

Istanbul, 12 June 2006

FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Twenty Seventh Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Yerevan on 6-8 June 2006 upon the invitation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Tigran Torosyan, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia. The message of H.E. Mr. Robert Kochariyan, President of the Republic of Armenia, was delivered to the participants to the Plenary Session by Mr. Vigen Sarkisyan, Assistant to the President. Mr. Nikolai Pavlov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Armenia presented the message addressed to the General Assembly by H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. **Chairman** of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia.
2. **National delegations** of the Parliaments of : Republic of Albania, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Republic of Turkey and Ukraine.
3. **Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Related Bodies:**
 - **BSEC:** the representatives of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office; the Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
 - **International Centre for Black Sea Studies:** the Legal Advisor.
4. **Observers:** Delegations/representatives of the National Assembly and the Senate of the French Republic, the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the European Parliament (EP), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union (PABRU), Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of the Independent States, Interparliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community.
5. **Guests:** the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, the Union of Road Transport Associations in the Black Sea Economic Region (BSEC-URTA), the East-West Institute, the Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia, the Black Sea NGO Network.

THE PLENARY SESSION

General debate.

The topic of the General Debate was “Energy Security in the Black Sea Region”.

The Chairman of the National Assembly of Armenia, the heads and members of the National Delegations, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the representatives of the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, the Senate of the French Republic, as well as the IPACIS and the PABRU, took part in the General Debate.

The speakers in the debate stressed that the Black Sea region offers great opportunities for cooperation especially in the energy sector, which includes electricity, as well as oil and gas. The energy is considered a major factor of regional economic development in the Black Sea Region, containing countries rich in energy resources and efficient transit routes.

The participants emphasized that the social and economic sustainable development of the Black Sea region depends on ensuring the necessary energy resources. Thus, the dialogue among all the countries participating in the energy market has a great importance and has to rely on the realities of the market, as well as on each country’s specific conditions.

It was mentioned that the economic transformations in the majority of the BSEC countries in the past years have created a framework for effective and coherent actions in the field of energy that the parliaments may undertake in the nearest future. The participants highlighted that one of the priorities in this field for the BSEC countries should be the synchronization of their energy systems and the establishment of an electric power network in the region.

The participants proposed the elaboration of an Action Plan which may contribute to the creation of an “Electric Power Network of the Black Sea Region”, in accordance with the principles of the European Energy Charter and which will comprise all the PABSEC countries. It would be necessary to create a new special PABSEC structure, which will elaborate the above-mentioned plan and to offer concrete solutions in this field of extreme importance for all the PABSEC countries.

The speakers also mentioned the importance of the Treaty for the Creation of the Energy Community between the EU member countries and the South-Eastern European countries signed in Athens in October 2005. They stressed that the development of the Black Sea Region is part of establishing a common European energy market and it can positively influence not only the South-Eastern European countries, but also the Black Sea region countries.

It was stated that both the European Union and the Black Sea countries have a mutual interest in resolving the energy security problems, which will have in the nearest future pan-European implications. There is a need for a better international cooperation in upgrading energy infrastructure, increasing the efficiency in using energy and improving the communication between governments, the business community and the NGO’s. The PABSEC member countries should also intensify their efforts in order to increase the investments in the field of energy, ensuring thus the development and the prosperity of their people and the whole Black Sea region.

2. Recommendations adopted by the Plenary Session:

- a) Recommendation 87/2006 on “Cooperation in the fight against economic crime in the Black Sea region”
(Doc. GA27/EC26/REC87/06)
- b) Recommendation 88/2006 on “Role of the civil society in the Black Sea economic cooperation process”
(Doc. GA27/LC27/REC88/06)
- c) Recommendation 89/2006 on "The dialogue among culture as mean to build trust among the nations"
(Doc. GA27/CC26/REC89/06)
- d) Recommendation 90/2006 on “Cooperation in combating the bird flu in the Black Sea region”
(Doc. GA27/EC26/REC90/06)

3. Documents approved by the Plenary Session:

- a) Report on "Cooperation in the fight against economic crime in the Black Sea region"
(Doc. GA27/EC26/REP/06)
- b) Report on “Role of the civil society in the Black Sea economic cooperation process”
(Doc. GA27/LC27/REP/06)
- c) Report on “The dialogue among culture as mean to build trust among the nations”
(Doc. GA27/CC26/REP/06)
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly
(Doc. GA27/PROG/06)
- e) The Minutes of the Twenty Sixth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Tirana, on 22-24 November 2005
(Doc. GA27/MIN/06)

4. The General Assembly took note of:

- ◆ Bucharest Statement: BSEC towards its 15th Anniversary
- ◆ Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Environment of the BSEC Member-States
- ◆ BSEC Action Plan for Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection
- ◆ Joint Declaration on the Further Developments in the Field of Transport in the BSEC Region
- ◆ Joint Declaration of the Ministers of Interior/ Public Order of the BSEC Member-States
- ◆ The Report on the Fourteenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 26th April 2006, Bucharest
(Doc. GA27/REP/BSEC/14MFA/06)
- ◆ Statement of the Ombudsmen of the Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

5. Financial matters:

The Assembly approved the Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2005

(Doc. GA27/AUDIT05/06)

6. New Credentials:

The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the delegations of Azerbaijan, Romania and Russia.
(Doc. GA26/CRED/05)

7. Election of a Vice-President of the Assembly:

- The Assembly elected Mr. Ivan BOKYI, Member of the PABSEC Ukrainian Delegation, as Vice-President of the Assembly, to complete the two-year term of office of Mr. Oleg SALMIN (Ukraine), until June 2007.

