

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION Permanent International Secretariat

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## PRESS RELEASE ON

## THE PARTICIPATION OF THE BSEC SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE SECOND BLACK SEA STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE ON THE BLUE ECONOMY OF THE BLACK SEA

BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Dr. Victor TVIRCUN attended the Second Black Sea Stakeholder Conference "Smart and Blue – new opportunities for the blue economy of the Black Sea. Supporting maritime business growth" which was held in Sofia, on 24 March 2015.

The Conference was organized by the Ministry for Transport, Information, Technology and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Commission. The opening statement of the Conference was delivered by Mr. Ivaylo MOSKOVSKI, Minister of Transport, Information, Technology and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria. Ms. Nikolina ANGELKOVA, Minister for Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ms. Maria-Magdalena GRIGORE, State Secretary of the Ministry of Transport of Romania, Mr. Rumen ALEKSANDROV, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Tudor ULIANOVSCHI, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, Ms. Oksana REITER, Deputy Minister for EU Integration of Ukraine as well as Mr. Karmenu VELLA, EU Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries addressed the Conference.

The event brought together stakeholders from regional organizations, initiatives and associations, research centres and institutes, as well as the private sector and provided them with the opportunity to present their respective activities and to exchange ideas on further developing regional cooperation, in particular in the areas of maritime transport, tourism and business opportunities.

On the sidelines of the Conference, the Moldovan Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC and the Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS held consultations with Mr. Karmenu VELLA, EU Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, during which issues related to BSEC-EU interaction were also discussed, with the view of promoting a result and project-oriented cooperation between the two sides.