



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

For the period 18 February – 10 April 2013

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

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

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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 SEECF and the RCC	7
- Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC participants	9
- Participation of the RCC Secretary General in other regional meetings and events	9
- Cooperation with the EU and other Brussels based institutions	9
- Regional cooperation in the field of media	11
- Communication activities	11
- Evaluation of general and institutional aspects	12
III. Priority areas of the RCC Activities	12
- Activities of the Head of the Expert Pool	
1. Economic and Social Development	13
- Investment and Business Enabling Environment	
- Social Development	
2. Energy and Infrastructure	14
- Energy	
- Transport	
- Environment	
2. Justice and Home Affairs	16
- Strategic coordination: events and actions	
- Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters	
- Supporting existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption	
- Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity	
- Cooperation in civil and commercial matters	
4. Security Cooperation	18
- Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation	
- Disaster preparedness and prevention	

5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues	18
- Education	
- Science and Research	
- Culture	
6. Parliamentary Cooperation	19
IV. Operation of the RCC Secretariat	20
V. Staff Changes in the RCC Secretariat	21
VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat Budget for 2013	22
ANNEX I	23
Report on the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 18 February – 10 April 2013	
ANNEX II	35
List of Meetings and Events Attended by the RCC Secretary General and the RCC Secretariat Officials in the period 18 February – 10 April 2013	
ANNEX III	40
List of Planned Events and Activities of the RCC Secretariat in 2013	
ANNEX IV	46
List of Officials of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat	
ANNEX V	48
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 18 February – 10 April 2013.

I. Summary of activities

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps in the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) 2011-2013, particularly aimed at an efficient and target-oriented, regionally owned and all-inclusive regional cooperation, as well as by intensive consultations of the RCC Secretary General (SG) with a number of RCC participants (Annex I: Report on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 18 February – 10 April 2013, Annex II: List of events and meetings attended by the RCC SG and the RCC Secretariat officials in the period 18 February – 10 April 2013; Annex III: List of Planned events of the RCC Secretariat in 2013, Annex VI: List of Abbreviations).

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

The nineteenth RCC Board meeting, among other important issues, discussed 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 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013 and adopted the Decision amending the List of participants (Annex I) and Statute of the RCC (Annex II) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC that enables Kosovo* to participate effectively in RCC. The participants also exchanged views on the drafts of the new Statute of the RCC and the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016. The tenth meeting of the RCC Financial Sub-Committee recommended to the RCC Board to approve the Financial Report presented in the Audit Report for the year 2012 and to adopt the Amendment of the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013.

The eleventh Coordination meeting between the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEEC) Troika, the RCC Secretariat and EU, inter alia, supported the Decision on amending the Annexes I and II of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC and welcomed the draft of the RCC SWP 2014-2016.

The second meeting of the SEEC Political Directors and the informal meeting of the SEEC Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MFAs), organized by the SEEC C-i-O 2012–2013 in Skopje in April 2013, congratulated the RCC SG on the assumption of his duties and for the leadership already exhibited in advancing regional cooperation, praised the work of the RCC Secretariat in implementing the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and in preparing the draft of the SWP 2014-2016, as well as underlined the importance of the SEE 2020 - a Job-creating Growth and EU integration Strategy as a very valuable project.

In the framework of the regular dialogue with the RCC participants, the RCC SG held consultations with high-level officials from the Republic of Serbia, Moldova, Germany, Albania, Kosovo* and Montenegro. The parties discussed the major developments in the region, all-inclusiveness in regional cooperation, the preparations of the drafts of the RCC SWP 2014-2016 and the SEE 2020 strategy.

*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 has been fully engaged in the preparation of the draft RCC SWP 2014-2016 and further development of the SEE 2020 strategy. In this sense, a wide consultation process has been initiated and numerous workshops and brainstorming meetings have been organized.

Following the adoption of regional targets for SEE 2020, RCC Secretariat took the first steps to develop the integral Strategy and action plan by organizing a series of workshops dealing with specific pillars of SEE 2020. The workshops, held in all five pillars of SEE 2020, were aimed at associating regional platforms with SEE 2020 pillars, identifying 14 dimensions for policy intervention and laying down a clear roadmap for RCC and its regional partners in this area, by appointing 12 regional structures to take a role of dimension coordinators in SEE 2020 development and implementation.

The RCC Secretariat and the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS) agreed on integrating Energy Community achievements into the SEE 2020 strategy primarily in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources as important components of the Sustainable Growth Pillar. The 36th Steering Committee Meeting on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network recognized the need for a 2020 Transport Strategy, which would clearly structure SEETO work and cooperation with the RCC, complement national strategies and add the strategic dimension to the SEETO cooperation arrangements.

The RCC Secretariat has been focused on developing a joint framework in the areas of Justice and Home Affairs and Security Cooperation, entitled *Stability and Rule of Law*, in the context of the preparation of the draft RCC SWP 2014 – 2016 with SEE 2020 strategy as its central pillar.

The RCC Secretariat presented the main elements of the SEE 2020 strategy to the ERI SEE Governing Board and discussed the possible role of the ERI SEE in developing the education dimension of the strategy.

The eighth meeting of SEECP Parliamentary Dimension Working Group exchanged views in light of the importance to submit a common proposal to the next Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of SEECP participating states in Ohrid at end of May 2013.

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

The 5th anniversary of the RCC was marked in Sarajevo on 27 February with a panel discussion "Five years of Regional Cooperation Council: Building on foundations and embracing new challenges" focused on achievements and future challenges of regional cooperation in SEE, and inauguration of Champion of Regional Cooperation – annual award for best achievement in cooperation in South East Europe.

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

RCC Board Meeting

The nineteenth meeting of the RCC Board was held in Sarajevo on 28 February 2013 and was attended by the representatives of all Board participants, with the exception of Ireland.

The RCC SG presented his Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013 and information on the most important future activities of the RCC Secretariat, in particular those related to the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, and briefed on the results of the Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU. He presented the draft Decision regarding the List of participants (Annex I) and related articles of the Statute of the RCC (Annex II) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC that enables Kosovo* to participate effectively in RCC, the drafts of the new Statute of the RCC and the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016. He also informed about his intention to continue holding regular consultations with RCC participants in view of raising the awareness and importance of strengthening regional cooperation and enhancing the role of RCC, as well as about the state of contributions to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013.

The Head of Expert Pool elaborated on the activities and results achieved in each priority area of cooperation, in the context of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, elaborated on the preparations of the SEE 2020 strategy and on the draft of the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016, in which the SEE 2020 is the central pillar.

The SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 reflected on the most important activities in line with its priorities and programme, welcomed the drafting process of the SEE 2020 strategy by the RCC Secretariat and expressed hope that disaster risk reduction, the theme of this year's Summit of the Heads of State/Government of the SEECP participating states, will become a component of this document.

The RCC SG pointed out to the positive developments within the framework of the EU facilitated dialogue on the implementation of the Arrangements Regarding Regional Representation and Cooperation and expressed gratitude to the RCC Board participants for the constructive approach towards the issue of all-inclusiveness within the RCC. He informed also that the RCC Secretariat has been engaged, in line with the conclusions of the RCC Board meeting of 18 October 2012, in the preparations of the draft new Statute of the RCC, stressing that a new strategically important document necessitated more detailed and extensive work. He proposed to the RCC Board participants to submit comments to the drafts of the new Statute and the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016 to the RCC Secretariat by 20 March 2012.

The RCC Board participants congratulated Mr. Goran Svilanovic for assuming the post of the RCC SG. They welcomed Kosovo*'s effective participation in the RCC, stressing that this proves an all-inclusive regional cooperation is possible and confirms the added-value of the RCC, as well as expressed an overall support for the drafts of the new Statute of the RCC and the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016.

The RCC Board meeting adopted the following decisions: 1) Decision amending Annexes I and II of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC.

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The RCC Board meeting reached the following conclusions: 1) The RCC Board 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 8 October 2012 – 15 February 2013; 2) concurred with the proposal to submit comments on the draft new Statute of the RCC to the RCC Secretariat by 20 March 2013; 3) welcomed the first draft RCC SWP 2014 – 2016 and concurred with the proposal to submit comments on the draft document to the RCC Secretariat by 20 March 2013.

