



PRESS RELEASE
ON THE WORKING VISIT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO YEREVAN

Upon the invitation of H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu paid a working visit to Yerevan on 22-24 February 2022.

Secretary General Lazar Comanescu was received by H.E. Mr. Mher Grigoryan, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, and had a working meeting with H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to which H.E. Mr. Vahe Gevorgyan, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Nouneh Zastoukhova, Director of the Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation, Mr. Sahak Sargsyan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to BSEC and the BSEC PERMIS Executive Manager Ambassador Ashot Kocharian also attended.

During the meetings both sides highlighted the particular significance of the celebration, in 2022, of 30th BSEC Anniversary. Aspects related to the activity of the Organization were discussed in this context, with particular focus on: the importance of the organization, next June in Istanbul, of a BSEC Summit, possible ways for further increasing the efficiency of the work of the Organization, including through the reinvigoration of BSEC Business Council, strengthening BSEC's project-oriented dimension and depoliticization of BSEC's activity.

At the same time, both sides underlined the need of the updating of BSEC Economic Agenda so as to reflect the new developments and challenges in the global and regional economy, including those generated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program of the Secretary General's visit also included meetings with Mr. Hakob Vardanyan, Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures, Mr. Babken Tunyan, head of the Armenian Parliamentary delegation to PABSEC, and Mr. Nerses Karamanukyan, Vice-President of the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen of Armenia (UMBA).

In addition, Ambassador Comănescu delivered a lecture at the Diplomatic School of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and attended the dinner hosted, in his honor, by the Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan with the participation of the Ambassadors in Yerevan of the BSEC Member States. He also visited the Center for Creative Technologies (TUMO) and the Yerevan Ararat Brandy Factory Museum.