

*Istanbul, 8 December 2004*

## **FOREWORD**

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The Twenty Fourth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Antalya on 24-25 November 2004 upon the invitation of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Bulent Arinc, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. The message addressed to the General Assembly by H.E. Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, was presented by Mr. Erkan Isilgan, Deputy Governor of Antalya. On behalf of the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, a statement was delivered by Mr. Evrypidis Stylianidis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic.

### **PARTICIPATION**

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. **President** of the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro and **Speaker** of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.
2. **National delegations** of Parliaments of : Republic of Albania, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, 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, the Secretary General and two Deputies Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
  - **BSEC Business Council:** the Secretary General.
  - **Black Sea Trade and Development Bank:** the President.
  - **International Centre for Black Sea Studies:** the Director General.

4. **Observers:** Delegations/representatives of the People's Assembly of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the National Assembly of the Republic of France, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union, the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative, NATO Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
5. **Guests:** the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the European Commission, the Government of Moscow and BSEC-URTA.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **1. General debate.**

The two main topics – the BSEC Activities: The Economic Results and Perspectives; and the Role of the Parliaments in Strengthening the Fight against Terrorism – were taken up during the General Debate.

The heads and members of the National Delegations, the Secretary General of the BSEC PERMIS, the Secretary General of the BSEC Business Council, President of the BSTDB, Director General of the ICBSS, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of NATO, the Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of OSCE, the Chairman-in-Office of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative, representative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union, as well as the representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt took part in the General Debate.

The speakers in the debate noted with appreciation the tangible success in the BSEC activities and stressed the importance of further implementation of the BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future. It was noted that the BSEC further expanded the scope of the multilateral cooperation in the region with a new direction of seeking ways and means for increasing contribution to security and stability. It was stated that the discussion of the important issues including energy, transport, communications, trade, economic development, small and medium enterprises, combating crime, visa facilitation, emergency assistance, etc. substantially increased dynamism of the development and strengthened the action-oriented approach. The efforts by the BSEC for paving the way towards more efficient BSEC-EU cooperation were also commended.

It was stressed that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation founded on the mutual interests of the countries promoted development of economic and trade relations and contributed to the fortifying of prosperity of the member nations. Through the participation in the global developments with the aim to achieve the common goals, the BSEC places due attention to the elaboration of concrete measures for realization of regional projects. In this respect, it was noted that the efficient functioning of the Project Development Fund would secure implementation of the joint projects in the Black Sea region and, thus, would make substantial contribution to strengthening of economic cooperation.

It was underlined that the regional integration process facilitated rapprochement of the countries, increase of multidimensional initiatives and participation in joint programmes both at regional and international levels. Development of cooperation and interaction between the BSEC and various international and regional structures such as the World Bank, the UN bodies, TRASECA, CIS, etc. facilitated creation of the milieu of trust, partnership and mutual understanding in the name of promotion our common objectives. At the same time, the important complementary role of the bodies of the BSEC family – BSEC, PABSEC, BSEC BC, BSTDB, ICBSS and the BSEC Coordination Centre for the Exchange of Statistical Data and Economic Information was underlined.

The speakers in the debate also addressed the issue of terrorism as a widespread global concern interconnected with the networks of criminals, traffickers and money-launderers creating a collective danger to the lives of innocent people. It was underlined that internationalisation of terrorism could serve as an example how global risks have outpaced global policies and that terrorism was not solely the problem of one country but of the whole world community. The participants were unanimous that a solution to this problem could only be found through international cooperation aiming at upholding peace, stability and security.

## **2. Recommendations adopted by the General Assembly:**

- a) Recommendation 78/2004 on “Facilitating the Movement of People and Goods across Borders” *(Doc. GA24/EC23/REC78/04)*
- b) Recommendation 79/2004 on “Regional Dimension of the Stability and Security - Perspective of the BSEC Region” *(Doc. GA24/LC24/REC79/04)*
- c) Recommendation 80/2004 on "Preservation and Enhancement of Cultural Heritage in the BSEC Member-States" *(Doc. GA24/CC23/REC80/04)*

## **3. Documents approved by the General Assembly:**

- a) Report on " Facilitating the Movement of People and Goods Across Borders" *(Doc. GA24/EC23/REP/04)*
- b) Report on “ Regional Dimension of the Stability and Security – Perspective of the BSEC Region” *(Doc. GA24/LC24/REP/04)*
- c) Report on "Preservation and Enhancement of Cultural Heritage in the BSEC Member-States ” *(Doc. GA24/CC23/REP/04)*
- d) The Articles of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure approved with consensus by the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee *(Doc. SC24/RULES/04)*
- e) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly *(Doc. GA24/PROG/04)*
- f) The Minutes of the Twenty Third Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Saint-Petersburg, on 1-3 June 2004 *(Doc. GA23/MIN/04)*

## **4. New Members:**

The Assembly unanimously decided on the accession of the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro to the PABSEC on the basis of:

- Application by the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro for the accession to the PABSEC *(Doc: INC/689/04)*

Mr. Zoran Sami, the President of the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro, addressed the Plenary Session.

