

ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE 2022 ITF ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS

On 20 January 2022 the BSEC PERMIS participated at the "2022 ITF Annual Consultation with International Organizations", held in a virtual format with the purpose to engage in a dialogue with partner international organizations on the main themes that should be addressed during the 2022 ITF Summit on "Transport for Inclusive Societies", planned to be held from 18 to 20 May 2022 in Leipzig, Germany.

Given the thematic scope of the 2022 Summit, the Consultation on 20 January 2022 was dedicated to the most current and pertinent issues for transport policymakers. These issues are highlighted in the Summit program and will be at the center of Ministerial discussions. These topics include climate change, supply chains, the transport labour force, urban mobility, and road safety, as well as governance as a horizontal theme across these five issues.

During his intervention on the topic "Resolving the global supply chain crisis, creating more resilient and inclusive networks" the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Lazăr COMĂNESCU, underlined that since the beginning of the pandemic the BSEC Organization has covered considerable ground on the issue by actively coordinating efforts with its transport partner organizations, first of all, with the International Road Transport Union (IRU) and the Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region (BSEC-URTA). Referring to the IRU *Emergency Resolution* of 4 November 2021 he stressed that without immediate globally coordinated action, economies, employment and consumers will pay the ultimate price and global economic recovery will be at risk. Road transport and deliveries by truck remain key to keep supply chains moving and must be supported by governments.

On 19 January 2022, the BSEC PERMIS also followed the *ITF Consultation on Gender and Transport*, focused on the ITF's current work on the development of a *Gender Analysis Toolkit for Transport Policies*.