PRESS RELEASE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF
THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL AT THE EU-EURASIA-CHINA BUSINESS
SUMMIT

Athens, 9-10 October 2017

The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, participated upon
the invitation of the organizers in the EU-Eurasia-China Business Summit entitled “Building
Bridges from East to West”, which was prepared by The Economist, in cooperation with the
“Greek-Eurasian Business Council” on October 9-10, 2017 in Athens.

More than forty distinguished personalities from Europe, China and the greater Eurasian region
participated in this important initiative, which aimed to promote business cooperation and new
investments as a way to further enhance relations between Europe and Asia.

The PERMIS Secretary General underlined to participants and the large audience that the oldest
“Eurasian” organization promoting economic cooperation in the core-region of “Eurasia” is that of
the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. Its Member States and their respective territories literally
constitute the “bridge” between Europe and Asia and the multifaceted activities of BSEC,
whatever the past or recent challenges encountered, are a firm step to the direction of establishing
better understanding and common interests among all stakeholders (Statement of Ambassador

SECRETARY GENERAL’S BILATERAL MEETINGS ON THE SIDELINES OF THE SUMMIT

On the sidelines of the Summit, the PERMIS Secretary General had a bilateral meeting with the
Founding Chairman of the Silk Road Chamber of International Commerce (SRCIC) Mr.
Jianzhong LU and with Mr. Jemal INAISHVILI, President of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific
Chambers of Commerce & Industry (CACCI).

During the meeting Amb CHRISTIDES introduced to his interlocutors the BSEC Organization, its
activities and plans for the immediate future, reiterating that BSEC PERMIS is keenly interested in
establishing contact and possible collaboration with state or other entities from China, as well as
with private business communities from the Asian continent.

The two sides agreed to hold an Ad-Hoc meeting between representatives of the BSEC Member
States and of the Latter’s’ business communities, on the one hand, with the Board of the SRCIC
and potentially interested members of the Chamber, on the other.

The PERMIS Secretary General discussed also with Mr. David KIANG, Chairman of the Finance
Committee of the SRCIC, the possibilities of attracting Chinese funds for the implementation of
BSEC projects, especially in the sector of transport and trade facilitation.

Finally, Ambassador CHRISTIDES gave a lengthy interview to the Hong Kong-based economic
TV channel “Phoenix TV-HK”, describing the BSEC Organization and its twenty-five-year-long
presence and activity in the Black Sea region.