



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL
AMBASSADOR LAZAR COMANESCU IN THE COP 17 LEADER'S SUMMIT

Upon the invitation of the President of the Republic of Armenia H.E. Mr. Vahagn Khachaturyan, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu participated in the Leader's Summit held in Yerevan on 16 October 2026 within the context of COP17 on Biodiversity under the motto "Leaders for Nature".

The Summit brought together Heads of State and Government, leaders of international organizations, globally recognized scientists, cultural figures, representatives of indigenous peoples, local communities and other key stakeholders.

At the opening session the statements were delivered by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, followed by the other participating heads of state/government (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia), ministers and heads/high representatives of international organizations. They underscored the importance of international cooperation and high-level political engagement in addressing the global biodiversity crisis.

In his address Ambassador Comanescu underscored the importance attached by BSEC through its Economic Agenda to environmental protection, climate action and sustainability which constitute central elements of the regional strategy and cross-cutting priorities integrated across its sectoral cooperation.

While calling upon all Member States and partners represented at the Summit to translate political declarations into concrete practical commitments, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General expressed its conviction that the environmental challenges facing the Black Sea region cannot be addressed through national efforts alone. They require coordinated regional action, underpinned by strong international cooperation.