The 10th meeting of the Financial Sub-Committee to the RCC Board, held on 21 March 2012, recommended to the RCC Board to approve the Financial Report presented in the Audit Report for the year 2012 and to adopt the Amendment of the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013.

The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the RCC Board participants from SEE took place in Sarajevo on 20 March 2013, with an additional session held on 21 March 2013. The participants discussed the portion of financial contributions to the RCC budget and their internal repartition for the period 2014 – 2016. They agreed, with the exception of one participant (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) who made a written objection, on the draft Conclusions of the meeting: 1) To preserve the current level of the annual transfers by the RCC Board participants from South East Europe to the RCC Secretariat's budget amounting to 1,1 million EUR cumulatively agreed for the period 2011-2013, based on the cost-sharing scheme endorsed at the Bucharest Regional Table of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe in November 2006 and confirmed at the Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the RCC participants from South East Europe that took place in Sarajevo on 10 June 2010 and 2) The methodological approach and criteria for the internal repartition of the financial contributions shall remain unchanged and the agreed modality shall be applied for three consecutive years – 2014-2016. The RCC Secretariat, as the moderator of the meeting, had circulated both documents to the RCC National Coordinators from SEE inviting them to express their positions until 12 April 2013.

Coordination between the SEECP and the RCC

The Coordination meeting of the SEECP Troika – The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania and the Republic of Serbia, the RCC Secretariat and the representatives of EU institutions was held in Sarajevo on 27 February 2013.

The Agenda of the meeting included: 1) Information on the most important activities related to the priorities of the SEECP C-i-O 2012-2013 and of the RCC Secretariat, in particular those pertaining to the implementation of its SWP 2011-2013; 2) Exchange of views regarding the proposals to amend the Annexes I and II of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC; 3) Exchange of views regarding the draft of the RCC SWP 2014–2016; 4) Further steps in the process of streamlining of regional taskforces and initiatives in SEE.

The RCC SG underlined that the meeting format proved its added value for enhancing coordination and synergy between the RCC and SEECP, which is to the benefit of an all - inclusive and result-oriented regional cooperation. He expressed his conviction that the future work, conducted jointly in a constructive and cooperative spirit, would provide an additional impetus to the efforts directed at strengthening regional cooperation and bringing closer the SEE aspirants to the EU.

The SEECP C-i-O 2012 – 2013 congratulated Mr. Goran Svilanovic for assuming the post of the RCC SG, commended its cooperation with the RCC Secretariat and expressed a firm belief that this cooperation will be further strengthened in the forthcoming period as well as reflected on the previous and incoming activities of its programme, emphasizing its intention to focus the SEECP Summit in Ohrid on disaster risk reduction.

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

The conclusions of the Coordination meeting supported the adoption of the draft Decision regarding the Annexes I and II of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC by the RCC Board at its meeting on 28 February 2013, welcomed the draft of the RCC SWP 2014-2016 and encouraged the RCC Board participants to provide their inputs in order to have the final version of the document ready for adoption at the RCC Board meeting on 25 April 2013.

The MFA of the SEECP C-i-O 2012 – 2013, N. Poposki visited the RCC Secretariat and with the RCC SG discussed the political situation in the region and its European perspective, the need to enhance the European agenda within the SEECP activities and strengthen interaction among the SEECP participating states, in particular between the EU and non-EU member states.

The RCC SG participated at the second meeting of the SEECP Political Directors and in the informal meeting of the SEECP MFA organized by the SEECP C-i-O 2012–2013 in Skopje. The SEECP C-i-O 2012 - 2013 presented the Report on its activities, introduced the initial debate on the drafts of the Ohrid Declaration and Joint Statement and expressed gratitude to the RCC Secretariat for the support and inputs provided in the preparation of both documents. In this context, the SEECP C-i-O 2012 - 2013 proposed to hold the first drafting session on the documents on 24 April 2013 in the premises of the RCC Secretariat (on the margins of the RCC Board meeting of 25 April 2013). Furthermore, it encouraged the SEECP participating states to announce their interest/candidacy for the C-i-O of the SEECP for the period 2014 – 2015.

The RCC SG reflected on the overall developments related to regional cooperation in SEE and on the most important priorities of the RCC in the period ahead (the RCC SG was given the floor to speak immediately after the SEECP C-i-O. This important aspect of the meeting comes following the efforts initiated by the RCC Secretariat to ensure an appropriate status for the RCC within the SEECP).

The delegations informed on the state of play of their countries in the process of EU enlargement and exchanged views on the recent developments at national and regional levels, touching upon on the economic and financial crisis and its social impact that also brings on the surface nationalism, the dialogue between Belgrade - Prishtina and the importance of its successful outcome for regional stability. In this respect, they welcomed the recent decision of the RCC Board regarding the full participation of Kosovo* in RCC as a significant progress towards ensuring an all-inclusive regional cooperation.

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The delegations congratulated the RCC SG on the assumption of his duties and for the leadership already exhibited in advancing regional cooperation, praised the work of the RCC Secretariat in implementing the RCC SWP 2011-2013 and in preparing the new SWP 2014-2016, as well as underlined the importance of the SEE 2020 strategy as a very valuable project.

Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC participants

In the framework of the regular dialogue with the RCC participants, the RCC SG held consultations with high-level officials from the Republic of Serbia, Moldova, Germany, Albania, Kosovo*, Montenegro and with the ambassadors of Germany accredited in the W. Balkans on the occasion of their visit to the RCC Secretariat.

The RCC SG expressed gratitude for the support provided in the process of his selection and appointment to the post of Secretary General of the RCC. He underlined that the RCC Board's Decision regarding the effective participation of Kosovo* in RCC is a durable step in ensuring an all-inclusive regional cooperation, presented the most important activities of the RCC, in particular those related to the preparation of the SEE 2020 strategy and the draft of the RCC SWP 2014-2016 with the SEE 2020 strategy as its central pillar. An overt emphasis was placed on the SEE 2020 and the need of an appropriate political support by the governments of the W. Balkans in the process of its adoption and implementation. The success of the SEE 2020 will require a broad political engagement of the national governments and therefore it will be necessary to raise the political importance of SEE 2020 and that the Prime-Ministers are fully informed and committed to work in this direction. In this context, the RCC SG noted the December 2012 conclusions of the EU Council related to the SEE 2020 and the role of the RCC. He also pointed out to the importance of the envisaged informal dinner of the W. Balkans MFA's, with the participation of the Commissioner S. Fule, for discussing candidly and openly different regional and EU integration related issues.

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

The RCC SG participated in a number of high-level regional events and international meetings with a regional dimension such as the meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in SEE; the 36th SEETO Steering Committee Meeting, the Wilton Park conference on The Western Balkans and EU enlargement: ensuring progress on the rule of law; roundtable on South Eastern Europe: through inclusive regional cooperation towards European Integration; conference on Parliament for Europe - regional cooperation in the context of EU accession: turning a good idea into concrete results and the 4th regional conference on Fight against organized crime, corruption and judicial cooperation in SEE.

Cooperation with the EU and other Brussels based institutions

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

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The RCC LO maintained its good cooperation with the EU institutions and bodies, primarily the EC, the European Parliament (EP), the EEAS and the General Secretariat of the Council (GSC), as well as with other relevant Brussels based institutions and stakeholders, such as NATO, IFI Coordination Office, European Policy Centre, etc.

In this context, the RCC LO had a number of meetings with different representatives of the EC, including with the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy and the Deputy Head of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, DG Enlargement, Head of Unit and Head of Section 'Regional cooperation and programmes', the Permanent Chair of COWEB, the EEAS policy officer for regional cooperation, the Head of the Enlargement Unit of the GSC, Members of the EP working on the W. Balkans region, the ambassadors of the missions of the countries of SEE accredited to the EU, etc.

In addition, the RCC LO organized a number of meetings for the RCC SG with high-level officials of the EU and other Brussels based institutions, as well as other meetings for the RCC Secretariat's staff and assisted in the preparation of several important events with a regional dimension, held in Brussels.

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

The RCC SG addressed the 36th SEETO Steering Committee meeting held in Brussels, presenting the key elements of the SEE 2020, such as the adoption of the SEE 2020 Vision, establishment of the SEEIC working groups and identification of targets at regional and nation levels. He underlined that SEETO has a role to play in the integrated, smart and sustainable growth pillars of the SEE 2020.

