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## Recognition and appreciation for Moldova's accession to SEPA: Central Bank Governors of Moldova, North Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina in dialogue in Sarajevo

The Governor of the National Bank of Moldova, Ms. Anca Dragu, had a meeting in Sarajevo with the Governor of the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ms. Jasmina Selimović, and the Governor of the National Bank of North Macedonia, Mr. Trajko Slaveski.

The discussions focused on recent developments in the financial sector and how central banks support financial education and inclusion at the regional level.

At the beginning of the meeting, Governor Jasmina Selimović and Governor Slaveski congratulated the Republic of Moldova on its remarkable progress in the European integration process, highlighting in particular its accession to the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA), while also appreciating the involvement of Governor Anca Dragu.

"Moldova's accession to SEPA is the result of a joint effort: that of state institutions and dedicated teams of people who believed in the European future of the Republic of Moldova. I am pleased that, from now on, Moldovan citizens, families in the diaspora, and the business community will be able to make fast and secure payments within Europe at very low cost, or even free of charge. It is a change that brings Europe closer to every citizen, and Moldova fully deserves this future," Ms. Anca Dragu emphasised.

The discussions also centred on expanding cooperation between central banks in the region through the exchange of best practices in financial innovation and professional training for financial education and inclusion.

"We believe in the power of knowledge and collaboration to develop more resilient and connected economies," stated the NBM Governor.

The Governors reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and continuing dialogue within international platforms on financial education, inclusion, and sustainable economic resilience, including in the initiatives of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/International Network on Financial Education (OECD/INFE).

The meeting took place in the context of Ms. Anca Dragu's participation in the OECD/INFE Annual Meeting, at the invitation of Governor Jasmina Selimović, who recently visited Chişinău, where she attended the international conference "New Technology for Old Markets," organised by the National Bank of Moldova, in partnership with the National Bank of Romania and the Bank of France.

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