



**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
IN THE "DIPLOMACY AND GOURMET MEETING WITH THE BSEC COUNTRIES"**

The Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS, Ambassador Michael B. Christides, participated in the "**Diplomacy and Gourmet Meeting with the BSEC Countries**" organized on 22 June 2021 in Gebze, Turkey by the Association of Independent Industrialists and Businessmen (MÜSİAD) of Turkey with the support of the BSEC PERMIS. The Deputy Secretary General, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu, and the responsible Executive Manager, Mr. Alexei Nistrean, followed the extensive works of the event.

The meeting was focused on trade and economic cooperation with the aim to stimulate regional trade and improve relations between and among the BSEC Member States.

Beside the numerous participants from the Host Country, among them the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey H.E. Ambassador Faruk Kaymakçı and the MUSIAD President Mr. Abdurrahman Kaan, the Consuls General or their representatives in Istanbul and the Commercial Attachés from the diplomatic and Consular missions of the Member States accredited to Turkey attended the event.

In his statement the Secretary General of BSEC PERMIS highlighted the activities and priorities of the BSEC Organization, which promotes economic cooperation among its Member States, stressed the importance of encouraging the direct contacts between the business people of the region, underlined the necessity for the BSEC Business Council to find its role in relation to MUSIAD in particular and in relation to the business circles of the region in general. The Secretary General thanked the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for his engagement in the BSEC affairs and for his constant support of the activities of the Organization and its International Secretariat.

According to the program of the Meeting, the participants visited the Gebze Technical University, the Bilişim Vadisi (IT Valley) and the Gebze Organized Industrial Zone.