



PRESS RELEASE ON
THE 2020 ITF CONSULTATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
(Paris, 28 January 2020)

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, participated, for the second year in a row, at the 2020 *ITF Consultation with International Organizations*, an event hosted by the ITF at the OECD HQs in Paris; the purpose of the meeting was to share the draft programme of the ITF Summit and to exchange views with key international organizations on the most significant issues that should be addressed during the 2020 Summit "*Transport Innovation for Sustainable Development*", which will take place in Leipzig, Germany, from 27 to 29 May 2020.

BSEC PERMIS actively participates for the last three years in the annual ITF Summit in Leipzig, both with a stand of its own as well as through the co-organization and participation of its representatives to various events taking place during the Summit; by doing so, BSEC PERMIS is benefiting from this unique platform to present to the rest of the world the Organization's achievements in the sector of transports and, at the same time, to enhance the visibility of BSEC.

On the sidelines of the above event Ambassador CHRISTIDES had a bilateral working meeting with the ITF Secretary General, H.E. Mr. Young Tae KIM, during which they discussed and exchanged views for further expanding the already close cooperation between their respective Organizations. Among the first item on the agenda of their talks was how to better implement their decision to co-organize a joint International Conference in Istanbul, with the aim to attract greater interest by all stakeholders on transport and connectivity issues in the wider Black Sea region.

Profiting from his presence in Paris, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General had also a bilateral meeting with the Deputy Director General of UNESCO H.E. Mr. Xing QU; among other issues of common interest, the prospects for concluding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two Organizations was also discussed; Mr. QU informed Ambassador CHRISTIDES that the responsible department of UNESCO has concluded the consideration of the BSEC PERMIS remarks and suggestions to the existing draft MOU and that very soon the revised draft will be forwarded to PERMIS with the hope that it can be signed in the near future.-