



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON THE 88<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE UNECE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated in the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) that took place in Geneva on 17-20 February 2026.

The generic topic of the High-Level Ministerial Meeting was “Driving Innovation for the Future of Inland Transport” with the debates being organized in three successive panels.

Addressing the panel dedicated to “Connectivity, mobility and trade”, Ambassador Comanescu highlighted that in today’s interconnected world there is no alternative to digitalization and automation of procedures for international transport; digitalization has become a necessity in the sector and it is crucial for securing better connectivity and integration of regions. While stressing in this context that BSEC fully supports international efforts aimed at integrating new technologies into inland transport, he also underlined that implementing innovative transport solutions and intelligent transport systems, which facilitate the flow of goods and passengers across borders and provide new services to the transport sector, are among the key priorities of the updated BSEC Economic Agenda.

On the sidelines of the Meeting, Ambassador Comanescu had a brief exchange with Apostolos Tzitzikostas, European Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism, on the relevance of the Black Sea region for the transport area. He also briefly exchanged with Tatiana Molcean, UNECE Executive Secretary and her Deputy Dmitry Mariyasin; Young Tae Kim, Secretary General of the International Transport Forum (ITF) as well as high representatives of other organizations on ways and means for further deepening the interaction with the respective organizations.