### ***The General Assembly took note of:***

- ♦ Statement of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States on the BSEC Contribution to Security and Stability, 25 June 2004, Istanbul.
- ♦ The Report on the Eleventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 29 October 2004, Tbilisi.

*(Doc. GA24/REP/BSEC/11MFA/04)*

**5. *Financial matters:***

The Assembly:

- adopted the Budget of the Assembly for the Financial Year 2005  
(*Doc. GA24/BUDG05/04*)
- set up the Draft Budget and Auditing Committee consisting of the representatives of Ukraine, Albania and Armenia.

**6. *New Credentials:***

The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the delegations of Georgia, Serbia and Montenegro and Turkey.  
(*Doc. GA24/CRED/04*)

**7. *Election of a the two Vice-Presidents of the Assembly:***

- The Assembly elected Mrs. Makhbule Ceco, Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania, Head of the PABSEC Albanian Delegation, as PABSEC Vice-President for two-year term of office.
- The Assembly elected Mr. Mustafa Bas, Head of the PABSEC Turkish Delegation as PABSEC Vice-President of the Assembly to complete the two-year term of office of Mr. Salih Kapusuz (Turkey), until June 2005.

**8. *Rotation of the Presidency:***

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Twenty Fourth Plenary Session in Antalya, on 25 November 2004, Mr. Volodymyr Lytvyn, the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, assumed the six-months' term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

**9. *The 2005 Spring Plenary Session of the General Assembly:***

The Assembly decided to hold 2005 Spring Plenary Session of the General Assembly in Kyiv on 8-9 June 2005.

As for the General Debate the Assembly took note of the suggestion of the PABSEC Ukrainian Delegation that the main title of the item will be communicated later on.

**10. The General Assembly took note of:**

- ♦ Report on the Fourth Conference of the Public Broadcasters of the BSEC Member-States, 1-2 October 2004, Odessa  
(*Doc. GA24/4-RTV/REP/04*)
- ♦ The Fifth General Assembly of the Black Sea Capitals' Association, 10-13 October 2003, Moscow  
(*Doc. GA24/5-BSCA/REP/04*)

## STANDING COMMITTEE

1. *The Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Standing Committee* adopted the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the first half of 2005 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2005 Spring General Assembly.
2. The main subjects for the Spring Meetings:
  - a) **Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:**
    - ♦ “Economic aspects of resolving environmental problems in the PABSEC Member- States”
  - b) **Legal Affairs and Political Affairs:**
    - ♦ “Institution of Ombudsman in the PABSEC Member-Countries ”
  - b) **Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:**
    - ♦ “Cooperation in the sphere of cultural tourism in the Black Sea region”
3. **The Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Standing Committee:**
  - *approved* the following documents:
    - a) Minutes of the Twenty Third Meeting of the Standing Committee  
(Doc. SC23/MIN/04)
    - b) PABSEC Calendar 2005  
(Doc. SC24/CAL/04)
    - c) Application by Serbia and Montenegro for the accession to the PABSEC  
(Doc: INC/689/04)
  - *reached consensus* on the articles of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure submitted by the Fourth Meeting of the WG and by the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee.  
(Doc. SC24/RULES/04)
  - *endorsed* the following documents:
    - a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc. GA24/PROG/04)
    - b) Draft Agenda (Doc.GA24/AG/04) and Draft Order of Business (Doc.GA24/OB/04) of the Twenty Fourth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly
  - *took note of:*
    - i) the receipt of Contributions to the 2004 Budget (Doc. SC24/CONT/04)
    - ii) the reports concerning the participation by PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between 3 June – 22 November 2004:

### *A – International Meetings*

- a) Mr. Salih Kapusuz, PABSEC Vice-President, in the 13<sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, 29-31 August 2004, Bergen (Norway) (Doc. SC24/BP/13-BSPC/04)
- b) Mr. Nicolae Bondarciuc, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Central European Initiative, 17 September 2004, Ljubljana.  
(Doc. SC24/REP/PACEI-1/04)
- c) Mr. Borislav Ralchev, Head of the PABSEC Bulgarian Delegation, in the 57<sup>th</sup> Rose-Roth NATO PA Seminar, 25-27 September 2004, Ohrid (FYROM).  
(Doc. SC24/REP/57-Rose-Roth/04)

