DECLARATION "THROUGH ECONOMIC COOPERATION TO PEACE, STABILITY AND PROSPERITY IN THE BSEC REGION"

(Moscow, 30 June 2016)

We, the members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), have met in Moscow at the 47th General Assembly and have adopted the present Declaration "Through economic cooperation towards peace, stability and prosperity in the BSEC Region". We reaffirm our commitment to further develop and deepen friendly and good-neighbourly relations in the spirit of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation.

We reaffirm our will to actively contribute to strengthening and further improving of the activities of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), based on goodwill and mutual desire to deepen constructive cooperation in the region for the implementation of common goals and principles of the Istanbul Summit Declaration, Bosphorus Statement and the Declaration on the Establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

We underline our commitment to the universally recognized norms of international law and consider further development of the cooperation in the framework of the PABSEC as the necessary and important contribution to consolidating of peace, stability and prosperity in our countries.

We reaffirm our determination to contribute to the active development of interparliamentary cooperation and constructive dialogue in the BSEC Region with the aim to coordinate the efforts of national parliaments in solving topical problems of an economic, social, cultural, legal or humanitarian nature, for the benefit of the entire Black Sea Region.

In this regard we state that:

- 1. The Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC, established in 1993, has proven to be viable, needed and effective and has withstood the test of time. We consider the activities of the Assembly an integral and important part of the economic development of the Black Sea Region, promoting constructive dialogue among the parliamentarians of our countries and strengthening of peace, stability, security and prosperity of the peoples living there.
- 2. We consider important to actively use the opportunities of the Parliamentary Assembly to assist the beneficial integration of the BSEC countries in the elaboration and implementation of joint socio-economic projects. Being the representatives of parliaments, we express our will to provide legislative support to the main activities carried out by the Organization.

- 3. The upcoming 25th Anniversary of the Organization of the BSEC (2017) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC (2018) should mark a new stage in the development of the Black Sea Region. To this end, we declare our readiness to fully support the efforts of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States for the full-scale development of the BSEC.
- 4. Today political significance of regional parliamentary organizations is growing and there is the need for better use of the PABSEC potential as a platform for effective inter-parliamentary dialogue. This implies strengthening of the status of the Assembly and its conversion into a fully-fledged international parliamentary structure. We state our readiness to provide necessary support to this process, while, understanding the importance of pursuing close coordination with the Organization of the BSEC.
- 5. We intend to continue the discussion of topical issues in the spirit of constructive dialogue, without politicizing it. We are convinced that only such an approach can lead to successful parliamentary cooperation and strengthening of mutually beneficial and equal partnership between the BSEC countries.
- 6. We consider it important to take the necessary efforts to create favourable conditions and opportunities for unhindered and full-scale cooperation, as well as for free communication among parliamentarians.
- 7. We call upon all the BSEC Member States and the relevant executive structures, within their mandates and established procedures, to intensify efforts towards enhancing efficiency of regional economic cooperation for the sake of prosperity of our countries and peoples.