



***BSEC Urges Member States to Plant 75 Trees in 2020 to Support UN Initiative on Climate Change.***

To coincide with the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, BSEC PERMIS is actively supporting the implementation of the initiative “75 UN – 75 trees UNAI SDG7” proposed by the Energy Policy and Development Center (KEPA) of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), in its dual capacity as the UN Academic Impact Hub for the 7th Sustainable Development Goal (UNAI Hub SDG7) and as the Coordinator of the Green Energy Network of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation Organization (BSEC - GEN).



PERMIS is urging BSEC’s 12 Member States to ask appropriate Ministries, Municipalities, and Academic Institutions, both public and private, to plant, care for and register, with the UNAI SDG7 registry, 75 trees – or multiples of 75 – in each country by the end of 2020. The proposal is designed to help raise awareness on issues of green energy, climate change and environmental protection using “simple measures undertaken at the grassroots level”. An overall goal of planting at least 1 million trees is directly connected to an appeal by the UN Secretary-General to governments and ordinary citizens around the world to increase their “ambition” in tackling climate change and to help re-forest the planet with concrete local actions.

Municipalities, agencies and entities from 8 BSEC Member States have expressed their readiness to participate in this symbolic and important undertaking (the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Republic of Turkey, Ukraine) by planting at least 75 trees in various parts of their countries in 2020.