

Istanbul, 20 June 2003

FOREWORD

I. PABSEC SUMMIT

The Summit of the Presidents of the Parliaments of the PABSEC Member-Countries was held in Chisinau, on 10 June 2003, within the framework of the 21st General Assembly upon the decision of the 27th Meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly taking up the subject: *The Ten Years' Experience of PABSEC: Achievements and Prospects*.

Mrs. Eugenia Ostapciuc, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Nicolae Vacaroiu, President of the Senate of Romania, Mr. Sergey Mironov, Chairman of the Council of Federation of the Russian Federation, Mrs. Makbule Ceco, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania, Mr. Arif Ragim-Zade, Deputy Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Blagovest Sendov, Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Panayotis Sgouridis, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Gennady Vasiliev, First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and special representatives - Mr. Malkhaz Baramidze (Parliament of Georgia) and Mr. Salih Kapusuz (Grand National Assembly of the Turkish Republic) delivered statements and signed *the Declaration on the Tenth Anniversary of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation*.

II. PLENARY SESSION

OPENING CEREMONY

The Twenty First General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Chisinau on 10-12 June 2003 upon the invitation of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mrs. Eugenia OSTAPCIUC, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. H.E. Mr. Vladimir Voronin, President of the Republic of Moldova, addressed the General Assembly. The message addressed to the General Assembly by Mr. Vilayet GULIYEV, Chairman-in-Office of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, was presented by Mr. Taliat ALIYEV, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Moldova.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. ***Presidents*** of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, of the Senate of Romania and the ***Chairman*** of the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
2. ***National delegations*** of: the Republic of Albania, 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 the 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:*** the External Relations Manager
 - ***International Centre for Black Sea Studies:*** the Director General
4. ***Observers:*** Delegations of the National Assembly of the Republic of France, of the German Bundestag, of the Knesset of the State of Israel, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of the Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States.
5. ***Guests:*** the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union.

GENERAL DEBATE

The General Debate was devoted to "The Role of Parliaments in the Economic Development and the Consolidation of Stability in the PABSEC Member - Countries".

The Heads of National Delegations, representatives of the observers from German Bundestag, the Knesset of State of Israel, the European Parliament, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union took part in the General Debate.

The speakers underlined that during the decade of the PABSEC activities, the Member States have undertaken major steps in direction of economic development and strengthening of stability. Now they joined their efforts for the implementation of the the BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future.

They stressed the role of parliaments in the adoption of appropriate legislation, securing development of economy and possibilities for economic cooperation among the countries of the region, as well as the necessity of harmonisation of legislation with the EU in connection with entering of some PABSEC Member Countries into that organisation and speeding up integration with Europe. It was mentioned that the Parliamentary Assembly assists the parliaments of the Member States in elaboration and adoption of harmonised legislation. The PABSEC recommendations are directed first of all at deepening of economic cooperation, strengthening stability and achieving higher degree of integration.

The members of Parliamentary Assembly called to join efforts for consolidation of stability and resolution of conflicts in the PABSEC Member States, which will positively influence the economic development of the countries and of the region as a whole.

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- a) Recommendation 68/2003 on “ Cooperation in the Field of Energy”
(*Doc.GA21/EC20/REC68/03*)
- b) Recommendation 69/2003 on “ Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening Good Governance” (*Doc.GA21/LC21/REC69/03*)
- c) Recommendation 70/2003 on “Role of Culture in the Development of the BSEC Region”
(*Doc.GA21/CC20/REC70/03*)
- d) Recommendation 71/2003 on “ Black Sea Informational Alliance ”
(*Doc.GA21/AD-HOC EC/REC71/03*)

DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- a) Report on “Cooperation in the Field of Energy” (*Doc.GA21/EC20/REP/03*)
- b) Report on “Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening Good Governance”
(*Doc.GA21/LC21/REP/03*)
- c) Report on “Role of Culture in the Development of the BSEC Region”
(*Doc.GA21/CC20/REP/03*)
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (*Doc.GA21/PROG/03*)
- e) The Minutes of the Twentieth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Athens, on 26-28 November 2003
(*Doc. GA20/MIN/02*)

NEW OBSERVERS:

The Assembly warmly welcomed the Application by the Parliamentary Assembly of Belarus-Russia Union for the observer status with the PABSEC (*Doc: INC/176/03*) and endorsed the decision of the Standing Committee to grant observer status.

Mr. Nikolai Cherginets, the representative of the Parliamentary Assembly of Belarus – Russia Union, addressed the Plenary Session.

ORGANISATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION:

The Assembly reviewed the main activities carried out by the BSEC during the last six months and underlined the importance of the Eighth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States held on 18 April 2003 in Yerevan.

The Assembly appreciated the informations provided by the Secretary General, Mr. Valery Chechelashvili on the activities of the Organisation of the BSEC and by Mr. Yannis Papanicolau, Director General of the International Centre for Black Sea Studies. The message by Mr. Mustafa Gurtin, President of the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank was delivered by Mr. Valery Aksenov, External Relations Manager of the BSTDB.

The members of the national delegations took part in the debate, underlining the importance of the BSEC activities in order to speed up economic cooperation process in the Black Sea Region.

The General Assembly considered the Report concerning :

- The Eighth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 18 April 2003, Yerevan (Doc.GA21/REP/BSEC/8MFA/03)

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The Assembly approved the Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2002
(Doc.GA21/AUDR/03)

NEW CREDENTIALS:

The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the delegations of Moldova and Turkey
(Doc.GA21/CRED/03)

ELECTIONS:

- **Election of three Vice-Presidents of the Assembly**

The Assembly elected Mr. Nicolae BONDARCIUK (Moldova), Mr. Vladimir AVERCHENKO (Russia) and Mr. Sahil KAPUSUZ (Turkey) as Vice-Presidents of the Assembly for two years' term of office.

- **Election of Treasurer of the Assembly**

The Assembly elected Mr. Oleg SALMIN (Ukraine) as the Treasurer of the Assembly for two years' term of office.

ROTATION OF THE PRESIDENCY:

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Twenty First Plenary Session in Chisinau, on 12 June 2003, Mr. Nicolae VACAROIU, the President of the Senate of the Parliament of Romania, assumed the six-months' term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

THE 2003 AUTUMN PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Assembly decided to hold 2003 Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly in Bucharest, on 9-11 December 2003.

The General Assembly took note of:

- The Information on the work of the ad-hoc Working Group on the Revision of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure (Doc. GA21/LC-WG/REP/03)
- The Report on “ The Creation of a Black Sea Knowledge - Based Information Society - Objective Process of the Globalisation of the Black Sea Region Economics” (Doc.GA21/AD-HOC EC/IS-CIT/REP/03)
- The Information on the Third Children and Youth Festival of the BSEC Member-States “Golden Ferry” presented by the Organising Committee of the Festival
- The information on the Third International Festival for the Arts and Crafts of the Children from the Member States of the Organisation of the BSEC ” Let’s Change the World to the Better” (Doc.GA21/BP/CC20/ARTEK/03)

III. STANDING COMMITTEE

1. *The Twenty-first Meeting of the Standing Committee* positively assessed the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the second half of 2003 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the 2003 Autumn General Assembly as well as the Proposals of the Romanian National Delegation for the forthcoming PABSEC Presidency.

The main subjects:

General Debate: “The increased involvement by parliaments in promoting commercial and business opportunities in the Black Sea region”.

a) Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:

- “Shaping a European Economic Space”

c) Legal Affairs and Political Affairs:

- “Black Sea Region within the context of the EU Enlargement”
- “Revision of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure”

d) Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:

- “The Fight against Poverty in the BSEC Member States”

2. *The Twenty first Meeting of the Standing Committee:*

- **approved** the following documents:

a) Minutes of the of the Twentieth Meeting of the Standing Committee
(Doc. SC20/MIN/02)

b) Application by the Parliamentary Assembly of Belarus-Russia
Union for the observer Status with the PABSEC (Doc. INC/176/03)

c) The PABSEC’s Activities in the second half of 2003
(Doc.SC21/BP/ACT/03)

d) Working Plan of the PABSEC Committees (Doc.SC21/BP/PLAN/03)

e) Draft Budget for the Financial Year 2004 (Doc.GA22/BUDG04/03)

- **considered the** Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2002
(Doc.GA21/AUDR/03)

- **took note** of :

a) Receipt of Contributions to the 2003 Budget (Doc. SC21/CONT/03)

b) The information on the work of the ad-hoc Working Group on the Revision of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure (25-26 Mart 2003, Istanbul)

- **decided** to organize the third meeting of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on revision of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure in Istanbul in September 2003.