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

The RCC LO took part in the 5th Steering Committee meeting of CEFTA and expressed appreciation about the RCC cooperation with the CEFTA, as a key partner of RCC in developing the SEE 2020 strategy, in particular in the integrated growth pillar (on trade liberalization, trade facilitation and investment climate dimensions) and the sustainable growth pillar (on the competitiveness and industrial policy dimension).

The EU Enlargement process continued to mark encouraging results. The ongoing process of ratification of Croatia's Accession Treaty evolves, the steps taken by the Commission and Turkey to implement the positive agenda in line with the Negotiating Framework were welcomed, the accession negotiations with Montenegro opened in June 2012 are progressing, the possible decisions to open accessions negotiations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia shall be examined on the basis of reports to be presented by the EC in spring 2013, the possible decision on granting a candidate status to Albania will be examined

on the basis of the report of the EC, the launch of the EC's High-Level Dialogue on the Accession Process with Bosnia and Herzegovina was welcomed and further progress in the implementation of commitments is pending, and a possible decision to open negotiations for SAA for Kosovo* will be examined on the basis of a report to be presented by EC and HR/VP in spring 2013.

Regional cooperation in the field of media

The RCC has acted as a facilitator in the media field, bringing together different state and non-state actors. The RCC Secretariat organized a preparatory meeting for the 2nd Academy on Media Law, took part in a meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe and met with representatives of the Association and the CEI to prepare for launch of the SEE documentary "How do I see my neighbour", expected in April/May 2013. The RCC Secretariat took active part in an OSCE conference on the role of the Internet in shaping policies to advance media freedom.

Communication activities

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

The 5th anniversary of the RCC was marked in Sarajevo on 27 February with a panel discussion and inauguration of Champion of Regional Cooperation – annual award for best achievement in cooperation in South East Europe. The discussion Five years of Regional Cooperation Council: Building on foundations and embracing new challenges focused on achievements and future challenges of regional cooperation in SEE. The Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) 2006 became the first Champion of Regional Cooperation. The award is given to an individual or an institution that has contributed the most to the development of regional cooperation. It is also meant to contribute to positive profiling and rebranding of the region. A special acknowledgement for the promotion of cooperation in SEE was awarded to Hido Biscevic, first Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council, and to Erhard Busek, former Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

In the reporting period, to the knowledge of/available to the RCC Secretariat, 414 articles, interviews and statements on the RCC were published in South East European and international media, bringing the total to 4,774 available articles published since the beginning of operations of the RCC Secretariat. The same period witnessed 1,329,002 hits, 283,929 page views and 43,973 visits of the website, bringing the total to some 14,922,778 hits, 4,974,200 page views and 289,431 visits over the past four years since the website statistics has been gathered. The RCC currently also has 333 tweets and 372 followers at its Twitter account.

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One issue of the RCC newsletter was published, devoted to the 5th RCC anniversary, featuring 10 prominent contributors. It was circulated to an audience of over 2,800 subscribers.

The Secretariat continued promoting RCC activities and other important regional events in SEE by preparing and distributing a monthly overview based on its daily press review, as well as by sharing with members of the RCC Board reports prepared by the RCC Secretariat officials.

Evaluation of general and institutional aspects

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

III. Priority areas of the RCC Activities

Activities of the Head of the Expert Pool

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

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

The dialogue with the DG Enlargement continued to be regular and substantial, as well as with CEFTA, OECD Investment Compact SEETO, SEECCEL, RESPA and other key partners. Consultations have been regularly held with other donors interested in regional projects (UNDP, OSCE, IBRD, SDC, SIDA, FES, GIZ, HBS, dvv international, 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, DG Employment etc) as well as with the specialised units within the European External Action Service for security cooperation area. The RCC Secretariat is further strengthening cooperation with other regional structures in SEE and the Western Balkans as it is shown in detail per each priority area.

The RCC Secretariat also took active part at the WBIF Steering Committee Meeting and ETF/OECD/RCC/WB and ELARG/EMPLOY Coordination Meeting on the activities with planned start in 2013.

A permanent dialogue continued with different stakeholders from the region: private companies and associations, NGOs and NGO related organizations (Eco-Social Enterprises Network from SEE, BFPE, SEE Change Net, National Councils of the European Movement from SEE, WB Social Entrepreneurs Network, SEE Public Broadcasting Agencies Network, JHA-related NGOs networks etc), operating RI&TFs and newly established regional networks (Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies etc.) discussing the modes of cooperation and developing common activities. RCC 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.

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

1. Economic and Social Development

Investment and Business Enabling Environment

Following the adoption of regional targets for SEE 2020, the RCC Secretariat took the first steps to develop the integral Strategy and action plan by organizing a series of workshops dealing with specific pillars of SEE 2020. The workshops were aimed at associating regional platforms with SEE 2020 pillars, identifying main dimensions for policy intervention and laying down a clear roadmap for RCC and its regional partners in this area. The workshops were held in all five pillars of SEE 2020, identifying 14 policy dimensions for the Strategy and appointing 12 regional structures to take a role of dimension coordinators in SEE 2020 development and implementation.

In addition to the five workshops, the RCC Secretariat and its partners organized a number of targeted meetings with the representatives of line ministries in the respective policy dimensions of the strategy including investment, employment, education, health, and R&D and innovation. In total, 10 meetings and workshops were held during the reporting period.

The RCC Secretariat has continued its support to the SEE Investment Committee (SEEIC). Two standing Working Groups, on Innovation (WGI) and Investment Policy and Promotion (WGIPP), of the SEEIC have been formed. First meeting of the WGIPP was held during the last week of February, in support to the development of the integrated growth pillar of the SEE 2020, identifying potential for regional action in investment policy coordination and investment promotion.

The 12th meeting of the SEEIC was held back-to-back with the Deputy Ministers Strategic Meeting of CEFTA, with the main task of adopting the Work Programme of the SEEIC for 2013, and reviewing progress being made on the SEE 2020. In addition to providing the guidance on further development of SEE 2020, the participants discussed future roles and responsibilities of SEEIC and its structures in the implementation and governance of the SEE

2020. The next meeting of SEEIC, scheduled for 19 June 2013, is envisioned to review the first draft of the SEE 2020 Strategy.

Social Development

RCC Secretariat's efforts in the social development area were mostly framed within the SEE 2020 process. During February 2013, the RCC Secretariat brought together the representatives of Ministries of Labour and Social Policy, forming an inter-governmental working group (also joined by various regional and international organizations) to look into the employment and social dimensions of SEE 2020. It was agreed that a regional strategy in the areas of employment would be formalized. Two important priority areas that will be further explored in the SEE 2020 process include the promotion of labour mobility across the region and the joint actions to improve labour market governance. Targeted regional meetings of experts in these areas will take place during April 2013. Additionally, the priority of matching the regional demand and supply of jobs will be further developed, building on the work done during the regional events organized by the RCC Secretariat and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung during the previous two years.

Further important dimensions of the inclusive growth pillar include education and health. At the 17th meeting of the Governing Board and Consultative Body of the Education Reform Initiative in SEE, strong political support was given to the development of the education dimension of the SEE2020 strategy.

The RCC Secretariat also hosted a working meeting with members of the SEE Health Network (SEEHN) and other international stakeholders, with the aim to contribute to the development of the health component of the SEE2020 strategy. Health has been recognized as one of the important inclusive growth pillars, but also as a key enabler of progress in other pillars. SEEHN is seen as the natural dimension coordinator for health in the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the inauguration event of the seat of the secretariat of the South Eastern Europe Health Network (SEEHN) in Skopje. The establishment of the secretariat has been an important achievement towards strengthening regional ownership and providing the network with a home that is expected to coordinate and support regional cooperation on public health and the work for elaborating strategic actions to implement the Banja Luka Pledge on health in all policies.

The RCC Secretariat participated at a regional conference organized by the World Bank and the European Commission, which presented the findings of a rapid assessment of existing institutional and organizational arrangements to monitor and evaluate the progress of public sector strategies and sector level reforms in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The social policy and employment sector has been identified as a key priority sector by all target countries and RCC intends to liaise closely with the WB to ensure that the work done in the inclusive growth pillar of the SEE2020 agenda builds on the key social sector performance indicators identified by the WB.

