



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE MEETING OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL
WITH THE CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
IN ISTANBUL**

The Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES received the Consul General of the Republic of Belarus in Istanbul, Mr. Vladimir MIRONOVICH, at the BSEC Headquarters, on 24 January 2017. The latter was accompanied by Mr. Evgeny MINICH, Consul of Belarus in Istanbul.

Ambassador Christides informed his interlocutor on the latest activities of the Organization and its plans for the immediate future. Mr. MIRONOVICH expressed the interest of the Republic of Belarus to be more involved in the BSEC projects, especially in such priority areas of cooperation, as transports, infrastructure, trade facilitation and energy.

The two men agreed that the Republic of Belarus, which enjoys the Observer status with BSEC, could participate in more Meetings of the relevant Working Groups and other BSEC entities. The issue of renewal of the Observer status of Belarus, which expires on June 30, 2017, was also noted. They also touched upon the latest PERMIS initiative to explore possibilities for cooperation and coordination with the Eurasian Economic Union, a possibility that, as both agreed, could be of mutual benefit.

From his part Mr. MIRONOVICH commended the BSEC PERMIS for organizing the information seminar for Consular officers in December 2016, underlining its importance for keeping colleagues in the Consular Corps of Istanbul informed on interesting BSEC issues.

The meeting took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere.-