- **endorsed** the following documents:

a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc. GA21/PROG/03)

- b) Draft Agenda (*Doc.GA21/AG/03*) and Draft Order of Business (*Doc.GA21/OB/03*) of the Twenty first Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly
- **adopted** the Calendar 2003 (*Doc. SC21/CAL/03*)

3. The Twenty First Meeting of the Standing Committee took note of the participation between 29 November 2002 – 10 June 2003 by PABSEC representatives in:

A – International Meetings

- a) Mr. Salih Kapusuz, Head of the PABSEC Turkish Delegation, and Mr. Michael Yemelyanov, Member of the PABSEC Russian Delegation, in the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO organised by the IPU and EP, 17-18 February 2003, Geneva. (*Doc. SC21/REP/EP-IPU/ WTO/03*)
- b) Mrs. Eugenia Ostapciuc, PABSEC President, in the Winter Session of the OSCE PA, 20-21 February 2003, Vienna. (*Doc. SC21/REP/OSCE/03*)
- c) Mr. Blagovest Sendov, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Fourth Annual Conference of the Parliamentary Network of the World Bank, 9-10 March 2003, Athens. (*Doc. SC21/REP/PNWB/03*)
- a) Mr. Necati Çetinkaya, PABSEC Vice-President, and Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Second part of the 2003 Session of the PACE, 31 March - 4 April 2003, Strasbourg. (*Doc. SC21/REP/2PACE/03*)
- b) Mr. Blagovest Sendov, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Second Black Sea Youth Congress, 9-11 May 2003, Sofia. (*Doc. SC21/REP/2BSYC/03*)
- c) Mr. Dan Nicolae Rahau, Chairman of the PABSEC Committee on Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs, in the Third Sub-Regional Conference “Promoting Small and Medium Sized Enterprises”, organized by the OSCE PA and Parliament of Switzerland, 14-16 May 2003, Bern. (*Doc. SC21/REP/3CSME-OSCE/03*)

B – BSEC Meetings

- a) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group Meeting on Banking and Finance, 11-12 December 2002, Istanbul.
- b) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group Meeting on Marine Transports Experts, 11-12 February 2003, Istanbul.
- c) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group Meeting on Emergency Assistance, 19-20 February 2003, Istanbul.
- d) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group Meeting on Energy, 26-27 February 2003, Istanbul.
- e) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meeting of the Committee of the Senior Officials, 12-13 March 2003, Istanbul. (*Doc. SC21/BP/BSEC/MSO/03*)

- f) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Coordination Meeting of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office, BSEC PERMIS, BSEC Related Bodies and Affiliated Centers, 14 Mart 2003, Istanbul.

(SC21/BP/BSEC/COORD1/03)

- g) Mr. Victor Dallakyan, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Eighth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 18 April 2003, (*Doc. SC21/REP/BSEC/8MFA/03*) and Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of the Senior Officials, 16-17 April 2003, Yerevan.

(*Doc. SC21/BP/BSEC-MSO/03*)

- h) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the BSTDB and in the 4th Black Sea Business Day, on 1-2 June 2003, Thessaloniki.

(*Doc: SC21/BP/BSTDB/03*)

- i) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group Meeting on SMEs, 21-22 May 2003, Istanbul.

(*Doc.SC21/BP/WG SME/03*)

C – Elections monitoring

- a) Mrs. Lilia Grigorovytch, PABSEC Vice-President, in monitoring the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Armenia, 25 May 2003, Yerevan.

D- Working Visits

- a) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, on 27 December 2002, TGNA, Ankara
- b) Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, Deputy Secretary General, on 21 - 23 April 2003, for the preparation of the 21st Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly, Chisinau
- c) Mr. Blagovest Sendov, PABSEC Vice- President, and Mr. Shaitdin Aliyev, Chairman of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, European Parliament, 20 May 2003, Brussels

(*Doc. SC21/REP/EP/03*)

- 4. *The Standing Committee decided to hold the Twenty Second Meeting on 9 December 2003, in Bucharest.***

IV. BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY:

The Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Bureau:

a) *Approved the following documents:*

- Report by the Treasurer on the execution of the Assembly's budget (*Doc.BA28/EXE/03*)
- Matters of Procedure of the Twenty First Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (*Doc.BA28/MP/03*)
- Participation by the PABSEC Representatives in the International Gatherings between 13 June 2003 – 12 December 2003 (*Doc. BA28/GATH/03*)

The new PABSEC President was authorised to take decision on the participation by the PABSEC representatives in the international gatherings during this period

- Minutes of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Bureau (Doc.BA27/MIN/03)
- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc.GA21/PROG/03)

b) Endorsed the following documents:

- Examination of New Credentials (Doc.GA21/CRED/03)
- Draft Agenda of the Twenty First Meeting of the Standing Committee
(Doc.SC21/AG/03)

c) ***The Bureau decided*** to hold the Twenty Ninth Meeting on 9 December 2003 in Bucharest.

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