2. Energy and Infrastructure

Energy

The RCC Secretariat cooperated closely with the Energy Community and participated at the 1st Energy Community Coordination Group for Energy Efficiency meeting organized by the

Energy Community Secretariat (ECS). The RCC Secretariat agreed with the ECS on integrating Energy Community achievements into the SEE 2020 Strategy primarily in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources as the important components of the Sustainable Growth Pillar of this strategy.

The RCC Secretariat reached agreement with the GIZ - Open Regional Fund for South East Europe on Energy Efficiency about the RCC further support in the implementation of the regional initiative ``Public Dialogue on the Sustainable Use of Energy in South East Europe``, launched to foster capacity building and public dialogue on sustainable use of energy between representatives of parliaments, governments, business sector, media and civil society. The RCC Secretariat also committed to contribute to the EU financed South East Europe Sustainable Energy Policy project to be implemented by the network of civil society organisations lead by the NGO SEE Change Net.

Based on the conclusions of the third Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI) Task Force meeting, co-organized by the CEI Executive Secretariat, the RCC Secretariat and the Serbian Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection, preparatory activities for organising national consultation meetings and sector stakeholders` conference started. The outputs of these events would be crucial for further enriching and profiling of the initiative.

Due attention was also paid to cooperation with the parliamentarians. The RCC Secretariat participated at the meeting of the Chairs of the Commissions/Boards on External Affairs of Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The meeting was organized to promote a better focus on energy poverty as an exceptionally important topic for the regional energy policies.

Transport

The RCC Secretariat participated at the 36th Steering Committee Meeting on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network. The RCC SG informed about the key elements in the preparation process of the SEE 2020 underlining that SEETO has been involved in the development activities of SEE 2020, setting up of the governance structure within the integrated, smart and sustainable growth pillars. In addition, he presented the RCC Secretariat`s main transport activities in air and rail traffic inviting participants to take part at the transport events to be co-organized under the RCC umbrella. Furthermore, the SC participants recognized the need for a 2020 Transport Strategy, which would clearly structure SEETO work and cooperation with the RCC, complement national strategies and add the strategic dimension to the SEETO cooperation arrangements. The presence and participation of the RCC SG marked a significant step in further strengthening the cooperation between RCC and SEETO and securing an enhanced role of SEETO and transport sector in the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat has intensified consultations with the Implementation of Single European Sky (ISIS) Programme Secretariat and other interested stakeholders related to the Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector in order to define the further steps in its realization. The initiative has been strongly supported by the national administrations, civil aviation authorities and air industry in the region, as well as several NIPACs.

The RCC Secretariat has continued preparatory activities related to the organization of a Conference for Better Economic Development in SEE, to be held in Sarajevo, on 10 October,

2013. The event intends to support the establishment of a PPP Centre in Sarajevo aiming to create conditions for promotion and more efficient use of local expertise in this area and to improve business environment in order to attract investments needed to ensure financial sustainability of regional infrastructure. It will be organized together with the University of Sarajevo, Association of Consulting Engineers of BIH (ACE) and UNECE.

The RCC Secretariat has continued preparatory activities jointly with the ACE, with the aim of organizing a Conference on Railways, to be held on 26-27 September 2013 in Sarajevo. It will gather representatives of governments, financial sector, operators, infrastructure managers and railway equipment manufacturers to discuss about the strategy of railway traffic development, safety issues, infrastructural planning and operations, available financing instruments, environmental aspects and interoperability.

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. To that end, the RCC Secretariat participated at the International Conference: “Sava River – a Transport Corridor and Tourist Destination” organized by the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC).

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, was invited to support the SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation (SEEFCCA) project by co-organizing and hosting the SEEFCCA Network Coordinators meeting. The main goal of the SEEFCCA Network Coordinators meeting to take place on 17-18 April is to discuss SEEFCCA functioning in a sustainable way in the forthcoming period and preparatory activities for joint regional project application.

3. Justice and Home Affairs

Strategic coordination: events and actions

The work of the RCC Secretariat in the area of Justice and Home Affairs was focused on the development of the two most important strategic frameworks in the upcoming period: the draft RCC SWP 2014-2016, and the SEE 2020 strategy. Following the requirements of the draft RCC SWP 2014-2016, a joint framework has been prepared with the security cooperation area under chapter *Stability and Rule of Law*, in accordance with the rescheduled structure of the document.

The first workshop on Governance for Growth was organized with the main objective to define a roadmap for the development of this pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy and agree on the implementation modalities. The participants discussed the main long-term priorities and challenges within the two identified pillar dimensions - effective public services and anti-corruption, in the light of the adopted regional targets, and came up with proposals for additional targets, indicators and implementation measures. The workshop helped in identifying priorities to reach the SEE 2020 targets and discussed their feasibility in the regional context; partially delineated roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved; discussed possible governance structure and monitoring mechanism, and identified potential synergies with other pillars of the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat took active part at the international conference *Being tough is not enough – Curbing trans-national organized crime* organized by Friedrich Ebert Foundation that discussed latest trends and findings on patterns and impacts of organized crime on security, governance and democracy, and possible policy responses. The conclusions of the event noted that strategies solely focusing on “law and order” or even primarily relying on the military have largely failed, and new multidimensional approaches and comprehensive strategies need to be defined in order to make a more efficient fight against organized crime.

Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters

In the framework of Multi-Beneficiary IPA 2010 - Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors’ Network, a regional conference *International Cooperation in Fighting Organized Crime: Best Practices and Challenges in the Western Balkans* was organized. The conference discussed challenges in the fight against organized crime in the Western Balkans, cross-border cooperation in the region and cooperation with EUROJUST and EJM. Special attention was paid to interagency cooperation and ways of strengthening the cooperation between International Law Enforcement Coordination Units (ILECUs) with the judicial authorities as well as cooperation between police and Prosecutors' Offices.

Supporting existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption

The RCC Secretariat organized several meetings with the newly appointed management of Regional Anti-Corruption initiative in order to exchange ideas and discuss possible ways of cooperation between two organizations. In the next period central issues will be renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning cooperation in Fighting Corruption through the South Eastern European Anti-Corruption Initiative; possible participation of RAI in the SEE2020 as Dimension Coordinator for Anti-Corruption.

Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity

MARRI Regional Forum discussed common challenges in migration management and ongoing activities to address those problems. The MARRI Member States underlined support to continuation of MARRI RC to use its capacities as regional executive tool for achieving envisaged priorities and activities on a sustainable basis. The Forum also supported implementation of the MARRI Projects and encouraged MARRI Regional Centre to continue with the project oriented approach as well as to develop next Strategy and Action Plan 2014-2016 which should represent further endeavour in migration management. Forum endorsed Annual report, covering both operational and financial aspects of the organization.

Cooperation in civil and commercial matters

The RCC Secretariat and GIZ organized several working meetings dedicated to mutual cooperation of partners and regional negotiations in the area of civil and commercial matters. In the same time, mutual cooperation in the development and implementation of the SEE2020 was discussed. Some of discussed activities have been already in the pipeline targeting particularly the development of pillar dimension “effective public services” and coordination of efforts among RCC responsible units, dimension co-ordinator, other regional platforms involved in the dimension and external partners.

4. Security Cooperation

Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation

The RCC Secretariat had consultations with relevant Romanian institutions and structures, discussing the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, in particular the SEENSA and SEEMIC Fora and the preparation of the new RCC SWP 2014-2016, also in light of the incoming Romanian SEECF CiO 2013-2014.

The RCC Secretariat participated in the first seminar of the Regional Academy for Democracy, Justice and Security Cooperation, in Subotica, where the RCC SWP achievements for the period 2011-2013 and the main activities planned for the period 2014 – 2016 were presented.

The RCC Experts followed a Symantec ‘training for trainers’ program within the SEEMIC project.

Disaster preparedness and prevention

The RCC Secretariat took active part and contributed to the works of the DPPI SEE Regional Meeting. The participants discussed important aspects related to the future of the DPPI and its Secretariat, such as: the DPPI Memorandum of Understanding, the Host Country Agreement, the legal documents (Rules of Procedure and the Financial Management Rules).

5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues

Education

The RCC Secretariat, as a member of the ERI SEE Governing Board, organized the 17th Meeting of the ERI SEE Governing Board and Consultative Body, in line with its general efforts to assist creation of transparent and efficient mechanism for cooperation in SEE in the area of education. The RCC Secretariat presented the process of development of the SEE 2020 Strategy to the ERI SEE Governing Board and took part in the discussion on the possible role of the ERI SEE in the process of development of the education dimension of the Strategy. The Governing Board discussed the process of establishment of ERI SEE Secretariat in Belgrade. The Host Country Agreement of the ERI SEE Secretariat is ready for signing and 5 members of ERI SEE Governing Board expressed readiness to sign the document. The Agreement shall enter into force upon signature of all ERI SEE members, and after the receipt of the fourth notification of the Parties, including the Host Country. The ERI SEE Governing Board supported RCC’s efforts in developing the SEE 2020 Strategy and expressed readiness of the member countries to contribute to development and implementation of the Strategy in the area of education. It also expressed interest and readiness of the ERI SEE to coordinate future activities related to education dimension of the Strategy.

The RCC Secretariat continued its activities on assisting cooperation among the Higher Education Authorities and Institutions in the region aiming to build capacities for structural reform in higher education and its coherent convergence toward European Higher Education Area. The RCC Secretariat participated at two meetings of the Steering Committee of STREW (Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkans Countries) project, joining representatives of ministries, universities and other relevant institutions in their efforts towards development of the Regional Roadmap for the Promotion of Regional Policy and Structural Reform in Higher Education. The aim of the Regional Roadmap is to promote regional policy, based on the strategic and long-term vision that

resonates nationally, regionally and internationally. Development of this strategic document contributes to the improvement of quality and visibility of higher education through greater transparency, while safeguarding institutional autonomy and academic freedom.

The RCC Secretariat took part at the kick-off meeting of the Regional Cluster of Knowledge on Teacher Training, organised in Podgorica, by the RCC Task Force Fostering Building Human Capital (TF FBHC), Education Reform Initiative for South East Europe (ERI SEE) and Montenegrin Vocational Education and Training Centre. The aim of the meeting was to start the process of development of the Regional Cluster of Knowledge on Teacher Training, as the fourth cluster initiated by the joint efforts of the RCC TF FBHC and ERI SEE.

Science and Research

The focus of the RCC Secretariat activities was on fulfilling its role in the process of development and drafting of the Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI) and its Action Plan. Draft Strategy was discussed among the members of the project Steering Board as well as with outside partners. Preliminary thoughts were exchanged on the modalities and framework for potential follow-up joint activities.

Culture

The main activities of the RCC Secretariat were focused on supporting the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society (TFCS). The existing structures and budgets under the on-going contracts between the EC and RCC and CoE would be used for the identification, selection and implementation of the projects. The final selection of two/three projects will be made by the European Commission, based on a short list submitted by the RCC TFCS (developed upon the technical assessment of the CoE experts). Implementation of the contracts will be done by the EU Delegations in the respective countries.

6. Parliamentary Cooperation

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Parliamentary Seminar: *Challenges in the field of Energy and the way forward*, organised by the European Parliament and attended by representatives of W. Balkans parliaments and Turkey, EP, EC, as well as, by relevant regional organizations. The seminar aimed to contribute to strengthening awareness and institutional capacity of MP from W. Balkans parliaments regarding the EU accession process in the energy sector and to building networks within the region, through exchange of best practices/experiences and lessons learned.

On the margins of the event, the RCC Secretariat had consultations with W. Balkans Unit of the EP regarding future activities and the strengthening of the cooperation between two structures, by organizing events in the region and hosting one seminar during 2013 in RCC Secretariat premises.

The RCC Secretariat participated at the Seventh Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of the States participating to the Stabilization and Association Process (COSAP), organized by the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina as Chair-in-Office of COSAP. The event was a good opportunity to emphasize the new spirit of dialogue in the region and the importance of the COSAP for intensifying the contacts and cooperation between the national parliaments of the W. Balkans in the framework of the EU integration efforts. It underlined the role of the W. Balkans parliaments and their European Integration Parliamentary Committees (EIPC), as “active watchdogs” of EU integration process, in

driving forward the EU reform agenda, in particularly in strengthening the institutions and rule of law, as well as in transposing of the *acquis*, working with governments in preparing, implementing and monitoring national strategic, policy and legal instruments, and in organizing training and other capacity-building activities.

The issue of full membership of Turkey and Kosovo* in COSAP was raised, with a recommendation to try to reach a possible decision at the next meeting of the Conference in Skopje in the autumn of 2013.

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 SG 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.

*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 LO and the Director of the CEFTA Secretariat, paid a visit to the Director for international organizations in the Protocol of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to inquire on the ratification process of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat (signed in 2008), which regulates the status of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels. The Belgian representatives undertook the commitment to inform RCC and CEFTA on status of the ratification process of their respective agreements.

V. Staff Changes in the RCC Secretariat

The vacancy of the position of Head of Expert Pool was announced on 14 March 2013 with the deadline for applications set for 15 April 2013.

The vacancy of the position of Expert on Infrastructure (temporary replacement for a 7 month period) was announced on 4 April 2013 with the deadline for applications set for 12 April 2013.

The vacancy of the position of Senior Political Advisor has been announced on 4 April 2013 with the deadline for applications set for 4 May 2013.

The RCC SG took a decision to appoint the Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development as the Coordinator for the South East Europe 2020 Strategy.

The position of the Political Advisor has been adjusted into the position of Legal and Political Advisor. The RCC SG took a decision to appoint to this post the current Political Advisor, taking into account her experience and background in legal affairs.

The vacancies of the positions of Head of Secretariat of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society and of Administrator in the Secretariat of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society have been announced on 4 April 2014 with the deadline for application set for 17 April 2013.

VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat budget for the year 2013 until 10 April 2013

Contribution		Commitments	Received	Date Received
Contributing Countries (Donors)				
	Austria	50.000,00		
	Czech Republic	50.000,00		
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00		
	Finland	50.000,00		
	France	50.000,00		
	Hungary	50.000,00		
	Italy	50.000,00	50.000,00	5.11.2012
	Ireland	50.000,00		
	Latvia	50.000,00	50.000,00	2.4.2013
	Norway	50.000,00	53.741,27	12.3.2013
	Sweden	50.000,00		
	Switzerland	65.000,00		
	United States of America	120.000,00		
	Total contributing countries donors:	735.000,00	153.741,27	
European Commission 2011-2013 contract 1)				
		700.000,00	459.280,00	
South East Europe Contributors				
	Albania	60.000,00		
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60.000,00	60.000,00	11.2.2013
	Bulgaria	140.000,00	140.000,00	30.1.2013
	Croatia	80.000,00	80.000,00	6.2.2013
	Greece	140.000,00		
	Moldova	40.000,00		
	Montenegro	40.000,00	40.000,00	25.12.2012
	Kosovo* 3)	40.000,00		
	Romania	140.000,00		
	Serbia	80.000,00	80.000,00	21.2.2013
	Slovenia	80.000,00	80.000,00	28.2.2013
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2)	60.000,00		
	Turkey	140.000,00		
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding	200.000,00	200.000,00	1.1.2013
	Total South East Europe Contributors:	1.300.000,00	680.000,00	
	Total:	2.735.000,00	1.293.021,27	

1) Cumulative prepayments on contract for the period 2011 - 2013

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

3) The contribution to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2012 was not paid.

* 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.

ANNEX I

REPORT

On the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 18 February – 10 April 2013

Horizontal activities

Horizontal Functions:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Representing the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security conference – Berlin, 21 February 2013. • Meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in SEE – Ljubljana, 8 – 9 March 2013. • 36th SEETO Steering Committee Meeting – Brussels, 15 March 2013. • Wilton Park conference on The Western Balkans and EU enlargement: ensuring progress on the rule of law – West Sussex, 25 – 26 March 2013. • Roundtable on South Eastern Europe: through inclusive regional cooperation towards European Integration – Prishtina, 27 March 2013. • Conference on Parliament for Europe - regional cooperation in the context of EU accession: turning a good idea into concrete results – Sarajevo, 5 April 2013. • 4th regional conference on Fight against organized crime, corruption and judicial cooperation in SEE – Belgrade, 11 – 12 April 2013.
2. Coordination and cooperation with the SEECP C-i-O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the European Union - Sarajevo, 27 February 2013. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit of the MFA of the SEECP C-i-O 2012 – 2013 to the RCC Secretariat – Sarajevo, 27 February 2013. • Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors – Skopje, 9 April 2013. • Informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs – Skopje, 10 April 2013.
3. Exerting strategic leadership in regional cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19th RCC Board meeting - Sarajevo, 28 February 2013. • RCC Financial Sub-Committee meeting – Sarajevo, 21 March 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Team Leader of the regional IPA project “Inspiration – Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Western Balkans” – Sarajevo, 14 March 2013

<p>4. Consultations with RCC Participants</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations with high-level officials of the MFA of Moldova - Chisinau, 19 – 20 February 2013 • Consultations with officials of the MFA of Germany – Berlin, 21 February 2013 • Consultations with the MFA and high-level officials of the MFA of Albania – Tirana, 21 March 2013 • Meeting with the high level officials of Kosovo*¹ – Prishtina, 27 – 29 March 2013 • Meeting with the MFA and high-level officials of the MFA of Montenegro – Podgorica, 1 – 2 April 2013.
<p>5. Providing regional perspective in donor assistance, notably in EU assistance under the Instrument for pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)</p>		
<p>6. Supporting increased involvement of civil society in regional activities</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCC Communication and Media Training – Sarajevo, 22 March 2013

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.

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"> • 12th meeting of the SEEIC - Sarajevo, 19 March 2013 • SEEIC Investment Policy and Promotion Working Group - Sarajevo, February 21 2013 • Governance for growth workshop – Sarajevo, 21 February 2013 • Sustainable growth workshop – Sarajevo, 19 February 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Conference: Public Private Partnership in Slovenia – Bled, 7-8 March 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter & discussant • WB RCI Steering Committee – Paris, 26 March 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: member • The Brown Forum: Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital – Zadar, 8-9 April, 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: discussant
<p>2. Identifying ways and means for improving access to</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WB EDIF TA pillar workshop - Paris, 25 March 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: observer to Platform Advisory Group
<p>3. Mainstreaming employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Growth Health Workshop – Sarajevo, 3 April 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Monitoring and Evaluation Capabilities in the Western Balkans and Turkey – Vienna, 28 February 2012. <u>RCC role</u>: participant in the conference and working group discussions • Inauguration of seat of the SEE Health Network Secretariat – Skopje, 7 March 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter • 8th steering committee meeting and final wrap up conference of SEE Center for Entrepreneurial Learning – Dubrovnik, 9-11 April 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: presenter

4. Promoting Information Society		
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Priority area 2: Energy and Infrastructure

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Continue implementation of Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI)	<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. • Cooperated with Short Term Expert engaged within the project on strengthening the RCC capacities. • Committed to support CSOs led by SEE Change Net in Western Balkan Sustainable Energy Strategy preparation and promotion. • Agreed with the GIZ – ORF EE on the RCC further support to the implementation of the regional initiative on strengthening public dialogue on sustainable energy use in SEE. 	

<p>2. Explore potential for cooperation with the Energy Community Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed with the ECS on integrating the Energy Community achievements into the Sustainable Growth Pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Energy Community Coordination Group for Energy Efficiency meeting – Vienna, 21-22 February 2013, organized by the ECS. <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring Energy Community developments, integrating the energy efficiency dimension of the Energy Community into the SEE 2020 Strategy and consultations on related RCC activities.
<p>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. • Backing the regional initiatives relevant for EU SDR implementation. • Cooperation with and supporting the IFI CO. • Support to the MB IPA Strategy WGs and WBIF SC as the permanent task. • Assisted to the SEEFCCA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Conference: “Sava River – a Transport Corridor and Tourist Destination” – Belgrade, 6 March 2013, organized by the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC). <u>RCC role:</u> monitoring the ISRBC developments, discussing and agreeing on future RCC joint activities with the ISRBC and ICPDR, meeting with the SEEFCCA representatives.

<p>4. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued consultations with the ISIS PS and interested stakeholders towards the realization of a Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector. Discussed the possibility to be engaged in and support the Joint Service Provision Area Initiative (JSPA) as a step forward integration of regional airspace. 	
<p>5. Contribute to the promotion of road safety</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference “Connective Europe – Respond of the CEFTA Region”, – Skopje, 14 March 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: presented the RCC activities in transport sector. 36th Steering Committee Meeting on the Development of the SEETO Comprehensive Network, – Brussels, 15 March 2013, organized by the EC’DG MOVE and SEETO. <u>RCC role</u>: presented the RCC activities towards the SEE2020 Strategy development as well as the RCC transport activities in this respect. Programme Committee Meeting related to the organization of a Conference on Railways – Sarajevo, April 2013, organized by ACE. <u>RCC role</u>: defining the next steps towards the organization of the Conference on Railways.

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 Regional Strategic Document and Action Plan on Justice and Home Affairs 2011-2014, and monitoring its implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance for Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 21 February 2013. <u>RCC</u> role: exerting strategic leadership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Level Meeting of the Treptower Group - London, 5-6 March 2013. <u>RCC</u> role: representing the region.
<p>2. Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a
<p>3. Support existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with the RAI Management – organized by RCC-Sarajevo, 22 February 2013. <u>RCC</u> role: exerting strategic leadership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a

<p>4. Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a
<p>5. Initiate regional cooperation in private and civil law matters and in protection of fundamental rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with GIZ Management-Open Regional Fund for Southeast Europe – Legal Reform – organized by RCC – Sarajevo, several occasions in February 2013. RCC role: exerting strategic leadership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a

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"> • SEEMIC Training and consultations with relevant Romanian institutions – Bucharest, 18-22 March 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Seminar of the Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkans – Subotica, 25-26 February 2013, organized by the Regional Academy of Democracy/Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence
<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"> • DPPI SEE Working Group Meeting – Sarajevo, 7 March 2013, organized by the DPPI • 26th DPPI SEE Regional Meeting and consultations with relevant authorities of the Republic of Moldova – Chisinau, 26-27 March 2013

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

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Taking over the coordination of Ljubljana Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main activities were focused on supporting the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society (TFCS). The entire selection process for the projects of cultural heritage to be supported is foreseen to be completed by mid 2013. 	
<p>2. Support to education reform, with emphasis on higher education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17th Meeting of the ERI SEE Governing Board and Consultative Body was organized by the RCC Secretariat in Sarajevo. The RCC Secretariat, as a member of the ERI SEE Governing Board, initiated the event in line with its general efforts to assist creation of transparent and efficient mechanism for cooperation in SEE in the area of education. The RCC Secretariat presented the process of development of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy to the ERI SEE Governing Board. The role of the ERI SEE was defined in the process of development of the education dimension of the smart growth pillar. of the Strategy. Governing Board discussed the process of establishment of ERI SEE Secretariat in Belgrade.. Activities continued in assisting cooperation among the Higher Education Authorities and Institutions in the region aiming to build capacities for structural reform in higher education and its coherent convergence toward European Higher Education Area. In the reporting period, the RCC Secretariat participated at two meetings of the Steering Committee of STREW (Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkans Countries) project, supporting efforts towards development of the Regional Roadmap for the Promotion of Regional Policy and Structural Reform in Higher Education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kick-off meeting of the Regional Cluster of Knowledge on Teacher Training - Podgorica, 21-22 February 2013 <u>RCC Role:</u> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy

<p>3. Development of Regional Strategy for Research and development for Innovation for the Western Balkans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RCC Secretariat supported activities related to the final phase of the Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI). Activities were undertaken in guiding the process of drafting the Strategy and Action Plan. Draft Strategy was discussed among the members of the project Steering Board as well as with outside partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
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Priority area 6: Parliamentary Cooperation

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Assisting the development of the Parliamentary dimension of the SEEC</p>		

<p>2. Assisting the institutionalization of Cetinje Parliamentary Forum</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7th Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of the States participating to the Stabilization and Association Process (COSAP) – Sarajevo, 21-22 March 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u> Assisting the host Parliament in preparation of the meeting and the main documents including the Joint Statement.
<p>3. Activities for capacity building for WB parliaments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Parliament remains an important partner for the WB parliamentary cooperation, regularly organizing seminars for parliamentarians of the region on topics related to the EU <i>acquis</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliamentary Seminar “Challenges in the field of Energy and the way forward”, organized by the European Parliament for MP and parliamentarians staff from Western Balkans and Turkey – Brussels, 22 February 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u> Active contribution on the assessment of the programme of parliamentary seminars in2013. Suggesting and proposing concrete topics for the next Support Programme for WB parliaments. Meeting of the Chairs of the Parliamentary Committees on International Affairs of Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 15 March 2013. RCC Role: Giving three thematic presentations and participation in the debate

