

Istanbul, 22 December 2015

SUMMARY

FORTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OPENING CEREMONY

The Forty-Fifth General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Chisinau on 8-10 June 2015 upon the invitation of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Andrian Candu, PABSEC President, Chairman of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. Mrs. Natalia Gherman, BSEC Chairperson-in-Office, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova addressed the participants in the Meeting.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. *The National delegations* of the parliaments of: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.
2. *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)*:
 - The Secretary General.
3. *Observers*: delegations/representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia (PAUBR), Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IAO).
4. *Guests*: representatives of the Nordic Council, the Marmara Group Foundation, the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States, International Institute of Monitoring Democracy Development, Parliamentarianism and Suffrage Protection for the Citizens of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly Member Nations, the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

THE 45th PLENARY SESSION

1. General Debate

The topic of the General Debate was ***“Parliamentary Contribution to Implementation of BSEC Economic Agenda 2012- Current Situation and future Perspectives”***.

Upon the decision of the Heads of the delegations the General Debate did not take place.

2. Documents adopted by the Plenary Session:

- a) Recommendation 143/2015 on *“The Role of New Technologies in the Development and Strengthening of Information Society in the BSEC Member States”*
(GA45/EC44/REC143/15)
- b) Recommendation 144/2015 on *“Basic Principles of Election Legislation in the BSEC Member States: Similarities and Differences”*
(GA45/LC45/REC144/15)
- c) Recommendation 145/2015 on *“The Role of Sports in Promoting Growth, Employment and Social Cohesion in the BSEC Region”*
(GA45/CC44/REC145/15)
- d) Decision on Strengthening the PABSEC Status
- e) Declaration on Strengthening the Status of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

3. Documents approved by the Plenary Session:

- a) Report on *“The Role of New Technologies in the Development and Strengthening of Information Society in the BSEC Member States”*
(GA45/EC44/REP/15)
- b) Report on *“Basic Principles of Election Legislation in the BSEC Member States: Similarities and Differences”*
(GA45/LC45/REP/15)
- c) Report on *“The Role of Sports in Promoting Growth, Employment and Social Cohesion in the BSEC Region”*
(GA45/CC44/REP/15)
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly
(GA45/PROG REP/15)
- e) Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2014
(GA45/AUDIT14/15)
- f) Minutes of the Forty-Fourth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Athens on 9 December 2014
(GA44/MIN/14)

4. The Plenary Session took note of:

- a) Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member States on Prospects of Cooperation in the Field of Transport in the BSEC Region *“Transport Facilitation: Paving the Way to Trade and Development in the BSEC Region”* adopted in Chisinau on 14 May 2015;
- b) Joint Declaration of the Ministers in charge of Economy of the BSEC Member States *“Facilitating Intraregional Trade and Investments”* adopted in Chisinau, 29 May 2015.

5. New Credentials

Upon the decision of the General Assembly and in the framework of Article 3.7 of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure the Special Committee composed of Mrs. Polina

Karastoyanova (Head of the Bulgarian PABSEC delegation), Mrs. Eugenia Ouzounidou (Head of the Hellenic PABSEC delegation) and Mr. Igor Becic (Head of the Serbian PABSEC delegation) examined the new credentials of the new members of the Russian and Ukrainian national delegations.

Having discussed the debatable issues the Committee came to the unanimous opinion to recommend to the Standing Committee the following: (1) The list of the new members of national delegations of Russia and Ukraine have been signed by the Chairmen of the Parliament and were forwarded to the International Secretariat in strict accordance with the PABSEC Rules of Procedure; (2) All new members of the Assembly are the full-fledged members of the national parliaments; (3) The political spectrum of a national delegation is determined by the decision of the national parliament and cannot be the subject of the dispute of the General Assembly.

The Assembly **ratified** the credentials of the new members and proxies of the delegations of Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine.

(GA45/CRED/15)

6. Election of the PABSEC Vice-Presidents

According to the decision taken by the Standing Committee on 8 June 2015 the number of the PABSEC Vice-Presidents was increased to six (6), including the Vice-President in charge of Financial Matters.

