



**PRESS RELEASE ON
“2021 ITF-OECD ANNUAL CONSULTATION WITH INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS”
(10 February 2021, Online)**

On 10 February 2021 the BSEC PERMIS participated at the “2021 ITF-OECD Consultation with International Organizations”, held in a virtual format with the purpose to engage in a dialogue with key international organisations on the most pertinent issues that should be addressed during the 2021 ITF Summit on “Transport Innovation for Sustainable Development: Reshaping Mobility in the Wake of Covid-19”, planned to be held from 26 to 28 May 2021 in Leipzig, Germany.

As it is known, over the last years the BSEC PERMIS actively participates in the annual ITF Summit and Expo event in Leipzig, both with a stand of its own as well as through the co-organization and participation of its representatives to various side events taking place during the 3-day Summit.

The online event of 10 February comprised a number of breakout groups, providing to the more than 100 participants the opportunity of highlighting their current priority themes related to the impact of the pandemic on transport, as well as to exchange views on how innovation in the sector can be embraced beyond the Covid-19 crisis, in order to deliver the desired long-term objectives in transports.

During his intervention the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, underlined that the Organization of the *Black Sea Economic Cooperation*, being a regional entity with 13 Member States, attaches great importance to better regional connectivity and, in this context, it highly values its thriving collaboration with the ITF. He informed participants on the BSEC activities/initiatives aimed to mitigate the negative impact of Covid-19 and pointed out that PERMIS will continue to focus on introducing innovative digitalization, on facilitating border crossing procedures, on the use of clean energy and on maintaining the necessary compatibility of BSEC road-transport projects with those of the broader continental networks, like the TEN-T and TRACECA.