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE RCC SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE RCC SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD 18 FEBRUARY - 10 APRIL 2013

GENERAL

1. Security Conference –Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence – Berlin, 20 - 21 February 2013 (Secretary General)
2. Consultations with high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany – Berlin, 21 February 2013 (Secretary General)
3. Meeting with Bulgarian Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 25 February 2013 (Secretary General)
4. Meeting with representative of the Commission for Foreign Affairs, Parliament of BiH - Sarajevo, 26 February 2012 (Secretary General)
5. Visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP CiO 2012-2013 to the RCC Secretariat – Sarajevo, 27 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Political Advisors)
6. Coordination Meeting between the SEECP Troika, the Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat and the representatives of the EU – Sarajevo, 27 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, Spokesperson, Political Advisor, Junior Political Advisor)
7. 5th anniversary of the RCC followed by panel discussion “Five years of Regional Cooperation Council: Building on foundations and embracing new challenges and inauguration of the annual RCC award Champion of Regional Cooperation - Sarajevo, 27 February 2013 (Secretary General, RCC staff)
8. RCC Board Meeting – Sarajevo, 28 February 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, Spokesperson, Political Advisor, Junior Political Advisor, Experts, LO Advisor)
9. Meeting with the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council and Ireland's Permanent Representative to the OSCE – Sarajevo, 28 February 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
10. Meeting with German Ambassadors to the Western Balkans Region – Sarajevo, 11 March 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Spokesperson, Political Advisor, Junior Political Advisor, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
11. CEI Seminar: “Mirroring Europe 2020 Strategy Implementation into the reality of SEE” and “RCC and regional dimension: Challenges from IPA 2 current approaches” – Sarajevo, 12-13 March 2013 (RCC Staff)
12. Meeting with the Director of the ICMP – Sarajevo, 12 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
13. Meeting with Finnish Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, 13 March 2013 (Secretary General)
14. Meeting with the President of the Section for External Relations of the EESC – Sarajevo, 18 March 2013 (Secretary General)

15. Consultations with high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania – Tirana, 21 March 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
16. Wilton Park conference (WP1217): The Western Balkans and EU Enlargement: Ensuring progress on the rule of law – West Sussex, UK, 25 - 26 March 2013 (Secretary General)
17. Conference ‘South Eastern Europe: Through inclusive regional cooperation towards European Integration’ – Pristina, 27 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
18. Meeting with Head of EUO/EUSR – Pristina, 27 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
19. Meeting with Prime Minister of Kosovo* – Pristina, 27 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
20. Meeting with Head of Mission of EULEX – Pristina, 27 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
21. Meeting with UNMIK Charge d' affaires – Pristina, 27 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
22. Meeting with the President of Kosovo* – Pristina, 28 March 2013 (Secretary General, Political Advisor)
23. Consultations with the high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro – Podgorica, 2 April 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
24. “Parliament for Europe” – second session - Regional cooperation in the context of EU accession: Turning a good idea into concrete results – Sarajevo, 5 April 2013 (Secretary General, Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
25. Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP – Skopje, 9 April 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
26. Informal Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP - Skopje, 10 April 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)

I. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Inception Conference Building Monitoring and Evaluation Capabilities in the Western Balkans and Turkey – Vienna, 28 February 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. International Conference: Public Private Partnership in Slovenia – Bled, 7-8 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
3. Meeting with Team Leader of the regional IPA project “Inspiration – Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Western Balkans” – Sarajevo, 14 March 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development and Project Leader for the South East European Investment Committee)
4. Meeting of the Chairs of the Commissions/ Boards on external affairs of Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 15 March 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)

*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.

5. Inauguration of seat of the SEE Health Network Secretariat, the Round table “Regional Cooperation for Health in SEE: Whole-of-Government Approach to Health” and the meeting of the Executive Committee of the SEEHN – Skopje, 7 March 2013 (Chief of Staff, Expert on Economic and Social Development)
6. Western Balkans Regional Competitiveness Initiative (RCI) Steering Committee Meeting and EDIF Technical Assistance Pillar Workshop – Paris, 25-26 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
7. The Brown Forum 2013: Entrepreneurship and venture Capital – Deepening Ties between U.S. Firms and Entrepreneurs in SEE – Zadar, 8 – 9 April, 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)

II. ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Sustainable Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 19 – 20 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
2. The First Meeting of the Energy Community – Coordination Group for Energy Efficiency – Vienna, 21-22 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
3. International Conference: “Sava river – a transport corridor and tourist destination” – Belgrade, 6 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
4. Conference “Connective Europe – Respond of the CEFTA Region” – Skopje, 14 March 2013 (Chief of Staff)

III. JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

1. Governance for Growth Workshop – Sarajevo, 21 February 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. Strengthening the rule of law – challenges and potential of international cooperation – Berlin, 28 February - 1 March 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
3. The Treptower Group High Level Meeting – London, 5-6 March 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
4. Regional Conference “International Cooperation in Fighting Organized Crime: Best Practices and Challenges in the Western Balkans” – Zagreb, 6-7 March 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

IV. SECURITY COOPERATION

1. First Seminar of the Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkans – Subotica, 25-26 February 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation)
2. DPPI SEE Working Group Meeting – Sarajevo, 7 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation and Expert on Security Cooperation)
3. SEEMIC Training – Bucharest, 18-22 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation and Expert on Security Cooperation)
4. 26th DPPI SEE Regional Meeting and consultations with relevant authorities of the Republic of Moldova – Chisinau, 26-27 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Cooperation)

V. BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL AND PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

1. Parliamentary Seminar: EU Energy Policy and its impact on the Pre-Accession Countries – Brussels, 21 February 2013 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
2. eSEE Tempus meeting – Sarajevo, 14 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
3. The 17th meeting of the ERI SEE Governing Board and Consultative Body – Sarajevo, 20-21 March 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
4. 7th Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of the States participating to the Stabilization and Association Process (COSAP) – Sarajevo, 22 March 2013 (Chief of Staff and Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
5. Strategic Working Group Meeting Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkans Countries (STREW) – Dublin, 27-28 March 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
6. Western Balkan Regional R&D Strategy Steering Committee Meeting, WBC.INCO.NET meeting and the 1st meeting of the R&D Innovation dimension of the SEE 2020 Smart Growth Pillar – Vienna, 8-10 April 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)

VI. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

1. Preparatory meeting for the 2nd Academy on Media Law – Sarajevo, 19 February 2013 (Spokesperson, Public Affairs Assistant)
2. Meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe - Ljubljana, 8 March 2013 (Secretary General, Spokesperson, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
3. Communication and Media Training for RCC Secretariat's staff - Sarajevo, 22 March 2013 (Spokesperson, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Head of Administration, Expert on Economic and Social Development, SEEIC Project Leader, Assistant to Front Office, Assistant to Expert Pool, SEEIC Project Assistant, Newsletter Writer, Building Human Capital intern)

LIAISON OFFICE

1. Meeting with the Head of the Enlargement unit of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU-Brussels, 20 February 2013 (Head of LO)
2. 5th meeting of the CEFTA Steering Committee - Brussels, 25 February 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
3. Meeting between DG Enlargement Task Manager, CEFTA Director and Technical Adviser, MB IPA Quality Infrastructure Director and Project Manager - Brussels, 5 March 2013 (LO Advisor)
4. Meeting the Director for international organization in the Protocol department of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Brussels, 8 March 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)

5. Meeting with the Head of Section 'Regional cooperation and policy' in Unit D.3 in DG Enlargement - Brussels, 14 March 2013 (Head of LO, Head of Administration, Finance Officer)
6. 36th Steering Committee of SEETO - Brussels, 14 March 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
7. Conference 'Croatia on its way into the EU – progress and challenges - Brussels, 19 March 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
8. EPC Policy briefing "Kosovo – A game-changer for EU enlargement policy?" – Brussels, 19 March 2013 (LO Advisor)

