



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Permanent International Secretariat

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**PRESS RELEASE ON  
THE MEETING OF THE BSEC PERMIS SECRETARY GENERAL  
WITH THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE IN  
TURKEY**

On 21 September 2017 Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, received in PERMIS HQs the World Health Organization Representative in Turkey, Dr. Pavel URSU, on the latter's initiative.

Dr. URSU briefly informed on the structure and activities of the WHO Representative Office in Turkey, stressing the importance they attach to issues like migrant's health, university health insurance, emergency preparedness and response, etc. Their field mission in Gaziantep was mentioned as a good example on the ground dealing with health problems of refugees.

Concerning emergency preparedness, Dr. URSU informed that WHO is greatly interested to cooperate with BSEC Member States in this sphere. Provisions of the Declaration of the BSEC Ministers in charge of Healthcare, dated 29 September 2014, were mentioned in this connection, as well as the establishment of the "Network for the Emergency Preparedness and Response within the BSEC Region (NET-EPR) in the field of healthcare".

Ambassador CHRISTIDES confirmed the readiness and desire of PERMIS to cooperate with the WHO Office in Turkey on health issues.

The meeting took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere.