



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE OF BSEC MEMBER STATES**  
**"THE INTENSIFICATION OF REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE**  
**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS"**  
**(10 November 2020)**

Under the Romanian Chairmanship in Office, a High Level Conference of BSEC Member States was held on "The intensification of regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals".

A distinguished selection of over 100 speakers and contributors participated in three detailed sessions on "Sustainable transport and connectivity and the Covid-19 context"; "Environment and Green Energy" and "Sustainable Economic Development and Competivity".

The chief host of the day, Mr Laszlo Borbely, the State Counsellor, National Coordinator for SDGs, the Department of Sustainable Development, Government of Romania, said it was incumbent on BSEC Member States to "put the Rubik's cube of SDGs together" in order to make them work for the benefit of everyone in the region. Echoing the views of many panelists, BSEC Permisi Secretary General, Michael B Christides, stressed the need for BSEC Member States to operate in harmony. "In order to achieve the satisfactory implementation of the United Nations SDGs, regional cooperation is imperative, not only because the SDGs do not recognise state borders, but also because the negative impact of their absence in one country certainly affects the situation in more than one neighbouring states", he said. He added that the BSEC organization was a mechanism for "change and hope". "It is in the hands of Member States to make BSEC an effective platform for the implementation of SDGs. Hopefully the many ideas and proposals we have heard today may summon us all to understand our collective and personal responsibilities if we want to leave to our children the world that we, ourselves, have so enjoyed".