The Assembly **elected** Mr. Musa Guliyev, Acting Head of the Azerbaijani PABSEC Delegation, Mr. Simeon Kedikoglu, member of the Hellenic PABSEC Delegation, Mrs. Violeta Ivanov, Head of the Moldovan PABSEC Delegation, Mrs. Lyudmila Bokova, member of the Russian PABSEC Delegation, Mr. Igor Becic, Head of the Serbian PABSEC Delegation as PABSEC Vice-Presidents and Mr. Gagik Minasyan, Head of the Armenian PABSEC Delegation as the Vice-President in charge of Financial Matters for two years term starting with June 2015.

7. Election of the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in Charge of Interparliamentary Relations and Protocol

The Assembly **elected** Mr. Daniel Dulca (Romania) as the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in Charge of Interparliamentary Relations and Protocol for the term of office of three years starting with 1 November 2015.

8. Rotation of the Presidency

In accordance with the PABSEC Rules of Procedure on 10 June 2015 the Parliament of Romania **assumed** the Presidency in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation for six months.

9. The Forty-Six Plenary Session of the General Assembly will be held in Bucharest on 26-27 November 2015.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Forty-Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee:

1. **Adopted** the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the second half of 2015 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2015 Autumn General Assembly.

The main subjects for the Autumn Committees Meetings are:

- “*Role of Parliaments in Providing Legal Framework for Combating Corruption*”;
- “*E-Government in the BSEC Member States*” ;
- “*Combating Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Heritage in the BSEC Region*”.

2. **Approved** the following documents:

- a) Minutes of the Forty-Fourth Meeting of the Standing Committee held in Athens on 8 December 2014 (SC44/MIN/14)
- b) PABSEC Calendar for 2015
- c) Draft Decision of the Assembly, Declaration and the proposal on strengthening of the PABSEC Status and included in the Agenda of the Plenary Session the new item 11. It was also decided that in the framework of the new item of the Agenda the signing ceremony of the Declaration by the representatives of the leadership of the national parliaments attending the Plenary Session will take place.

3. **Examined** the credentials of new members of the Assembly.

4. **Endorsed:**

- a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (GA45/PROG REP/15)
- b) Draft Agenda of the Forty-Fifth Plenary Session (GA45/AG/15)
- c) Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the International Secretariat, the Financial Regulations and the PABSEC Rules of Procedure
- d) PABSEC Draft Budget for the Financial Year 2016 (GA45/BUDG16/15)

5. **Took note of:**

- a) Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2014 (GA45/AUDIT14/15)
- b) The receipt of Contributions to the 2015 Budget (SC45/CONT/15)
- c) The information on the participation by the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings in the period December 2014 - June 2015.

6. **The Forty-Six Meeting of the PABSEC Standing Committee will be held in Bucharest on 25 November 2015.**

BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Fifty-Second Meeting of the Bureau:

1. **Approved the following documents:**

- Minutes of the 51st Meeting of the Bureau held in Athens on 8 December 2014 (BA51/MIN/14)

- Draft Programme of the Forty-Fifth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (BA52/PROG/15)
- Matters of Procedure of the Forty-Fifth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (BA52/MP/15)

2. Considered the following items:

- Report by the Vice-President in charge of Financial matters on the Execution of the Assembly's Budget (BA52/EXE/15)
- Participation of the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June - November 2015 (BA52/GATH/15)
The new PABSEC President was authorized to take decisions on the participation of the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June – November 2015. The decision on the participation of the staff of the International Secretariat will be taken by the Secretary General
- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (GA45/PROGREP/15)
- Draft Agenda of the Forty-Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee (SC45/AG/15) and the Draft Agenda of the Forty-Fifth Plenary Session (GA45/AG/15).

3. Endorsed:

- The candidacies for the election of the PABSEC Vice-President and the PABSEC Vice-President in charge of Financial Matters;
- The candidacy for the election of the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Interparliamentary Relations and Protocol.

4. Decided:

- To prolong the term of office of Mr. Yadigar Mammadov, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, and Mrs. Evgenia Strati, Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, until the end of June 2015;
- To appoint Mrs. Pavlina Lazanova (from Bulgaria) as the Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee for the term of office of three years starting with 1 August 2015;
- To appoint Ms. Adel Agayeva (from Russia) as the Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee for the term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2016;
- To appoint Mrs. Kristina Bolboceanu (from Moldova) as the Researcher-Archivist of the PABSEC International Secretariat for the term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2016;
- In the framework of the article II.2 of the Staff Regulations of the PABSEC International Secretariat to instruct the Secretary General to prescribe the functions of the Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee to one of the committee secretaries.

5. The Fifty-third Meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly will be held in Bucharest on 25 November 2015.