

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

## **Permanent International Secretariat**

## PRESS RELEASE ON THE 18th COORDINATION MEETING OF REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

BSEC PERMIS participated in the 18<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting of Regional Organizations, hosted by the Central European Initiative (CEI), in Trieste on 17 September 2024.

The meeting was attended also by the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII), the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), the European Commission (Directorate-General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations – DG NEAR), the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) and the Regional Anticorruption Initiative (RAI).

The overall objective of the meeting was to exchange views and information on the activities carried out by each of these organizations as well as to discuss possibilities and modalities to further enhance synergies, interaction and coordination in areas of common interest.

Areas such as connectivity, good governance, blue economy, SDGs, youth entrepreneurship, as well as project management were identified as offering the highest potential in this respect. The importance of the cooperation with the European Union was also highlighted.

BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu, while stressing the particular attention BSEC attaches to the interaction with other regional organizations, insisted on the importance and benefits an enhanced cooperation and consolidated complementarities can bring to the activity of each organization. Couple of proposals aimed at enhancing this cooperation have been formulated, among them exploring the possibility of the establishment of joint resources (fund) for projects development; training and capacity building programs and activities and etc.

Participants agreed to continue to work for further strengthening their cooperation and synergies for the benefit of their respective Member States. The RCC representative confirmed the readiness of his organization to host the next coordination meeting in Sarajevo in the first quarter of 2025.