



**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION TRACECA**

The BSEC PERMIS took part in the *Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) TRACECA*, held on 10 February 2023 in Tbilisi, marking both the 30th Anniversary since the establishment of the TRACECA program and the 25th Anniversary of the signing of the "*Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor*" (MLA).

The Meeting was attended by representatives of the Governments of the MLA Parties, of the Permanent Secretariat of the IGC TRACECA, by representatives of Lithuania and Greece as observers in the Intergovernmental Commission, and by Turkmenistan as a participant in the TRACECA program. Representatives of international organizations and TRACECA partners were also present.

The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Levan Davitashvili, Vice Prime Minister of Georgia, who took over the Chairmanship-in-Office of the IGC TRACECA. Among BSEC Member States who participated in the Conference were representatives from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Romania, Türkiye, and Ukraine.

During the meeting, the representatives of the States Parties to the MLA, informed on the work done for the implementation of the previous decisions and recommendations of the IGC TRACECA.

In his statement, BSEC Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Dimitrios Rallis emphasized the importance of further strengthening cooperation between BSEC and TRACECA, aimed especially at ensuring the complementarity of their activities. He underlined the common interest of both organizations in the area of transport, where the potentially joint efforts of BSEC and TRACECA could be of paramount significance for decisively facilitating the transport of goods. In this context, the importance of regional projects, such as the «BSEC PERMIT System», as well as the widest possible use of digitalized transport documents, were particularly highlighted.

The BSEC PERMIS representatives also had consultations with the representatives from the International Road Transport Union (IRU), the Organization for Cooperation of Railways (OSJD) and the International Union of Railways (UIC).

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the IGC TRACECA concluded with the adoption of its Final Resolutions.