



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON THE FIRST PREPARATORY MEETING OF**  
**THE 28TH OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM,**  
*(Vienna, 17-18 February 2020)*

BSEC PERMIS was invited to participate in the **First Preparatory Meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum**, organized this year by the Albanian OSCE Chairmanship on 17-18 February 2020 in Vienna, under the theme *“Promoting security, stability and economic growth in the OSCE area by preventing and combating corruption through innovation, increased transparency and digitalization”*.

Around 200 representatives of the OSCE participating States, international organizations, business and academic communities, as well as civil societies participated in the Meeting at which PERMIS was represented by its Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Traian CHEBELEU. Ambassador CHEBELEU informed participants on the activities of BSEC in this particular field.

Focused discussions took place on challenges and opportunities in preventing and combating corruption through digitalization, as well as by enhancing good environmental governance through transparency and innovation.

The discussions offered a valuable food-for-thought for further action and revealed that a continued and strengthened dialogue is needed for combating corruption, a major prerequisite for the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030.

Discussions will continue at the Second Preparatory Meeting, which will take place in Tirana on 27-28 May 2020, and at the Concluding Meeting in Prague, on 10-11 September.