



**PRESS RELEASE ON  
THE WORKING VISIT OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL  
TO MOSCOW**

1. Upon the invitation of the newly established Association of Lawyers of the Black Sea-Caspian Region the Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES participated in the Second General Meeting of the above Association, that took place in Moscow on 26 April 2017.

During the above meeting, a number of issues concerning the functioning and the activities of the Association have been discussed, as well as the Action Plan for the years 2017 and 2018.

Ambassador CHRISTIDES informed participants on the overall activity of the BSEC Organization and expressed the view that the establishment of a trustworthy network of legal experts and lawyers in the wider Black Sea region is a welcome and very important extension of the cooperation already promoted through BSEC in the above region. The activity of the Association could complement efforts for promoting better coordination and closer synergies among interested partners of BSEC Member States.

Participants expressed their interest in establishing contacts and possible cooperation also with the BSEC related bodies.

2. On the occasion of his stay in the Russian capital, the Secretary General of PERMIS visited the Headquarters of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and met with the Chairman of the Board, H.E. Mr. Tigran SARGSYAN.

The two men explored the possibility of establishing cooperation between BSEC and the EEC, especially in sectors of importance for both.

Ambassador Christides had the chance to inform his interlocutor on current and prospective activities of the BSEC Organization and its plans for the immediate future, in view also of the forthcoming 25th Anniversary Summit Meeting of BSEC.

Mr. SARGSYAN, respectively, informed on the work and objectives of the EEC, especially in what concerns Customs Issues, underlining the importance of the newly adopted Customs Code.

Both sides agreed that the proposed draft MoU could serve as a helpful general framework for establishing a mutually beneficial relationship of cooperation.

3. During his visit in Moscow, the BSEC PERMIS Secretary General held consultations with the Director of the Department for International Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. Evgeny STANISLAVOV. The two sides exchanged views on current BSEC issues of relevance.