

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
PABSEC

THE EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Doc.: GA 2412/96

RECOMMENDATION 17/1996¹

**Basic Principles of the Black Sea Convention
on Combating Organised Crime and Terrorism**

1. The Assembly is deeply concerned that the organised crime continues to be a distracting factor for the development of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, jeopardising full implementation of the principles and objectives of the Istanbul Declaration of 25 June 1992.
2. The Assembly, being aware of cases of growing linkage between terrorism and organised crime, illegal trafficking in drugs and weapons which represent serious threat to international relations, peace, democracy and fundamental human rights, recalls the main documents adopted within the framework of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation:

Bucharest Statement adopted at the High Level Meeting of the BSEC Participating States of 30 June 1996 stressing that cooperation process in the Black Sea Region “will be facilitated by undertaking concerted actions through bilateral agreements with a view of combating organised crime, drug dealing, illicit traffic of weapons and radioactive materials, all acts of terrorism and illegal border crossings”.

Resolution of the sixth Meeting of the Ministers of the Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Participating States of 1 November 1995 “to invite the PABSEC and to provide for its assistance for creating an appropriate legal bilateral and multilateral framework with a view of combating organised crime, drug dealing, illicit weapons and radioactive materials, all acts of terrorism and illegal border crossings in the BSEC region”.

Recommendation 15/1996 of the PABSEC on Cooperation among the PABSEC Member Countries in Combating Organised Crime adopted the Seventh Plenary Session of the General Assembly on 12 June 1996 emphasising that “the Assembly can and must play a key role in strengthening multilateral cooperation in combating organised crime” and suggested “elaboration of the Black Sea Convention on Combating Organised Crime with regard to the international practice in this field, consolidation of efforts of PABSEC member countries in organised crime prevention”.

¹ Assembly debate on 12 December 1996 (see Doc.: LC 2411/96, Report of the Legal and Political Affairs Committee on “Basic Principles of the Black Sea Convention on Combating Organised Crime and Terrorism” discussed in Kyiv on 30 October 1996; Rapporteur: Mr. Gennady Vassilyev - Ukraine)

Text adopted by the Assembly in Tbilisi on 12 December 1996

Moscow Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of the BSEC Participating States of 25 October 1996 emphasising the special importance of adopting “urgent concrete measures for combating organised crime, violence, terrorism, illicit drug, weapons and radioactive materials trafficking and illegal migration, etc.” and confirming the necessity to elaborate “programmes to strengthen cooperation in these fields as well as to develop further interaction between the law enforcing, border, customs and immigration authorities”.

3. The Assembly stresses the necessity of closer cooperation between states and international institutions in order to prevent and counteract effectively and adequately organised crime in the Black Sea region such as drug and weapon trafficking, terrorism, money laundering, trade in radioactive and toxic materials, ammunition and explosives, smuggling of raw materials and military hardware, executions, corruption, prostitution, etc.
4. The Assembly welcomes the Meeting of the BSEC Ministers of the Internal Affairs held in Yerevan on 16-17 October 1996 and expresses its full support to the decisions made therein.
5. It is fully confident that any measure of international cooperation against organised crime must be fully compatible with the universal principles of protection of human rights, international law and constitutions of member states.
6. **The Assembly recommends** the Parliaments and the Governments of the PABSEC Member Countries:
 - i. to set up a committee of governmental experts for in-depth study of the problem of organised crime discussed in the Reports of the Legal and Political Affairs Committee (Documents: LC 2049/96 and LC 2411/96) and elaboration of the Convention in compliance with the relevant conventions of the United Nations and Council of Europe.
 - ii. a committee of experts should be guided by the following objectives:
 - elaboration of common policy against organised crime and further develop efficient programmes for the reduction of its impact on the society;
 - expediting the process of modification or elaboration of the domestic legislation pertinent to the efforts to combat organised crime;
 - introducing most effective legal measures focused on constraining possibilities for using illicit proceeds.
 - promoting police cooperation in order to lay down the rules and conditions of interaction with special regard to combating transfrontier movement of terrorists and other serious offenders involved in organised criminal actions.
 - considering establishment of mechanism for exchange of relevant information among the member countries to combat organised crime.
 - elaboration of common stand regarding any sponsor or supporter of organised crime or related offences.

7. **The Assembly invites** the BSEC Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to consider this Recommendation.