

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

## **Permanent International Secretariat**

## PRESS RELEASE ON THE 44th MEETING OF THE BSEC-URTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND RELATED ROAD TRANSPORT EVENTS

(2-6 September 2024, Tashkent/Bukhara)

Upon invitation by the Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region (BSEC-URTA), BSEC PERMIS participated in the 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly, held in Tashkent on 2 September 2024, hosted by the Association of International Road Carriers of Uzbekistan (AIRCUZ).

In his address to the Assembly, BSEC PERMIS Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Dimitrios Rallis highlighted the importance and the need by public national or international authorities and institutions to closely interact with and involve the business communities, private actors and their associations in shaping and implementing policies, decisions and programs/projects. In this regard, he particularly underlined that the partnership of BSEC-URTA and IRU with BSEC provides a good example of cooperation of international organizations and their growing partnership translated into concrete actions in the area of road transport, providing analysis on trade and transport facilitation, initiating and implementing important projects, such as the BSEC Permit System, digitalization of transport documents and border-crossing facilitation.

On 3-4 September 2024, BSEC PERMIS took part in the meeting of the IRU Commission on Customs Affairs (CAD), as well as in the Conference "International Road Transport: Driving Resilience and Prosperity. The road ahead: 75 years of TIR", organized by IRU and AIRCUZ, which brought together IRU members and industry leaders from the region and beyond, international organizations, development partners and international financial institutions. Ambassador Rallis participated as a panelist in the second session of the Conference on key mechanisms for enhancing connectivity.

On the sidelines of the Conference, Ambassador Rallis had bilateral exchanges of views on ways and means for further deepening cooperation and synergies in the area of transport with IRU President Mr. Radu Dinescu, IRU Secretary General Mr. Umberto de Pretto, BSEC-URTA President Mr. Eduart Kasa and Mr. Mehmet Uylukçu, BSEC-URTA Secretary General. He also had a working lunch with H.E. Mr. Ilhom Makhkamov, Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan.

The next Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly will be held in spring 2025 in Chisinau, Moldova.