

**THE SEVENTEENTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**RECOMMENDATION 52/2001\***

**on the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers  
of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States**

**1. The BSEC Economic Agenda**

The Parliamentary Assembly underlines the paramount importance of the adoption of by the Council of Ministers of *the BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future* equipping the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation with a forward-looking strategy aimed at enhancing the growing BSEC role in the Black Sea region as part of a free and undivided Europe.

The Parliamentary Assembly has been fully involved in the process of drawing up this strategy, more specifically in its parts devoted to legislative harmonisation, democracy and the rule of law, highlighting the high sense of responsibility and commitment of the parliamentarians to the attainment of the common goals: prosperity through democracy and stability.

**2. The Legal Status of the Parliamentary Assembly**

The eleven National Parliaments established the Parliamentary Assembly with a view to provide consistent legislative and political support to the BSEC endeavours. The PABSEC activities clearly demonstrated its ability to promote the inter-parliamentary dialogue in the region, to strengthen the link between governments and peoples through their elected representatives, to elaborate substantial recommendations covering priority areas of cooperation in legal, economic, social, cultural and political fields, to develop cooperation with the European Parliamentary Assemblies. The Heads of State or Governments and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs have appreciated the PABSEC input on various occasions.

The Parliamentary Assembly appreciates the fact that for the first time the Council of Ministers laid down the basis to starting the process of putting in place an effective institutional legal framework of the parliamentary dimension of the BSEC. This will provide PABSEC with a secure outlook, will enable it to be

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\* Assembly debate on 20 June 2001 (see Doc.GA17/REP/BSEC/MFA/01 “Report on the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States”, discussed in Baku, on 20 June 2001; Rapporteur: Mr. Vladimir Averchenko – the Russian Federation).

*Text adopted by the General Assembly in Baku, on 20 June 2001.*

better identified in the Black Sea family context as the parliamentary consultative body of the Organisation, will enhance the governmental and parliamentary interaction, will raise the capacity and authority of the Parliamentary Assembly to be more involved in elaboration and enactment by the National Parliaments of the needed legislation for the BSEC projects and will increase its prestige in developing partnership with other parliamentary organisations.

### **3. Therefore, the Assembly:**

#### *A. The BSEC Economic Agenda*

- i. states** its full determination to make use of the creative potential of the BSEC parliamentary dimension for providing legislative, political and public support to the implementation of the objectives of the BSEC Economic Agenda, as a major contribution to meeting the challenges of the Organisation in the New Millennium.
- ii. calls upon** the National Parliaments to intensify their efforts for the overall development of the multilateral cooperation in the Black Sea region through enacting legislation supporting realisation of the BSEC projects, harmonising legislation aimed at speeding up integration in the region, monitoring ratification of multilateral agreements adopted by the Council of Ministers. Within this framework the National Parliaments which did not yet ratify the BSEC Additional Protocol on Privileges and Immunities are recommended to do so as soon as possible.

#### *B. The Legal Status of the Parliamentary Assembly*

- i. calls upon** the Governments of the BSEC Member-States to show political will and to provide the Parliamentary Assembly with an effective and up-graded Institutional Legal Status corresponding to its role and place within the Black Sea family, including the privileges and immunities;
- ii. kindly asks** the BSEC Chairmanship to speed up the procedure of elaboration and adoption of the PABSEC Institutional Legal Status and the Host Country Agreement, giving due consideration to the proposals endorsed by the Parliamentary Assembly;
- iii. calls upon** the BSEC delegations and the National Parliaments to provide maximum and immediate support and to work closely with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Member-States for the conclusion of these institutional legal documents in the shortest possible time.