

THE THIRTIETH PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Doc.: GA30/LC30/REC99/07

RECOMMENDATION 99/2007¹

Global Climate Change: Consequences for the BSEC States

1. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation is fully aware that global climate change poses serious threat to the future of the planet, endangers socio-economic progress in the region and requires sustained and concerted high level attention.
2. The Assembly notes the importance of the 15th Anniversary Summit Declaration of 25 June 2007, where the Heads of state or government of the BSEC Member States stress “the serious consequences of climate change and the need for widest possible regional and international cooperation to address this issue in a comprehensive and effective manner”.
3. The Parliamentarians are deeply concerned with the increasing evidence of the adverse impacts of climate change and the risk of frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and other negative impacts of climate change globally and in the region causing misery for millions of people.
4. The Assembly underlines the fact that due to the scope and magnitude of the climate change problem, no one country alone is able to solve it and that the countries globally join efforts to reduce the risks by reducing contribution to the causes. Cooperation at the trans-national, regional and local levels is of significant essence for efficient and effective address to the issue of climate change. In this respect, the Assembly reaffirms the commitments of its governments to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change mobilising and underpinning international action towards shared goals to save the planet.
5. The Assembly welcomes the active engagement of the European Union in international climate change effort and stresses the fundamental importance of its integrated approach to climate change policy through complementary sectoral

¹ Assembly debate on 11 December 2007 (see Doc.: GA30/LC30/REP/07, Report of the Legal and Political Affairs Committee “Global Climate Change: Consequences for the BSEC States” discussed in Belgrade on 17-18 October 2007; Rapporteur: Mr. Mircea Ciopraga – Romania)

Text adopted by the General Assembly in Tbilisi on 11 December 2007

policies and programmes involving spheres of energy, transport, agriculture, industry and scientific research.

6. As is universally recognised, environmental degradation caused by unsustainable energy production and consumption is having a significant impact on human development. At the same time, fossil fuels continue to play major role in regional and global energy needs. On one hand, climate change influences key natural and human living conditions, while, on the other hand, countries' priorities for development increase causes affecting climate change.
7. Global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation and participation in an effective and concerted response and our countries have to act with resolve and urgency to meet the challenge of addressing climate change. To this end, it is essential to move towards deployment and transfer of environmentally friendly technologies, to reduce air pollution, to improve global environment, to secure sustainable forest management and land use and to enhance energy efficiency.
8. We, the parliamentarians of the BSEC member states are committed to contribute to further the dialogue to address climate change under the existing international instruments and to work with all members of the international community for an enduring global solution to climate change with due regard to common but different tasks and capabilities, and specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances.
9. **Therefore, the Assembly recommends** the Parliaments and the Governments of the BSEC Member States:
 - i. *to further work through* bilateral, regional and global partnerships to achieve stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.
 - ii. *to put effort* to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the principles and objectives of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol.
 - iii. *to further facilitate* elaboration, where necessary, of national strategies and policies, laws, guidelines and frameworks that will allow efficient implementation of national and international engagement on the challenge of global climate change;
 - iv. *to undertake* practical steps and initiatives to supplement the climate change instruments with workable systems of monitoring;
 - v. *to coordinate* with relevant international institutions and specialised agencies to complement the actions undertaken by the BSEC states;
 - vi. *to further improve* institutional framework necessary for the wide-ranging cooperation in the field of climate change mitigation in the region;

- vii. *to take active measures* to facilitate joint research, development, deployment and transfer of environmentally friendly technologies in respect of key sectors of development, namely, energy, transport, industry, health agriculture, forestry, water management;
 - viii. *to ensure* diversification of energy resources and a switch to alternative, more sustainable and environmentally friendly types of energy;
 - ix. *to pay more attention* to policies and programmes that achieve a better balance between development and environmental concerns;
 - x. *to promote* deeper understanding of global climate change issue entailing serious social, economic, and even security implications and contribute to facilitating more informed decision making;
 - xi. *to place particular attention* to the establishment of proper mechanisms for exchange of information on actions related to mitigation and adaptation measures and early warnings on natural disaster events;
 - xii. *to engage* civil society organisations and public at large in the process of addressing the climate change challenge.
10. **The Assembly invites** the BSEC Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to consider this Recommendation.