



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**ON THE 44<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF**  
**MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE BSEC MEMBER STATES**  
**(CMFA)**

The 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States of the Organization of the BSEC was held online on 17 December 2021. H.E. Mr. David Zalkaliani, Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and the BSEC Chairman-in-Office, chaired the meeting hosted by PERMIS.

In addition to the Heads of Delegations of the BSEC Member States, representatives of the BSEC Related Bodies, Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners also participated in the Meeting.

At the opening, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu made an overview presentation of the activities of the Secretariat during the Georgian Chairmanship, including the series of contacts he has had during the first term of his tenure. He reiterated his and the whole PERMIS's commitment to concentrate efforts on furthering the objectives and interests of the BSEC and to deliver on an ever more assertive, dynamic, efficient and project oriented Organization. The Secretary General also drew attention on the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BSEC which will serve as an important opportunity for taking stock of the accomplishments so far and charting the course for the next decades. He also noted that it would be a timely opportunity to hold a mirror to the Organization and to further streamline and increase the efficiency of its activity and working methods.

The Ministers made statements on issues regarding the latest developments in the region and within the Organization. They praised the successful Georgian Chairmanship and expressed their appreciation.

At the closing session, the Council adopted Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations on various issues on the agenda of the Organization: organizational and financial issues; appointment of country coordinators to the working groups; adoption of the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance; the interaction between BSEC and its Related Bodies; review of the state of cooperation among the Member States; celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BSEC; as well as the appointment of a Deputy Secretary General, and renewal of the term-in-office of two Executive Managers.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Georgia handed over the Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC to the Republic of Moldova which assumes the Chairmanship as of 1 January 2022, for a period of six months until 30 June 2022.