

ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE JOINT WEBINAR "GREEN ENERGY IN THE BSEC REGION AND BEYOND"

On March 4, 2022, the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure of the Republic of Armenia and the BSEC PERMIS co-organized a webinar entitled "Green Energy in the BSEC Region and Beyond".

Held in the context of 30th anniversary of BSEC, the online event brought together government officials from the BSEC Member States, representatives of the BSEC PERMIS, BSEC Green Energy Network, BSEC Related Bodies (BSTDB, ICBSS, PABSEC), Energy Charter, IRENA, SHURA Energy Transition Center, national associations, research and educational institutions, private sector and civil society to exchange views on how renewable energy and low-carbon alternatives can help nations achieve sustainable economic development and materialize the long-term vision of transforming the wider Black Sea Region into a model for clean energy.

Welcoming the participants, the Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Hakob Vardanyan stressed the importance of the renewable energy sector for his country, emphasizing that Armenia, as the current Country-Coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Energy, is making efforts to further promote regional cooperation in this field.

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu in his welcome address mentioned that a jointly organized webinar is an excellent opportunity to exchange information on the best practices and challenges in the area of renewable energy, discuss the latest developments in the global energy market, including perspectives on clean energy aimed at overcoming the current crisis caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed his conviction that investments in Green Energy are crucial for the modernization of the energy sector and for achieving the SDG 7 Goal and, more generally, for economic growth, job creation and increasing energy security.

During the working sessions moderated by the BSEC PERMIS Executive Manager, Ambassador Ashot Kocharian, panelists exchanged information on their experience and best practices in the field and discussed the national and international trends in the energy transition and clean energy sector. Views were expressed on the untapped potential of the successful joint projects to be replicated across the BSEC Region and beyond, and more regional synergies to be generated for the benefit of societies and sustainable economic development of countries. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the energy sector and the prospects for its development in the post-pandemic period were also discussed.

Closing remarks have been made by Mr. Sahak Sargsyan, Permanent Representative of Armenia to BSEC.