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**PRESS RELEASE ON THE WORKING LUNCH ORGANIZED IN ANKARA
BY THE ROMANIAN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE OF BSEC**

The Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES participated at a working lunch organized with the initiative of H.E. Mr. Radu ONOFREI, Ambassador of Romania to the Republic of Turkey, on 17 November 2015, in Ankara.

The main purpose of the event, which was held in the framework of the Romanian Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC, was to comprehensively inform the Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions of the EU and BSEC Member States in Ankara on the activities of the Organization.

After a brief historical introduction, Secretary General CHRISTIDES informed the audience on the achievements of BSEC and its plans for the immediate future, especially in view of the forthcoming 25th Anniversary of the Organization in 2017. He elaborated on the necessity for introducing certain reforms and changes in the everyday functioning of BSEC and its subsidiary organs, expressing his conviction that this fine-tuning will render the BSEC Organization more efficient and productive.

Special importance was given to the already existing cooperation between BSEC and the EU, as well as to the possibilities of further expanding this synergy in a more concrete and project-oriented manner.

Many of the participants made remarks and posed questions, highlighting the lively dialogue that followed the presentations of Ambassador ONOFREI and Secretary General CHRISTIDES.

A new brochure, with the latest comprehensive information concerning the objectives and activities of BSEC, was distributed for the first time among the participants of this important event.