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PRESS RELEASE ON
THE SIGNING OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN BSEC AND
THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYS

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between BSEC and the International Union of Railways (UIC) on 3 March 2016, at the BSEC Headquarters.

The Memorandum was signed by BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES and the Director General of the International Union of Railways Mr. Jean-Pierre LOUBINOUX, on behalf of BSEC and UIC, respectively. Representatives of the BSEC PERMIS and UIC attended the signing ceremony at the BSEC Headquarters.

The Memorandum of Understanding envisages promoting cooperation between the two Organizations to elaborate recommendations on improving transportation via the international transport corridors around Black Sea; to increase the volume of cargo transportation, including intermodal transportation, through the implementation of BSEC and UIC projects; and to enhance the competitiveness of international railway transportation through improving the quality of transport service, simplifying border crossing procedures, supporting activities towards the unification of railway legislation, as well as implementing modern technological processes related to regional and international transport.

Establishing a common information space; developing regional studies concerning railway corridors, multi-modal transport links and paperless documentation process between railway administrations; promoting projects for CO₂ and noise reduction in the railway industry; and developing customized training modules are also among the aims of the Memorandum.

According to the Memorandum of Understanding, in fostering their cooperation, BSEC and UIC will exchange documents, participate in each other's relevant meetings and organize joint seminars and conferences. In this framework, mutual invitations were extended to participate in the relevant meetings of the two Organizations in order to gain greater insight in their respective activities, thus facilitating an enhanced synergy between them.

On the occasion of the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador CHRISTIDES and the Director General of the International Union of Railways Mr. LOUBINOUX exchanged views on how to implement the provisions of the Memorandum and develop joint cooperation projects in the wider field of transports. The two sides came up with concrete proposals that will be elaborated in the near future.