

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS BFUG8 VIENNA 6-7 APRIL 2006

BACKGROUND

1. The Berlin Communiqué of 19 October 2003 stated that a Board shall oversee the work between the meetings of the Follow-Up Group and that the Board will comprise:

- a) the EU Troika
- b) the Country hosting the next Ministerial Conference
- c) the European Commission
- d) four consultative members (EUA, ESIB, EURASHE, CoE)
- e) three participating countries elected by the BFUG for one year.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

2. The term of the current Board membership for the three elected members will come to an end in July 2006. The Secretariat sent out an invitation on 13 February asking for nominations to join the Board as an elected member for the period August 2006 until May 2007. The following four countries volunteered to become Board members by the deadline set:

- France
- Georgia
- Romania
- “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.

ELECTION PROCEDURE

3. Given that four countries have volunteered and there are only three places available, the election will be decided by a vote by BFUG. This is in line with the selection procedure agreed by BFUG in Berlin in September 2003. The agreed voting procedures are as follows:

- Eligible countries¹: all countries that expressed formally their candidature by the 10 March deadline;
- Number of votes: two per country, country members only may vote;
- Countries are not allowed to vote for themselves;
- The election will be by simple majority;

¹ The following countries are not eligible to apply for Board membership, as they have already held a seat on the Board: Austria; Belgium; Finland; Latvia; Malta; Slovenia; Denmark; Greece; Turkey.

Germany will join as a Troika member during the period concerned and is therefore not eligible on this occasion.

- In case of an equal number of votes, the BFUG will go on a second ballot;
- The three countries elected to the Board will not be re-eligible for a second time.

4. The Secretariat will issue voting slips to national members at BFUG 8 in Vienna. The votes will be collected, counted and the results announced during the meeting.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

5. It is expected that the new Board will meet twice during the period August 2006- May 2007: in September 2006 in Helsinki, Finland and January 2007 in Berlin, Germany.

6. The current Board will continue until the end of July 2006.

Bologna Secretariat
March 2006