ANNEX III

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

Secretary General/ RCC Secretariat Officials

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Briefing of the RCC Secretary general to the OSCE Permanent Council	OSCE	2 May 2013	Vienna		
2.	Consultations with high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria		3 May 2013	Vienna		
3.	Regional Conference Ohrid Initiative – Strengthening the “1325 Community” in the Region		12 May 2013	Ohrid		
4.	Directors General meeting with the EU candidate countries and potential candidates		14 May 2013	Brussels		
5.	Alpbach forum - annual conference - "The European way of life: sustainable markets, innovative regions and social economy"		18 May 2013	Ljubljana		

6.	Brdo Process Conference	Ministry of Internal Affairs of Slovenia	21-22 May 2013	Brdo pri Kranju		
7.	Consultations with high level officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland	23 May 2013	Dublin		
8.	10 Years After Thessaloniki: An appraisal of the EU perspective and the challenges in the Western Balkans	Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU	24 May 2013	Dublin		
9.	Meeting of the Speakers of Parliaments of the SEECP	SEECP C-i-O	27-28 May 2013	Ohrid		
10.	Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP	SEECP C-i-O	29 May 2013	Ohrid		
11.	RCC Annual Meeting	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	30 May 2013	Ohrid		
12.	Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP	SEECP C-i-O	31 May 2013	Ohrid		
13.	Meeting of the Heads of States/ Governments of the SEECP	SEECP C-i-O	1 June 2013	Ohrid		

14.	Conference on strategic communications and security institutions	RACVIAC, RCC Secretariat, European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe, HRT	26-28 May 2013	Skopje		
15.	Academy on Media Law in South East Europe	RCC Secretariat, FES, OSCE, Article 19, European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe	3-5 September 2013	Sarajevo		
16.	Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	1 October 2013	Sarajevo		
17.	RCC Board meeting	RCC Secretariat	2 October 2013	Sarajevo		

Energy and Infrastructure

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	Regional meeting to promote ICPDR activities in implementing EU SDR	ICPDR/RCC Secretariat/Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations	June 2013	Sarajevo	Promoting implementation of EU SDR particularly in the area of water quality and more active involvement of Bosnia and Herzegovina in strategy implementation	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
2.	Regional Conference to promote effective integrated trans-boundary water resources management (ITWRM)	GWP-Med/RCC Secretariat/German Environmental Ministry	TBD	Sarajevo	Strengthening regional cooperation in ITWRM and particularly in water sector climate change adaptation and sustainable use of hydro-potentials	3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
3.	4th ISIS Governing Body meeting	EC DG MOVE/ISIS PS/RCC Secretariat	TBD	Pristine	Supporting implementation of the Single European Sky II	1. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region
4.	Conference on Railways	RCC Secretariat/ACE	26-27 September 2013	Sarajevo	Discuss the strategy of railway development, safety issues, infrastructural planning and operations, available financing instruments, environmental aspect and interoperability.	
5.	Conference on Public-Private Partnership for better economic development in SEE	ACE/RCC Secretariat/UNECE/University of Sarajevo	10 October 2013	Sarajevo	To promote establishment of a PPP Centre as well as discuss more efficient use of local expertise in this area, in order to attract investments to ensure financial sustainability of regional infrastructure	

6.	Regional Conference to promote an integrated approach towards development of road infrastructure in SEE	RCC Secretariat/ European Road Federation	TBD	Brussels	Contribute to overcoming road traffic deficiencies, improved mobility and accessibility in the region.	2. Contribute to the promotion of road safety
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Security Cooperation

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP
1.	SEEMIC WG Meetings and Trainings (2 WG and 2 Trainings)	RCC Secretariat	April, May 2013	Zagreb		
2.	SEEMIC Conference	RCC Secretariat	September 2013	Zagreb		
3.	SEENSA WG Meetings (total of 6)	RCC Secretariat	May - December 2013	TBD		
4.	SEENSA Conference	RCC Secretariat	May 2013	Tirana		
5.	SEECIC Conference	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
6.	Defence Policy Director Meetings	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
7.	Defence Procurement Directors	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		

8.	Heads of Parliamentary Security Committees	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		
9.	Security Advisors to Presidents/PM	RCC Secretariat	TBD	TBD		

ANNEX IV

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

SECRETARY GENERAL

1. Mr. Goran Svilanović - Secretary General of the RCC

EXPERT POOL

1. Ms. Jelica Minić- 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. Ms. Suzana Ivanović- Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Head of Justice and Home Affairs Unit
 5. Mr. Efrem Radev- Senior Expert on Security Cooperation, Head of Security Cooperation Unit
 6. Mr. Mladen Dragašević- Senior Expert on Building Human Capital, Head of Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues Unit
 7. Mr. Sorin Sterie- Expert on Security Issues
 8. Ms. Amna Redžepagić- Expert on Infrastructure and Energy
 9. Mr. Predrag Vujičić- Expert on Justice and Home Affairs
 10. Mr. Nand Shani- Expert on Economic and Social Development
 11. Mr. Gjergj Murra - Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation
 12. Ms. Maja Taylor- Assistant to the Head of Expert Pool
 13. Ms. Elvira Ademović- Assistant to the Expert Pool
- **South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Project**, attached to the Economic and Social Development Unit within Expert Pool
14. Ms. Dragana Đurica, Project Leader
 15. Ms. Nedima Hadžiibrišević, 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. Adisa Okerić Zaid- Translator (replacement for Ms. Dijana Kešelj who is on maternity leave)

LIAISON OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

1. Mr. Stanislav Daskalov- Head of LO
2. Ms. Lidija Topić- LO Advisor

RCC SECRETARIAT'S TECHNICAL AND SERVICE STAFF

1. Mr. Slađan Rikanović - 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	Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CARICC	Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Agreement
CeGD	Centre for e-Governance Development
CEI	Central European Initiative
CGRS	Commission for Global Road Safety
C-i-O	Chairmanship-in-Office
CoE	Council of Europe
CoMoCoSEE	Council of Ministers of Culture of South-East Europe
COSAP	Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States participating in the Stabilization and Association Process
COWEB	Working Group on Western Balkans of the Council of the EU
CP	Contracting Parties
CPESEEC	Centre of Public Employment Services of Southeast European Countries
CPF	Cetinje Parliamentary Forum
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
DABLAS	Danube and Black Sea Task Force
DCAF	Democratic Control of Armed Forces
DCHOD	Deputy Chief of Defence
DCP	Danube Cooperation Process
DPPI	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative
EAS	External Action Service
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECAA	European Common Aviation Area
ECRB	Energy Community Regulatory Board
ECS	Energy Community Secretariat
ECT	Energy Community Treaty
EEAS	European External Action Service
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELFA	European Law Faculty Association
ENIC	European Network of Information Centres
EnC	Energy Community
ERF	European Union Road Federation
ERI SEE	Education Reform Initiative for South Eastern Europe
ERSO	European Road Safety Observatory
eSEE Initiative	Electronic South Eastern Europe Initiative
ESENSEE	Eco Social Economy Network South and East Europe
EU	European Union
EUMS	European Union Military Staff

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

PSO	Peace Support Operations
RACVIAC	Centre for Security Cooperation
RAI	Regional Anticorruption Initiative
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
RCC TF FBHC	RCC Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital
RCI	Regional Competitiveness Initiative
REC	Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe
RENA	Regional Environmental Network for Accession
ReSPA	Regional School of Public Administration
RI&O	Regional Initiatives and Organizations
RI&TFs	Regional Initiatives and Task Forces
RNIPA	Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies
RSA	Road Safety Audits
RSD	Regional Strategic Document
RSRDI	Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation in Western Balkans
RSI	Road Safety Inspection
RSPC SEE	Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in South East Europe
RTD	Research and Technical Development
SAP+	Stabilization and Association Process Plus (cumulation zone with EU, EFTA, Western Balkans and Turkey)
SECE CRIF	South East and Central European Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility
SECI	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative
SECI Centre	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, Regional Centre for Combating Organized Crime
SEDM	South East Europe Defence Ministerial
SEDRI	Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative
SEE	South East Europe
SEEC	South East Europe Clearing House
SEECIC	South East European Counter-Intelligence Chiefs Forum
SEECCEL	South East Europe Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning
SEECP	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 Police Officers Network