PRESS RELEASE
2017 KOREA-BSEC ICT COOPERATION PROGRAM
(Seoul, 30 October-3 November 2017)

The 7th edition of the Korea-BSEC ICT Cooperation took place in Seoul on 30 October-3 November 1017.

Program has been organized yearly since 2011, with the financial support of the Government of the Republic of Korea, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and Safety and Korea Local Information Research and Development Institute (KLID).

The purpose of the Program is to share knowledge of the rich experience of the Republic of Korea in the ICT development for improving communication and access to information, with a view to providing high quality services to citizen and private sector, and of the experience in the development of e-government at national and local levels.

The Program is attended by civil servants dealing with development of ICT systems to support informatization of the society at national and local levels, working in the relevant ministries of the BSEC Member States.

The Program of this year was attended by experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Turkey and Ukraine and consisted of the following activities:

- A **Workshop** held at the headquarters of KLID, where presentations were made on "ICT Policy and Development in Korea: E-Government & Smart Nation Initiative"; "E-Government of Korea: Development, History and Outcome"; and "ICT makes our E-Government convenient". The participants also made presentations on the E-government strategies and policies in the respective countries.

- Participation in the conference **"Global Forum on e-Government. Present and Future. The 50th anniversary of Korean e-Government"**, organized by the National Information Society Agency of the Republic of Korea, with two panel sessions of the Forum on "Why do we need e-Government?" and"Future of the e-Government".with the participation of scientists and high officials from the Republic of Korea and from other States.

- Visits to **Ubiquitous Integrated Center**, which provides services based on intelligent-type high-tech systems in transportation management, safety and crime prevention, disaster prevention, mobile services for citizen; to **National Computing and information Service**, which is an integrated data center for use of the Government of the Republic of Korea, managing about 1500 e-Government systems developed by about 40 central administrative government agencies in a stable and integrated way; and to **Information Network Village**, which is a project designed to develop sustainable and self-supporting village communities by enhancing access to information in disadvantaged rural areas.

- A **wrap-up meeting** held at the headquarters of KLID on 3 November, chaired by Dr. Sang-Baek CHRIS KANG, Director of the Department of Global Cooperation of KLID, in which the participants highly evaluated the quality of the Program and expressed their appreciation and thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and to KLID for organizing the yearly Korea-BSEC ICT Program.

Dr. Sang-Baek CHRIS KANG expressed the willingness of the Korean Government to continue this ICT cooperation program, and informed of the intention for the Program in 2018 to be organized in two or three BSEC Member States.