



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
**PABSEC**

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

*Istanbul, 20 December 2000*

## **FOREWORD**

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The Sixteenth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Yerevan on 28-30 November 2000 upon the invitation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia.

The General Assembly was opened by Mr. Armen Khachatryan, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia. The message to the Sixteenth General Assembly by H.E. Mr. Robert Kocharyan, President of the Republic of Armenia, was presented by Mr. Khachatryan. The message to the participants in the Plenary Session by Mr. Igor Ivanov, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, was presented by the Ambassador of the Russian Federation in Armenia.

### **PARTICIPATION**

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. **The Chairman** of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, **the Vice-Chairman** of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and **the Vice-Chairman** of the Parliament of Georgia.
2. **National delegations** of: Republic of Albania, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Republic of Turkey and Ukraine.
3. **Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and Related Bodies:**
  - **BSEC:** the representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office and the Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
  - **International Centre for Black Sea Studies:** Alternate Director General of the ICBSS
4. **Observers:** Delegations of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Assembly of Western European Union, Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States
5. **Guests:** the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union.
6. **PABSEC International Secretariat.**