



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

---

**PRESS RELEASE  
ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL  
IN THE IRF 2024 WORLD CONGRESS  
MINISTERIAL MEETING**

The IRF 2024 World Congress took place in Istanbul on 15-18 October, under the generic topic “Connecting to Empower Mobility: Roads as Enablers of a Sustainable Future for All”. Organized by the International Road Federation (IRF) in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Türkiye, the Congress consisted of a Ministerial Session and several sectoral sessions/round tables.

The event was opened with a video message of H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye, and addresses by Messrs. Abdülkadir Uraloğlu, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Türkiye; Dimitris Mandalozis, IRF President, and Mr. Robert de Grott, Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

The Ministerial Session was dedicated to the topic of “Decarbonized and Resilient Transport for Resilient Societies and Economies”. In addressing it, BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Comanescu, highlighted the particular importance BSEC is attaching to climate and protection of the environment and referred in this context to the activity related thereto including in the area of transport. The fact that this is a priority for BSEC, he added, it is appropriately reflected the new BSEC Economic Agenda, adopted in 2023.

Ambassador Comanescu also referred to BSEC’s fruitful cooperation with IRF, developed on the basis on the MoU signed between the two organizations in 2006 and aimed at concrete projects and deliverables that help building a reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure.