

RECOMMENDATION 137/2014*

***The Introduction of New Technologies in Modern Construction and Architecture
in the BSEC Member States***

1. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) is recognize that the construction industry is an efficient indicator of the real economy and is capable of releasing national economies from stagnation. The strategic development of this sector calls for the correct approach to design and the optimal use of advanced technologies, materials, and design concepts.
2. The PABSEC is keenly mindful that political will is the key factor in creating a favorable framework for private investors. Strong commitments with clear targets offering long-term predictability are necessary to trigger a progressive change in construction and renovation practices.
3. The PABSEC reaffirms its commitment to promoting efforts that enhance mutually advantageous activities in the construction industry. In order to achieve a high level of regional cooperation in this sector, it is necessary to fully harness all potential opportunities that foster business and industrial relations among the Member States.
4. The PABSEC emphasizes the importance of providing the most favorable conditions for efficiency in the architecture and construction sectors. Toward this end, the Assembly strongly advocates enacting and enforcing effective legislation, establishing a legislative data bank, and ratifying relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements that will further facilitate stimulation of commercial initiatives in these sectors.
5. The PABSEC promotes initiatives that will enable Member States to collaboratively work toward the progressive elimination of obstacles that impede the development of architecture and construction. The Assembly endorses conditions favorable to these initiatives at regional and inter-regional levels: legislative and economic cooperation between the parliaments, governments, and business communities, and actively seeking

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Text adopted by the 43rd General Assembly in Athens on 13 May 2014.

potential sources of requisite funds and credits to implement modern and energy-efficient architectural and construction projects.

6. Within the framework of the relevant national structures, the PABSEC encourages the importance of periodical discussions and the reinforcement of national regulations between all main stakeholders involved in the process of promoting the development of architecture and construction.
7. The PABSEC recognizes the importance of adopting and implementing new technologies in construction and architecture in Member States and the need for active involvement of representatives of business communities in the planning, development, and implementation of construction projects incorporating new technologies.
8. **Therefore, the PABSEC recommends** that the parliaments and the governments of the BSEC Member States:
 - i) *create* a clear, stable, and streamlined legal framework that will mitigate administrative burdens for private investors in the construction industry;
 - ii) *eliminate* market barriers and administrative bottlenecks in the renovation of the housing stock, in order to ensure the planning policies for improving the energy efficiency of buildings;
 - iii) *develop* long-term and comprehensive regulatory, financial, educational, and promotional packages offering economic benefits that foster the development of the construction industry;
 - iv) *enforce* compliance with building codes and standards, being mindful that effective monitoring of compliance, enforcement measures, and quality control by a qualified workforce should be part of any policy package to develop construction and renovation activities;
 - v) *persuade* consumers to increase the necessary investments to boost construction and renovation activities;
 - vi) *support* the attraction of private capital to invest in construction and renovation activities, in order to stimulate the economy and to translate successful energy-efficiency measures into sustainable business practices;
 - vii) *facilitate* the development of training and educational activities in both the construction sector and the supply chain industries, bearing in mind that efficient and quality construction and renovation requires the experience and skills of building professionals at the dual levels of basic professional education and life-long learning activities;
 - viii) *motivate* knowledge exchange on a legal and regulatory framework for the construction industry by facilitating expert participation in joint meetings and conferences to specify joint initiatives, including regional planning and development projects;
 - ix) *establish* a network of professional organizations in the construction industry (including chambers of architects and engineers) that are directly involved in design activities, service provision, and in formulating guidelines for the development of the industry, so as to enable knowledge exchange in regional investment planning and in the implementation of new technologies;

- x) *encourage* the development of project proposals in the construction sector through the BSEC Project Development Fund, including possible financial assistance from the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank;
 - xi) *intensify* cooperation among academic communities of the Member States in the introduction of new technologies in modern architecture and construction;
 - xii) *strive* for more effective application of best international practices in architecture and construction, such as those of the European Union, to ensure the optimal use of new and emerging technologies, training programs, and promotional activities.
9. The PABSEC invites the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to consider this Recommendation.