



**PRESS RELEASE ON  
THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE  
23<sup>rd</sup> WORLD CONGRESS ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(Yerevan on 6-9 October 2019)**

Upon the invitation by the Minister of High-Tech Industry of the Republic of Armenia, the Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS participated in the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT), which was held in Yerevan on 6-9 October 2019.

On the margins of the WCIT, a High Level side event under the title “*Harnessing the Power of Technology for Impact: BSEC Perspective on Regional Collaboration*” was co-organized by the Republic of Armenia as the Country-Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group in ICT and by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The side event was attended by senior government officials and delegations of the BSEC Member States, as well as by the representatives from the private sector, from educational and research institutions and other interested entities. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Hakob ARSHAKIAN, Minister of High-Tech Industry of Armenia, and with the welcome addresses by the representative of the Hellenic BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office and the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General.

In his intervention, the Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS briefed the participants on the achievements of BSEC in the ICT in the sector, underlining the need to do more, informed on project proposal entitled “Data-Driven IT Solutions for SMEs” which is financed from the Black Sea Project Promotion Facility (BSPPF), stressed the ability and capacity of the BSEC Organization to become a platform for achieving a greater coordination and exchange of know-how in the IT sector and suggested to have BSEC ICT experts present in the Meetings of other BSEC Working Groups, in order to guide and inform the latter on the newest solutions and advantages that IT and innovation could offer.

During his stay in Yerevan, the Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS paid a visit to H.E. the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Nikol PASHINYAN and had a separate working meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Zohrab MNATSAKANYAN.