BSEC

ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE 62nd REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BSEC BUSINESS COUNCIL

The 62nd Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the BSEC Council was held online on December 16th 2020 hosted by the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The report on the activities of the Business Council for the period of the Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office was presented to the Board of Directors by Mr. Eduard Costin, representative of the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chairman in Office of the BSEC Business Council.

The Board discussed the changes to its Statutes to allow more Business Support Organizations (BSOs) and companies to become affiliates of the Business Council. It also discussed the possibility of establishing a Permanent Secretariat of the BSEC Business Council.

In his welcoming address, the Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, Ambassador Michael B. Christides, called for the adoption of changes to the Statute of the Business Council as soon as possible. He said this would allow more businesses from the BSEC Member States to cooperate and interact in a consistent and organized way which would re-establish the Business Council in its envisaged role as the "open window" for cooperation and synergy with the private sector in the region.

The Secretary General also spoke in support of establishing a Permanent Secretariat of the BSEC Business Council "that would not only secure the effective continuity of your work, but also would allow the Council to engage pro-actively with concrete proposals and initiatives". He said that by establishing the Secretariat it would strongly improve the coordination between the BSEC Organization and the Business Council at a time when BSEC Permis is increasingly engaged in concrete projects with generous funding from third parties.

Ambassador Christides thanked the Romanian Chamber for supporting and upholding the chairmanship of the BSEC Business Council for an entire year and wished success to the incoming Albanian Chairmanship. He also joined many of the Members of the Board in welcoming the representatives of the Republic of North Macedonia to the BSEC Business Council.