



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat – The Secretary General

BS/C.2021.0076

Istanbul, 5 August 2021

Your Excellency, Dear Mr. Minister,

I am writing to express on behalf of all my colleagues in the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS) and myself, how profoundly saddened we are by the close to two million hectares of forest land ravaged by the raging wildfires in Siberia and Sakha (Yakutia) and the thick layer of smog that is threatening the health and air quality of the inhabitants of the region.

I wish to convey our heartfelt sympathy and support to the Government and people of the Russian Federation during this time of national distress and to wish strength to the brave firefighters and volunteers battling to extinguish the massive flames as well as all those who have felt the devastating effects of the fires first hand.

I hope that the flames will be contained swiftly and that the region will begin to quickly heal from the vast destruction of the natural habitat and wildlife of its forests. I am confident that the Russian Federation and its people, who are in our thoughts and prayers, will resiliently overcome this challenging period in the earliest possible time.

Yours sincerely,

Ambassador Lazăr COMĂNESCU
Secretary General

To: H.E. Mr. Sergey LAVROV
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Russian Federation
MOSCOW