



**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE “MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND THE
CONFERENCE OF PERIPHERAL MARITIME REGIONS”**

On 20 April 2017, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mrs. Eleni Marianou, the Secretary General of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), an organization bringing together some 150 regions from 25 countries, having also the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner to BSEC.

The CPMR focuses on social, economic and territorial cohesion, as well as maritime policies and accessibility and the signing of the MoU is expected to enable the two parties to collaborate more closely on activities and issues of common interest, as well as to further develop partnerships in the Black Sea region.

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. Christides, said: “This memorandum is a valid continuation of the relationship that BSEC and the CPMR established some time ago. It is an important step forward because we now have a structured framework to further promote our interaction and achieve our common goals through joint projects and activities.”

The CPMR Secretary General, Ms. Eleni Marianou, said: “We are delighted to sign this memorandum which will enable the CPMR and BSEC to deepen their cooperation on issues of common interest, to improve opportunities and economic development, and contribute to stability in the Black Sea region.”

As well as sharing expertise, both organisations will work together on the promotion and organization of workshops, conferences and training seminars, the development of projects, and the dissemination of activities through publications, workshops and conferences.

It is anticipated that cooperation will focus on several areas including Transport (Maritime Transport, & Accessibility), Social & Economic Cohesion, Environment & Energy, Tourism, Trade, Economic Development and SMEs, Science and Technology, and Information & Communication Technologies.