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**PRESS RELEASE ON**  
**THE VISIT OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL TO THE COUNCIL OF**  
**BALTIC SEA STATES (CBSS)**  
**(10 May 2016)**

On 10 May 2016, the Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, paid a working visit to the Secretariat of the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS), in Stockholm. The visit reciprocated the consultations between the two Secretariats, held in Istanbul, in April 2015, and was carefully prepared as the necessary follow up to the latter, taking also into consideration the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the two Organizations, in December 2015.

The Memorandum in question provides an appropriate framework of principles and modalities for enhancing interaction between the two parties, including through the regular exchange of information, the mutual use of professional expertise, the exchange of best practices and the elaboration of joint initiatives in areas of shared priority.

In this context, the meeting provided the opportunity to present BSEC activities, as well as the priorities of the current Russian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office and to jointly examine possibilities for common action.

The two sides agreed to continue focused consultations, with the aim of organizing, in the near future, joint activities within the framework of the existing Memorandum of Cooperation between the two Organizations.