

Working Plan for the Working Group tasked to elaborate proposals concerning the mission, structure, activities and financing of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office of the Western Balkans

November 2015

During the Western Balkans Summit in Vienna, the 27.8.2015, the Prime Ministers of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia have signed a "Joint Declaration on the establishment of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office of the Western Balkans", in which they declare that they have agreed to "create the Regional Youth Cooperation Office of the Western Balkans, as a regionally-owned structure that leads and coordinates youth cooperation in our region", aiming "to promote the spirit of reconciliation and cooperation between the youth in our region". In order to establish this structure, the Prime Ministers declare that they have agreed to "task relevant institutions of the participants to develop, in close collaboration with the Working Group on regional youth cooperation concrete proposals for the mission, structure, activities and financing of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office, to be finalized by 1 March 2016.", also stating that "the Franco-German Youth Office will provide the Working Group with technical assistance".

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The nominations for the Working Group, gathering governmental representatives and representatives from youth organizations from the WB-6-Participants, took place in November 2015.

In order to realize its tasks, four meetings of the Working Group will take place between November 2015 and February 2016:

The first meeting will be dedicated to team-building, getting all Working Group members on the same level of information and agreeing on internal working procedure of the group. During the second meeting the group will work on the four working areas (mission, structure, activities, financing), and agree on the big outlines concerning these four working areas. Between the second and the third meeting, draft documents related to these four working areas will be produced, which will be discussed at the third meeting. Until the fourth meeting will take place the finalization of the documents, which then will be transmitted to the governments of the WB6-Participants.

Agenda for the four meetings of the Working Group

23-27. November 2015: First meeting of the Working Group for the establishment of RYCO / Kickoff-meeting, Berlin

The main aims of the first meeting are:

- Team-building within the Working Group

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- to discuss and agree on the basic functioning of the Working Group during the four-months-working-process
- to receive inputs and discuss about the general outlines related to the four working areas of the WG: mission, structure, activities and financing of the RYCO

After 1st meeting: Identification by OFAJ of consultant(s) who will elaborate the draft documents for the four working areas.

14.-18.12. 2015 / Tirana / Second meeting:

Main content: Discussion and decision on the big lines and of different specific aspects for the four working areas, together with external expert who has experience in these four areas regarding international youth exchange. At the end of this second meeting the group should have agreed on the big outlines and various aspects concerning these four working areas.

Between second and third meeting: Production of draft documents for the four working areas. The drafts should be delivered two weeks before the third meeting, so that the members of the WG have time to read them and to consult with their governments / other youth organizations.

25-29.1.2016/ Sarajevo / Third meeting:

During this meeting the draft documents concerning the working areas will be presented ; the WG will discuss in detail about these drafts, in presence of a focus group which will give additional feedback. At the end of this third meeting, the consultant working on the draft should know about all the points they should modify for the final drafts.

Between third and fourth meeting: Finalization of draft-documents for the four working areas

15-19.2.2016 / Belgrade / Fourth meeting:

Presentation of the provisional final drafts, discussion about them, integration of last modifications and finalization of the documents. At the end of this meeting, the documents should be so far finalized that they can be transmitted to the governments of the WB6-Participants.

Between November 2015 and February 2016: national consultations and dialogue will take place within each WB6-Participant, in order to insure visibility of RYCO and the working process. This can be organized in form of public events, conferences, etc ; the format and dates will be decided within each country.

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