



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF THE 87<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE**  
**UNECE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated in the High-level (ministerial) Meeting that took place on 11 February in Geneva in the framework of the 87<sup>th</sup> Session of the Inland Transport Committee of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE-ITC).

The generic topic of the Meeting was “Successes and Challenges for Inland Transport on the Road to 2030” with the debates being organized in two successive round tables.

Addressing the first-round table dedicated to “Promoting sustainable regional and interregional transport connectivity”, Ambassador Comanescu highlighted the key role of the BSEC region as a connectivity hub, as well as BSEC’s activities and projects related there to. He stressed in this context the importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination with other regional/international organizations (UNECE, EU, CEI, 3SI, ITF, IRU, etc.) in order to better streamline resources, efforts and projects aimed at benefiting in full of the status of the BSEC region as the “bridge” between Europe and Asia. The transformation of the Danube River into a real water transport axis and link with the Middle Corridor could be such a project.

On the sidelines of the Meeting, Ambassador Comanescu had bilateral talks with Mr. Dimitris Mandalozis and Ms. Susanna Zammataro, President, respectively Director General of the International Road Federation (IRF). He also briefly exchanged views with Ms. Tatiana Molcean, UNECE Executive Secretary and her Deputy Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin; Young Tae Kim, Secretary General of the International Transport Forum (ITF); Umberto de Pretto, Secretary General of the International Road Transport Union (IRU), Asset Assavbayev, TRACECA Secretary General. Ways for further deepening the interaction with the respective organizations were explored.