



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

PRESS RELEASE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL AT THE SECOND GREEN ENERGY INVESTMENTS FORUM

Athens, 11-12 October 2017

Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, and Ambassador Traian CHEBELEU, Deputy Secretary General, attended the 2nd *Green Energy Investments Forum*, held during the first day of the 10th *Annual International Scientific Conference on Energy and Climate Change*, which took place in Athens, on 11-12 October 2017.

The series of International Scientific Conferences, initiated in 2008 and organized by the *Energy Policy and Development Centre (KEPA)* of the *National and Kapodistrian University of Athens* and held under the auspices of the *Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization*, developed over the years into one of the most important discussion fora for scientists and researchers working in energy and climate change issues, from the BSEC Member and other States.

The first day of the Conference consisted of the “2nd *Green Investments Forum*”, with the aim to offer a space in which policy makers, regional market stakeholders and investors could be informed about national green investment policies and about the emerging funding opportunities by various international sources for green energy projects.

Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES emphasized in his opening statement the importance BSEC attaches to the regional cooperation in the energy sector and, in particular, to supporting the efforts of the Member States for ensuring sustainable energy policies. The elaboration and implementation of a BSEC Green Energy Strategy could further promote renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and environmentally friendly technologies.

The role of the *BSEC Green Energy Network*, which started to function in 2015 as an important tool for exchanging information and for sharing know-how and good practices among Member States, was also highlighted.

The presentations and discussions confirmed the value of the Forum as a platform for interaction between governmental officials responsible with the promotion of Green Energy and representatives of the banking sector, the business communities and of NGOs active in the area of Green Energy in the BSEC Region.

The Forum made evident the increased interest for developing the regional cooperation in Green Energy in the BSEC Region, taking advantage of the possibilities of communication and of professional expertise made available by the *BSEC Green Energy Network*, coordinated by KEPA.