ISIS Governing Body Meeting – Ohrid, 13 September 2012 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Expert on Infrastructure)

16. III Congress on Road – Sarajevo, 20 - 21 September 2012 (Secretary General, Expert on Infrastructure)
17. VII Energy Community Gas Forum and 5th Regional Energy Strategy Task Force (RES TF) meeting – Bled, 25-27 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
18. Meeting with representative of SEETO – Sarajevo, 26 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Infrastructure, Team Leader of the SEEIC Project)

III. JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

1. XX SEEPAG Meeting – Ohrid, 8 - 9 May 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
2. OSCE Regional Conference on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings – Warsaw, 14 - 16 May 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
3. Ministerial Conference “Brdo Process” – Brdo pri Kranju, 17 - 18 May 2012 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
4. High Level Meeting on the Western Balkans Network – Rome, 21 - 22 May 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
5. Launching meeting of UNODC second Regional Program for SEE 2012-2015 "Countering illicit trafficking and organized crime for improved governance, justice and security " – Vienna, 23 May 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
6. I Meeting of the South East Europe Regional Expert Teams on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal and Civil Matters – Bucharest, 29 - 30 May 2012 (Senior Expert and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
7. Summer school for junior magistrates from the SEE: International Standards and Cooperation in the Fight Against Corruption – Opatija, Croatia, 29 May - 2 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
8. Meeting with GIZ representatives – Sarajevo, 5 June 2012 (Senior Expert and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
9. Expert Working Group Meeting on the data registration, collection and protection within IPA-MB 2010 Project “Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors’ Network” - Sarajevo, 6 - 7 June 2012 (Senior Expert and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
10. GIZ Partner Workshop – Belgrade, 15 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
11. III Meeting of the Steering Group of PA11 of the Danube Strategy – Munich, 19 June 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
12. 2012 Annual Security Review Conference – Vienna, 26 - 28 June 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

13. RAI Conference in the Framework of newly established regional network for Judicial Training – Budva, 28 - 29 June 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
14. IPA 2010: “Fight against organized crime and corruption: Strengthening the Public Prosecutors Network “, International Conference and Meeting of the WBPN and Steering Committee Meeting – Hague, 10 - 11 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
15. International Conference “Balkan Security, Technology and Education: The challenges within cyber infrastructure” – Sarajevo, 13 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
16. VIII Meeting of the Expert Working Group – Belgrade, 17 - 18 September 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
17. Treptower Group Working Level Meeting – Berlin, 24 September 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
18. II Meeting of the Regional Expert Team on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters – Pržno, Montenegro, 26 - 27 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
19. III South East Europe Workshop on the topic “Countering violent extremism” – Istanbul, 30 September – 3 October 2012 (Chief of Staff, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
20. Cyberspace Conference – Budapest, 4 - 5 October 2012 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

IV. SECURITY COOPERATION

1. II Meeting of the Heads of the National Security Authorities of SEE Countries Members of the RCC – SEENSA – Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, 8 May 2012 (Secretary General)
2. II SEENSA Conference – Podgorica, 7 - 9 May 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
3. Integration and contribution of SEE to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU – Belgrade, 10 - 11 May 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
4. Consultations with the EU, Greek and Turkish specialised structures on SEEMIC and SEENSA – 23 - 24 May, and 28-30 May Brussels/Ankara/Athens (Expert on Security Issues)
5. Consultations on SEEMIC – Sofia, 13 - 15 June 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
6. Meeting with Vice President of BfV (Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz) – Berlin, 19 - 20 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
7. Meeting with SEDM Deputy Chief of Defence, MI and Parliament MI Subcommittee and the Chairperson on DPPI issues – Sofia, 26 - 28 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
8. XII SEEC Conference – Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation “Regional Cooperation in the Western Balkans – Smart Defence and Pooling and Sharing” – Skopje, 2 - 4 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)

9. Meetings with representatives of the Republic of Albania with reference to SEEMIC and other Security Cooperation Initiatives – Tirana, 14 - 16 July 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
10. Informal handover meeting with the EU Military Intelligence and NATO Military Intelligence outgoing and incoming points of contacts and discussions regarding preparation of the SEEMIC conference and for launching the IPA MB financed SEEMIC Project – Germany, 25 - 26 July 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
11. Meeting with Associate Professor of the Stonehill College, Washington, USA regarding research project on regional cooperation in Balkans and SEE – Sarajevo, 21 August 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
12. II Meeting of the Southeast European Defence Ministerial (SEDM) Group of Expert (GoE) – Rome, 10 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation and Expert on Security Cooperation)
13. International Conference on “Good Practices in the Protection of Classified Information – achievements and difficulties” – Sofia, 11 - 13 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Security Issues and Expert on Security Issues)
14. IV SEEMIC Conference – Sofia, 18 – 20 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Security Issues, Expert on Security Issues)
15. Preparatory meeting with the Serbian Coordinator of the SEENSA Thematic Working Group – Belgrade, 22 September 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
16. Coordination and planning meeting with RACVIAC – Zagreb, 24 - 25 September 2012 (Expert on Security Issues)
17. Meeting of the Ministers of Defence from SEE – Sarajevo, 3 October 2012 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Security Issues)

V. BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL AND PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

1. Parliamentary Seminar “A Baltic Voice in the EU: strong enough?” – Palangua/Lithuania, 10 - 12 May 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
2. V Meeting of the SEE Regional VET Network – Milocer/Montenegro, 4 - 5 June 2012 (Senior expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues)
3. Regional Research and Development (R&D) Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans Advisory Body Workshop – Dubrovnik, 17 - 20 June 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues)
4. Meeting with representatives of the “Djindjic Foundation” and Club of Hohenheim from Germany – Sarajevo, 17 May 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues and Expert on Infrastructure)
5. Conference on Higher Education: Towards Joint Regional Roadmap in Higher Education Structural Reforms – Petrovac (Montenegro), 22 - 23 May 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues)

6. III Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society – Prcanj/Montenegro, 27 - 28 June 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues)
7. Final event of the MDGF Culture and Development Programme: Presentation of results and future priorities – Sarajevo, 2 July 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross Cutting Issues)
8. Seminar for officials of Western Balkan parliaments on “Modernization of Agriculture and Implementation of the Common Agriculture Policy” – Sofia, 9 - 10 July 2012 (Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation)
9. Meetings with reference to the Regional Film Fund – Ohrid, 17 – 18 August 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
10. XIX International Conference “Technology, Culture and Development” – Tivat, 28 – 30 August 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
11. VI SEECP PD Working Group – Belgrade, 17 - 18 September 2012 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
12. Regional Higher Education Strategic (RHES) Forum - Dubrovnik, 26 - 27 September 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
13. Regional Conference: Lifelong Learning and Non-formal Adult Education in South East Europe – Sarajevo, 3 - 5 October 2012 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)

VI. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

1. EU Communication Masterclass at the European Training Institute - Brussels, 7 - 8 May 2012 (Public Affairs Assistant)
2. Meeting of the Education Committee of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe – Zagreb, 28 May 2012 (Spokesperson)
3. Conference on investigative journalism and data protection - Pula, 29 - 31 May 2012 (Deputy Head of LO, Spokesperson, Public Affairs Assistant)
4. First Academy on Media Law in South East Europe - Zagreb, 3- 8 June 2012 (Secretary General, Spokesperson)
5. Meeting of the international organizations' working group on media legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 21 June 2012 (Spokesperson)
6. European Communications Summit - Brussels, 5- 6 July 2012 (Spokesperson)
7. International Scientific Conference ‘NATO and Mediterranean: New challenges and prospects’ - Kolocep, Croatia, 27- 30 August 2012 (Spokesperson)
8. Meetings with editors of leading Slovenian media - Ljubljana, 11-12 September 2012 (Spokesperson)

9. II OSCE SEE media conference - Belgrade, 20 September 2012 (Spokesperson)
10. I Conference on ‘Media Platform – EU Strategy for the Danube Region’ - Vienna, 21 September 2012 (Spokesperson)

LIAISON OFFICE

1. EPC policy briefing with the State Secretary and Chief Negotiator of Montenegro – Brussels, 7 May 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
2. Lecture organized by the European Movement International with the Commissioner on employment, social affairs and inclusion – Brussels, 8 May 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
3. Meeting with the Director General of OLAF - Brussels, 15 May (Head of LO)
4. V Anniversary of the TUSKON EU Representation, in presence of Vice President of the European Commission and Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy - Brussels, 15 May 2012 (LO Advisor)
5. Briefing on EC and IFI Coordination Activities in the Western Balkans - Brussels, 22 May 2012 (LO Advisor)
6. UNODC launching meeting for its new regional program for SEE 2012-2015 "Countering illicit trafficking and organized crime for improved governance, justice and security" – Vienna, 23 May 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
7. FES Experts’ Roundtable: ‘On the way to the EU and NATO – Where do we stand?’ - Brussels, 29 May 2012 (LO Advisor)
8. Balkan Civil Society Development Network Policy Workshop on Raising the Democratic Standards and Practice in Enlargement Countries: Defining Civil Society Acquis - Brussels, 30 May 2012 (LO Advisor)
9. Meeting with the Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection – Lisbon, 2 June 2012 (Head of LO)
10. DG Employment seminar “Western Balkan Investment Framework – Strategy and Policy Discussions”- Brussels, 7 June 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
11. EPC Event: The Eurozone crisis, economic developments and policy challenges in the Balkans: What prospects for growth? - Brussels, 7 June 2012 (LO Advisor)
12. Meeting with the EEAS desk officer for RCC – Brussels, 22 June 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
13. IPA MB donor coordination meeting – Brussels, 26 June 2012 (Deputy Head of LO, LO Advisor)
14. Meeting with the Permanent Chair of COWEB – Brussels, 27 June 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
15. EPC Policy Dialogue with the EC Director General on Enlargement “The EU and the Balkans – A long engagement or a happy marriage?”- Brussels, 28 June 2012 (Deputy Head of LO, LO Advisor)

