

Ekaterina Zaharieva: As a Chair-in-Office of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, Bulgaria (BSEC) will focus on the project-oriented and business approach

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“I am very happy that at the beginning of the next year Bulgaria will take over the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization. This is one of the most important regional formats, which unities European Union Member States and countries outside the EU. We shall use the BSEC potential as much as we can”. This has been said today by H. E. Mrs. Ekaterina Zaharieva, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the meeting with Ambassador Michael B. Christides, Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat (BSEC PERMIS).

Bulgaria will take over the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office from 1 January till 30 June 2019 and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria will lead and coordinate all the activities related to the implementation of the work program and priorities.

Minister Zaharieva thanked her guest and expressed her appreciation for BSEC PERMIS cooperation and support for the preparation and conducting of the forthcoming Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office.

“We expect your Chairmanship-in-Office; the previous one was very successful one. I am sure that together with the Bulgarian experts we will prepare a Calendar of events full of substantial meetings, which will have a very good result” said the Secretary General.

Mrs. Ekaterina Zaharieva and Ambassador Michael B. Christides agreed on the necessity of strengthening the cooperation between the BSEC and the European Union in more pragmatic and project-oriented direction.

“I firmly believe that as a BSEC Chair-in-Office we should focus on less but more concrete topics in order to achieve visible results” said our first diplomat. Mrs. Zaharieva added that the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office will put a stress on sectors, which unity the BSEC Member States like energy, tourism and culture. “We should focus on more pragmatic and project-oriented approach” underlined the Minister.