



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

**PRESS RELEASE
ON THE
VISIT OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL TO YEREVAN**

Upon the official invitation of the Armenian side, BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Lazar Comanescu paid a visit to Yerevan on 30 June - 1 July 2024. The visit took place in the context of the assumption by Armenia of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office (CiO) for the second semester of 2024.

The Secretary General was received by H.E. Mr. Nikol Pashinyan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, H.E. Mr. Alen Simonyan, President of the National Assembly and H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and BSEC Chairman-in-Office.

The Secretary General expressed his highest appreciation and thanks to the Armenian Government for the importance it attaches to the BSEC Organization, conveyed his best wishes of success and reassured of PERMIS's readiness to fully support and closely collaborate with the Chairmanship in fulfilling their mandate.

He informed on the activities and recent results of the Organization including the adoption of the revised BSEC Economic Agenda and the implementation mechanism thereof, the revitalization of the Project Development Fund (PDF), the enhancement of cooperation with EU and other international organizations.

The Armenian side emphasized the role of BSEC in promoting economic cooperation and the fact that enhancing connectivity between the Member States is of particular importance and therefore, represent a top priority for the Armenian Chairmanship. In this context, it informed about "Crossroads of Peace" initiative of the Armenian Government.

The interlocutors exchanged views on developments and challenges in the BSEC region and ways to appropriately tackle them were also discussed. As to the calendar of events under the Armenian Chairmanship, it will be finalized in a coordination meeting on 9 July 2024.