



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE
ON THE FIFTIETH MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (CMFA)

The Fiftieth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (CMFA) of the BSEC Member States was held online on 27 June 2025 and was chaired by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. Mr. Elnur Mammadov.

Opening addresses were delivered by H.E. Mr. Elnur Mammadov on behalf of the Chairmanship, and by BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu.

In his address, Deputy Minister Mammadov highlighted the importance of the BSEC Organization and cooperation among its Member States. He stressed that during its Chairmanship, Azerbaijan oriented its work towards connectivity and transport, environment, education, innovation and digital harmonization, as well as sustainable energy development. He invited all Member States to embrace a renewed sense of ownership and responsibility, ensuring that BSEC becomes the primary regional forum for addressing shared economic and strategic challenges.

For his part, Ambassador Comanescu presented a brief overview of the activities of the Organization during the first semester of 2025 in line with the implementation of the BSEC Economic Agenda. He highlighted the most important developments under the Azerbaijani Chairmanship, including the enhancement of BSEC's project-oriented dimension, and the initiation of projects, one under the recently revived BSEC PDF, and the other one in cooperation with UNOPS. He also made reference to BSEC Organization's proven resilience.

The Ministers adopted Resolutions on several important issues, including the signing of a Grant Contract regarding the PDF Project "Blue Port Index for BSEC Countries" and BSEC-EU Interaction. Decisions and Recommendations were also adopted on the appointments of country-coordinators of several working groups, appointments in the BSEC PERMIS as well as interaction with BSEC Related Bodies.

During the meeting the Heads of Delegations made statements related to the latest developments in the region and within the Organization, emphasizing on the important role BSEC Organization plays there in. They expressed their high appreciation to the Republic of Azerbaijan for its successful Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC and wished the forthcoming Chairmanship of Bulgaria all the success in its activities.

The Meeting was concluded with the transfer of the Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC to the Republic of Bulgaria for the period of 1 July – 31 December 2025.