



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
PABSEC

Istanbul, 14 December 2001

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Eighteenth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Sofia on 4-6 December 2001 upon the invitation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The General Assembly was opened by Mr. Ognian GERDJIKOV, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria. H.E. Mr. Simeon SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria, addressed the General Assembly. The message to the participants in the Plenary Session by Mr. Anatoliy ZLENKO, Chairman-in-Office of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, was presented by the Ambassador Olexander MOTSYK, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. *The Chairman* of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria.
2. *National delegations* of all Member Countries: Albania, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey and Ukraine.
3. *Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and Related Bodies:*
 - *BSEC:* the representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
 - *Black Sea Trade and Development Bank:* Secretary General of the BSTDB
 - *International Centre for Black Sea Studies:* Director General of the ICBSS

4. Observers:

National Parliaments: Delegations of the German Bundestag, the Knesset of Israel, the National Council of the Slovak Republic.

Parliamentary Assemblies: Representatives of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Guests: the National Assembly of Belarus, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union, the Black Sea Universities Network and the Black Sea Region Association of Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers.

5. PABSEC International Secretariat.