



**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR
THE UNECE REGION
(6-7 APRIL 2022)**

The BSEC PERMIS Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Traian Chebeleu and Executive Manager Ambassador Venera Domi attended the “Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (RFSD) for the UNECE Region”, which took place in hybrid format on 6-7 April 2022, in Geneva.

The theme of the Forum this year was “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region”.

The Forum was chaired by Mr. Edil Baisalov, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan. The opening session was addressed by the representatives of the UN, the UNECE, the CIS and the UNDP, while the Forum in general was attended by government representatives, representatives of UN agencies and of regional organizations, business community, scientific and research sector, civil society and other non-governmental organizations.

The sessions consisted of High-Level Policy Segment, Multi-stakeholders Panel, Plenary session on Experiences from the region with Voluntary National Reviews, Plenary debate and the Closing session. The above stated sessions were preceded by peer learning roundtables clustered around the SDGs 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equity), 14 (Life below water), 15 (Life on land) and 17 (Partnership for the goals).

Ambassador Chebeleu made a short intervention during the plenary debate and said that fostering cooperation among its 13 Member States in areas related to the SDGs has become a top priority for the work of BSEC. He informed that two High Level Conferences were organized for the BSEC Member States in the two previous years, in order to discuss ways and means to intensify the regional cooperation for the implementation of the SDGs and for meeting the new challenges created by the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. He underlined that no country can implement the SDGs alone and that real progress could be realized by both national action and regional cooperation. Ambassador Chebeleu referred in this regard to the essential role BSEC can play in supporting the Member States to create the necessary policy framework and harmonize their action for sustainable economic development and for achieving the SDGs. He also made reference to the energy sector saying that in order to reduce the negative impacts of the pandemic on the energy sector and, more generally, to implement the Sustainable Development Goal 7, we should focus on Green Energy.



He concluded his intervention by emphasizing that beyond being a vehicle for economic cooperation in the Black Sea region, the BSEC also works for offering an effective platform of cooperation for achieving the implementation of the UN Sustainable Developments Goals.