

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION Permanent International Secretariat Istanbul / Turkey

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## PRESS RELEASE ON

## THE PRIORITIES OF THE MOLDOVAN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE OF BSEC

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova H.E. Mr. Tudor ULIANOVSCHI, representing the Moldovan Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC, announced the priorities of the Chairmanship to the representatives of the BSEC Member States, Related Bodies, Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners, at the BSEC Headquarters in Istanbul, on 21 January 2015.

In his statement at the BSEC Headquarters, Deputy Minister H.E. Mr. ULIANOVSCHI said that with the motto "Bringing Stability, Ensuring Consensus", the Moldovan Chairmanship aspires to continue to build on the achievements of the previous Chairmanships in order to fulfill the objectives set forth in the "Economic Agenda Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership", a strategic document adopted by the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and endorsed by the Heads of State and Government in 2012.

"In today's changing political landscape of the Black Sea region, stability is more than ever required to promote the economic cooperation among the Member States. The Chairmanship will attempt to further explore the possibilities of deepening the sectoral cooperation in order to strengthen the stability of the region," said Deputy Minister H.E. Mr. ULIANOVSCHI in his statement. In this context, transport, trade and economic development, healthcare and pharmaceutics, tourism and culture were identified as the sectoral priorities of the Moldovan Chairmanship-in-Office.

The Moldovan Chairmanship envisages to continue to promote the project-oriented character of the Organization and strengthen its operational capabilities and mechanisms. In this context, among other steps, the Project Management Unit (PMU), having the leading role in developing, planning and implementing joint projects, will be rendered the necessary assistance and support in attracting the potential financial resources from the BSEC Region and beyond in order to make it function effectively.

One of the main priorities of the Chairmanship will remain the further development and enhancement of BSEC-EU interaction, with the objective of developing a balanced, mutually beneficial and result-oriented relationship between BSEC and EU institutions based on complementarity, partnership and coordination in areas where such cooperation is deemed desirable and feasible.

The Chairmanship of the Republic of Moldova will continue to promote discussions on the BSEC reform process, taking into consideration the necessary structural and organizational adaptations of the organization to the on-going changes in the region and beyond in order to improve its activities and enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. The Chairmanship envisages to convene an informal meeting to address issues related to BSEC reform.

During the Moldovan Chairmanship-in-Office, particular focus will also be paid to ensuring close cooperation between the BSEC and its Related Bodies, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), the BSEC Business Council (BSEC BC), the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB) and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS).

As is known, the Republic of Moldova has assumed the Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC as of 1 January 2015, for a term of six months ending on 30 June 2015. During this period, the Moldovan Chairmanship envisages to implement a comprehensive calendar of events which is expected to contribute to enhancing regional cooperation in a number of key areas. The meeting of the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, as well as the meetings of the BSEC Ministers of Economy, Transport, Health and Tourism constitute the highlights of the calendar of events of the Moldovan Chairmanship.



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova H.E. Mr. Tudor ULIANOVSCHI, announcing the priorities of the Moldovan Chairmanship-in-Office of BSEC (21 January 2015, BSEC Headquarters, Istanbul)