16. Meeting with the Executive Director, Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in SEE - Brussels, 28 June 2012 (LO Adviser)
17. Meeting with the former Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the EU – Brussels, 6 July 2012 (Deputy Head of LO)
18. Meeting with the EEAS desk officer for RCC – Brussels, 13 July 2012 (Deputy Head of LO, Adviser)
19. Meeting with the Local Administration Facility (LAF) Team Leader and Project Managers - Brussels, 13 July 2012 (LO Advisor)
20. Meeting with the representative of Brussels Office of German Institute for International and Security Affairs - Brussels, 13 July 2012 (LO Advisor)
21. Meeting with the Head of Unit Regional Cooperation and Programs, DG Enlargement - Brussels, 16 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
22. Meeting with the Head of the World Bank Office in Brussels - Brussels, 16 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
23. Briefing for the Council Working Group for the Western Balkans - Brussels, 16 July 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
24. Meeting with the representatives of Bulgaria in the COWEB and COELA - Brussels, 27 July 2012 (Head of LO)
25. Meeting with the desk officer for RCC in the EEAS - Brussels, 27 July 2012 (Head of LO)
26. Meeting with the Local Administration Facility (LAF) Team Leader and Project Managers - Brussels, 9 August 2012 (LO Advisor)
27. Meeting with the EU/Regional Policy & Programme Analyst, Regional Office for the EEA, the EU and NATO, International Organization for Migration - Brussels, 3 September 2012 (LO Advisor)
28. EPC policy debate “Albania, to compromise or not to compromise” - Brussels, 3 September 2012 (Head of LO, Deputy Head of LO, LO Advisor)
29. Meeting with the Head of Strategy and Policy Unit, DG Enlargement - Brussels, 6 September 2012 (Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, LO Advisor)
30. Meeting with the Director of the EEAS for the Western Balkans and Turkey – Brussels, 6 September 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO)
31. Meeting with the Head of Unit Regional Cooperation and Programs, DG Enlargement - Brussels, 6 September 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
32. Meeting with the Head of the International Transport Affairs Unit, International Relations Officer, Policy Officer of the Single European Sky Unit, DG MOVE, IPS Project Officer, ISIS Programme

Secretariat - Brussels, 6 September (Deputy Secretary General/Head of Expert Pool, LO Advisor and LO Interim Assistant)

33. Meeting with the Deputy Director General of DG Enlargement of the EC - Brussels, 7 September 2012 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General/ Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
34. Meeting with the Head of the Support to IFI Coordination in the Western Balkans and Turkey Office and Assistant Coordinator – Brussels, 10 September 2012 (LO Advisor and LO Interim Assistant)
35. Meeting with the State Secretary and Chief Negotiator of Montenegro – Brussels, 11 September 2012 (LO Adviser)
36. Meeting with the Director of Economic Growth and a Senior Capital Markets Advisor in USAid - Brussels, 17 September 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
37. KAS policy discussion on Albania with the President of Albania - Brussels, 18 September 2012 (Head of LO)
38. Meeting with the Director of The Regional Development Agency Backa, – Brussels, 18 September 2012 (LO Adviser)
39. Meeting with the Country Director, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Sarajevo Office – Brussels, 18 September 2012 (LO Adviser)
40. Meeting with the Director of CEPS - Brussels, 19 September 2012 (Head of LO)
41. EPC policy dialogue “Freedom of movement of persons in the Schengen Area, with former JHA Commissioner, EC director general and MEP - Brussels, 20 September 2012 (Head of LO)
42. Meeting with the Head of Quality Assurance Unit, Serbian Ministry of Finance – Brussels, 10 September 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor and Interim Assistant)
43. Meeting with the Head of the Europe in the World Programme, European Policy Centre– Brussels, 24 September 2012 (LO Adviser)
44. EPC Policy Briefing on *The future of the EU: towards a mutually supportive integration* – Brussels, 24 September 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
45. Meeting of the Ministers of Environment of the Enlargement Countries – Brussels, 25 September 2012 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
46. Meeting with the Head of Sector of Regional Cooperation and Programs Unit in DG Enlargement of the EC - Brussels, 25 September 2012 (Head of LO, Head of Administration, Finance Officer)
47. EPC Policy Dialogue “Climate changes – is Europe ready to adapt?” – Brussels, 26 September 2012 (LO Advisor and Interim Assistant)