## **B – BSEC Meetings**

- a) Mr. Salih Kapusuz, PABSEC Vice-President, in the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 29 October 2004, Tbilisi.  
(*Doc.GA24/REP/11BSEC/MFA/04*)
- b) Staff of the International Secretariat in the BSEC Working Groups and other meetings:
- ♦ Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, Deputy Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 23-24 June 2004, Istanbul.
  - ♦ Mr. Alexander Furman, Deputy Secretary General, in the informal Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 3-4 September 2004, Batumi (Chakvi) (*Doc. SC24/BP/INF-MSO/04*), and in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 20-21 September 2004, Istanbul (*Doc. SC24/BP/BSEC-MSO/04*).
  - ♦ Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Expert Group on Visa Facilitation for Lorry Drivers, 8-9 June 2004, Istanbul, in the Meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation in Science and Technology, 17-18 June 2004, Istanbul, and in the Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Expert Group on the Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Diplomas/Certificates and Other Evidence of Formal Qualification for Road Haulage Operator and Road Passenger Transport Operator, 1 July 2004, Istanbul. (*Doc.SC24/BP/BSEC/04*)
  - ♦ Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the 6<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the BSEC-URTA, 26 October 2004, Tbilisi (*Doc.SC24/REP/URTA/04*) and in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 27-28 October 2004, Tbilisi. (*Doc.SC24/REP/BSEC-MSO-2/04*)

## **C- Other Gatherings**

- a) Mr. Nicolae Bondarciuc, PABSEC Vice-President, and Mr. Volodymyr Anischuk, Vice-Chairman of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the 7<sup>th</sup> Eurasian Economic Forum, 2-4 September 2004, Istanbul.  
(*Doc.SC24/BP/7-EURAS/04*)
- b) Mr. Oleg Salmin, PABSEC Treasurer, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Black Sea Energy Summit, 4-6 October 2004, Thessaloniki (Greece). (*Doc.SC24/BP/3-BSES/04*)
- c) Mr. Volodymyr Anischuk, Vice-Chairman of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Broadcasters of the BSEC Member-States, 1-2 October 2004, Odessa. (*Doc.GA24/BP/4BSEC-RTV/04*)
- d) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Black Sea Capitals, 11-12 October 2004, Moscow.  
(*Doc.GA24/BP/5BSCA/04*)

## **D – Elections Monitoring**

- a) Mr. Evgeny Chachev, PABSEC Vice-President, in monitoring the presidential elections in Ukraine, 31 October 2004, Kyiv. (*Doc.INC/752/04*)

## **E – Working Visits**

- a) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, GNAT, 27 August 2004, Ankara.
- b) Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, Congress Centre “Atlantis”, 23 September 2004, Antalya.
- c) Mr. Salih Kapusuz, PABSEC Vice-President, Mr. Mustafa Bas, Head of the PABSEC Turkish Delegation, and Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, visit to the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro, 22 October 2004, Belgrade.
- d) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, and Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, Verkhovna Rada, 26 October 2004, Kyiv.

**4. *The Standing Committee decided to hold its Twenty Fifth Meeting on 7 June 2005, in Kyiv.***

### **BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY**

#### **The Thirty First Meeting of the Bureau**

***a) Approved the following documents:***

- Minutes of the Thirtieth Meeting of the Bureau (Doc.BA30/MIN/04)
- Report by the Treasurer on the execution of the Assembly’s budget (Doc.BA31/EXE/04)
- Matters of Procedure of the Twenty Fourth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (Doc.BA31/MP/04)
- Participation by the PABSEC Representatives in the International Gatherings between 26 November 2004 – June 2005 (Doc. BA31/GATH/04)

The new PABSEC President was authorised to take decision on the participation by the PABSEC representatives in the international gatherings during this period. The decision on the participation by the staff of the International Secretariat will be taken by the Secretary General.

***b) Endorsed the following documents:***

- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc.GA24/PROG/04)
- Examination of New Credentials (Doc.GA24/CRED/04)
- Draft Agenda of the Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Standing Committee (Doc.SC24/AG/04)

***c) Appointed*** Mr. Anar Rahimov as the Secretary of the Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee for a term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2005.

**d) *Decided:***

- ◆ to hold the Thirty Second Meeting on 7 June 2005 in Kyiv.
- ◆ to postpone discussions on the position of the Researcher/Archivist in the International Secretariat to the Thirty Second Meeting of the Bureau in June 2005.

**e) *Took note of*** the proposal by the Head of the PABSEC Russian Delegation recommending Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev for a new term of office as a Secretary General.

**The additional Meeting of the Bureau:**

- ◆ ***Appointed*** Mrs. Sanya Konstantakopoulou as the Secretary of the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee for a term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2005.

**Ad-Hoc Meeting of the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee**

In conformity with the PABSEC Rules of Procedure the Committee elected for a term of office of two years:

- ◆ Mr. Jan Husarik (Serbia and Montenegro) – Chairman of the Committee
- ◆ Mr. Vladimir Badalyan (Armenia) – Vice-Chairman of the Committee.