



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
PABSEC

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Istanbul, 9 July 2001

FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Seventeenth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Baku on 19-21 June 2001 upon the invitation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The General Assembly was opened by Mr. Murtuz Aleskerov, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan. H.E. Mr. Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, addressed a message to the General Assembly. The message to the participants in the Plenary Session by Mr. Ismail Cem, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, was presented by the Ambassador of Turkey in Azerbaijan.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. *The Chairman* of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
2. *National delegations* of: 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:* Director General of the ICBSS
4. *Observers:* Delegations of the Knesset of Israel, the German Bundestag, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the 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.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. General debate.

The General Debate was devoted to the “Strengthening of Stability in the Black Sea Region and the PABSEC Contribution”.

Heads of national delegations, observers from the Knesset of the State of Israel, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union, as guest took part in the General Debate.

The delegates welcomed the very first participation by the PABSEC Delegation of the Republic of Armenia in a meeting held in Baku as a significant trend towards strengthening friendship and cooperation in the region and increasing the role of the Parliamentary Assembly within the framework of the BSEC Organisation.

2. Recommendations adopted by the General Assembly:

- a) Recommendation 49/2001 on “Black Sea Environmental Protection: New Challenges”
(Doc.GA17/EC16/REC49/01)
- b) Recommendation 50/2001 on “Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening the Rule of Law”
(Doc.GA17/LC17/REC50/01)
- c) Recommendation 51/2001 on “The Legal Framework of the Protection of Migrant Workers in the Black Sea countries and the relations between Immigrant Communities and the Host Country”
(Doc.GA17/CC16/REC51/01)
- d) Recommendation 52/2001 on “The Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States” (Doc.GA17/CMFA4/REC52/01)
- e) Recommendation 53/2001 on Cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters from the BSEC Member-States
(Doc. GA17/REC53/01)

3. Reports approved by the General Assembly:

- a) Report on “Black Sea Environmental Protection: New Challenges”
(Doc.GA17/EC16/REP/01)
- b) Report on “Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening the Rule of Law”
(Doc.GA17/LC17/REP/01)
- c) Report on “The Legal Framework of the Protection of Migrant Workers in the Black Sea countries and the relations between Immigrant Communities and the Host Country”
(Doc.GA17/CC16/REP/01)
- d) Report on the implementation of the PABSEC Recommendation 48/2000 on the “Organisation of the Children and Youth Festival of the BSEC Member-States”
(Doc.GA17/REP/CYF/01)
- e) Report on the Meeting of the PABSEC Organising Committee of the Children and Youth Festival
(Doc. GA17/REP/CYFOC/01)
- f) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly
(Doc.GA17/PROG/01)