ANNEX III

LIST OF PLANNED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE RCC SECRETARIAT IN 2012

Secretary General/ RCC Secretariat Officials

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Meeting with Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia		9 October 2012	Sarajevo		
2.	Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP	SEECP CiO	10 October 2012	Skopje		
3.	Meeting with Director of World Bank Group's Advisory Services Investment Climate Department		11 October 2012	Sarajevo		
4.	International Conference: "15 Years of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension - The Past, Present and the European Future of the Region" and Meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group	SEECP CiO	15 October 2012	Skopje		

5.	X Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, EU and the RCC Secretariat	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP CiO	17 October 2012	Sarajevo		
6.	XVIII RCC Board Meeting	RCC Secretariat	18 October 2012	Sarajevo		
7.	Conference - Financing Digitalization in Eastern Europe: The challenge for public service broadcasters		29 October 2012	Vienna		
8.	The Danube Region Transport Days 2012	Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial planning of Slovenia	18 – 19 November 2012	Ljubljana		

Economic and Social Development

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Ministerial Conference of the South East Europe Investment Committee	RCC	9 November 2012	Tirana	Europe 2020	Action 1: Transfer of the SEEIC

2.	Health system reform in SEE	RCC /Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)	November 2012	RCC	Identify scope for regional cooperation in health policy reform	Action 3: Mainstream employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations
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Energy and Infrastructure

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Conference on Implementing Energy Policies at Local Level	EC LAF/RCC Secretariat /Analytica	29-30 October	Skopje	Strengthening role of local authorities and civil society, their increased cooperation and involvement in addressing energy issues	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
2.	Seminar for Training of Educators in Road Safety Inspection (RSI) and Road Safety Audits (RSA)	RCC Secretariat/Association of Consulting Engineers of BiH (ACE)/BIH Ministry of Transport	October 2012	Sarajevo	Implementation of the road safety acquis (Directive EC/2008/96)	5. Contribute to the promotion of road safety
3.	Regional Conference as a part of the project – Strengthening the Public Dialogue on Sustainable Energy Use in SEE	Network of the Schools of Political Studies led by BFPE/ RCC Secretariat	Last quarter 2012	Zagreb	Strengthening the public dialogue in the area of sustainable energy development with the particular focus on the local governments and citizen awareness	1. Continue implementation of Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI) 3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy

Justice and Home Affairs

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	Joint Meeting of the SGRS and IPA-MB Working Group on Justice, Liberty and Security	RCC-EC	2012 2 nd Semester	TBD		1. Coordinate drafting and adoption, monitoring and implementation of the Regional Strategic Document

Security Cooperation

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	SEECIC Conference	RCC/Romanian Counterintelligence	3 rd quarter of 2012	TBD		
2.	Defence Policy Director Meetings	RCC/TBD	TBD	TBD		

Building Human Capital and Parliamentary Cooperation

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Regional conference of national historical museums	RCC, RCC TF CS	12-13 November 2012	Skopje		

Media Unit

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Meetings with leading Athens media	RCC	October	Athens	Implementation of the RCC Secretariat's communication strategy	
2.	Seminar for parliamentarians on the Role of National Parliaments in ensuring the independence of Public Service Broadcasting in Council of Europe Member States	Parliament of Croatia	15 October 2012	Zagreb		
3.	South East Europe Media Forum		22-23 October 2012	Budva		

4.	Meetings with leading Skopje media	RCC	October/ November	Skopje	Implementation of the RCC Secretariat's communication strategy	
5.	Meeting with leading Pristina media	RCC	November	Pristina	Implementation of the RCC Secretariat's communication strategy	
6.	Meeting with Brussels-based media	RCC	December	Brussels	Implementation of the RCC Secretariat's communication strategy	

ANNEX IV

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

SECRETARY GENERAL

1. Mr. Hido Bišćević- Secretary General of the RCC

EXPERT POOL

1. Ms. Jelica Minić- Deputy Secretary General/ 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
 5. Mr. Efreem 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- Lihic- 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. Dijana Kešelj- Translator

LIAISON OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

1. Mr. Stanislav Daskalov- Head of Office
2. Mr. Basil Coronakis- Deputy Head of Office
3. Ms. Lidija Topić- Advisor

RCC SECRETARIAT'S TECHNICAL AND SERVICE STAFF

1. Mr. Siniša Cvetković- Driver/Security
2. Mr. Fikret Kadrić- Driver/ Courier
3. Mr. Denis Sulić- Driver/ Courier
4. 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	Bundesamtes 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 <i>Road Safety</i>
<i>C-i-O</i>	<i>Chairmanship-in-Office</i>
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 <i>Road Safety</i> 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
SEPCA	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