8. Rotation of the Presidency:

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session in Yerevan, on 8 June 2006, Mr. Ogtay ASADOV, the Chairman of the Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, assumed the six-months' term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

9. The 2006 Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly:

The Assembly decided to hold its 2006 Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly in Baku on 21-23 November 2006.

STANDING COMMITTEE

1. The Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee adopted the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the second half of 2006 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2006 Autumn General Assembly.

The main subjects for the Autumn Meetings are:

a) Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:

- “Alternative energy sources and their possible application in the Black Sea Region”
- “Optimizing international efforts for enhancing study on mitigation and minimization of the consequences of Chernobyl catastrophe”

b) Legal and Political Affairs:

- “Strengthening the legislative framework for protection of intellectual property”
- “Proposal on changes to the PABSEC Rules of Procedure”

c) Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:

- “The process of globalization and the potential threat to the cultural diversity”

2. The Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee:

- **approved** the following documents:
 - a) Minutes of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee
(Doc. SC27/MIN/06)
 - b) PABSEC Calendar 2006
(Doc. SC27/CAL/06)
 - c) Information on the examination of new credentials
(Doc. GA27/CRED/06)
 - d) PABSEC Draft Budget for the Financial Year of 2007
(Doc. GA28/BUDG07/06)
- **considered** the Auditing Report for the Financial Year of 2005
(Doc. GA27/AUDIT05/06)
- **endorsed** the following documents:

- a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc. GA27/PROG/06)
- b) Draft Agenda of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session (Doc. GA27/AG/06)
- **took note of:**
 - i) The receipt of Contributions to the 2006 Budget (Doc. SC26/CONT/05)
 - ii) The reports concerning the participation by PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between November 2005– June 2006:

A – International Meetings

- a) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Conference “The EU and the Black Sea”, 24 February 2006, Paris.
(Doc. SC27/REP/EUBS/06)
- b) Mr. Andrian-Sirojea Mihei, Vice-Chairman of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Committee, in the Conference on Interregional Cooperation of the Black Sea Basin, 30 March 2006, Constanza (Romania).
(Doc. SC27/BP/PACE-1/06)
- c) Mr. Mustafa Bas, PABSEC Vice-President, in the second part of the PACE Session, 10-13 April 2006, Strasbourg.
- d) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Fourth Session of the Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member-States, 12-13 April 2006, Istanbul.
(Doc. SC27/PUIC/06)
- e) Mr. Edmond Spaho, PABSEC Vice-President, in the 62nd Rose-Roth Seminar of the NATO PA, 22-24 April 2006, Tirana.
- f) Mr. Artur Baghdasaryan, PABSEC President, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, in the ceremonies and the International Conference on European Parliamentarianism: History and the Present, on the occasion of the centenary of the establishment of the State Duma in Russia, 27-28 April 2006, Saint-Petersburg.
- g) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Seminar on Supranational Parliamentary and Inter-Parliamentary Assemblies in the 21st Century Europe, 8-9 May 2006, Warsaw.
(Doc. SC27/REP/ECPRD/06)
- h) Prof. Konstantinos Agorastos, PABSEC Vice-President, and Mr. Nicolae Bondarciuc, Head of the PABSEC Moldovan Delegation, in the 9th Eurasian Economic Summit, 8-10 May 2006, Istanbul.
(Doc. SC27/BP/9-EURAS/06)

B – BSEC Meetings

- a) Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Head of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, in the 14th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 26 April 2006, Bucharest.
(Doc. GA27/REP/14BSEC/CMFA/06)
- b) Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Head of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, in the Meeting of Ministers of Environment of the BSEC Member-States, 3 March 2006, Bucharest.
- c) Mr. David Saganelidze, Vice - Chairman of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the Ministers of Interior / Public Order of the BSEC Member States, 24 March 2006, Bucharest.

- d) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Coordination Meetings of the BSEC Chairmanships-in-Office, Related Bodies and BSEC PERMIS, 12 December 2005 and 1 June 2006, Istanbul, in the Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials and BSEC Related Bodies with representatives of EU Institutions, 11 April 2006, Brussels.
- e) Staff of the International Secretariat in the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, Working Groups and other meetings:
- ◆ Ms. Sanya Konstantakopoulou, Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group of Experts for Interconnecting of the Electric Networks, 19-20 December 2005, Istanbul
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC/AD-ELCTR/05*)
 - ◆ Ms. Cosmina Moldovan, Researcher-Archivist of the PABSEC International Secretariat, in the WG on Institutional Renewal of Good Governance, 14-15 February 2006, Istanbul.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-WG-IRGG/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Ad-Hoc Group of Experts for Cooperation in Custom Services, 21-22 February 2006, Istanbul.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC/Ad-Hoc/CUS/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 27-28 February 2006, Istanbul.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-SOM1/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Second Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group of Experts on BSEC- EU Interaction, 1-2 March 2006, Istanbul.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-EU/EXP2/06*)
 - ◆ Ms. Cosmina Moldovan, Researcher-Archivist of the PABSEC International Secretariat, in the BSEC WG on Environmental Protection, 1-2 March 2006, Bucharest.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-WG-ENV/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Seventh Meeting of the Steering Committee of the BSEC Project Development Fund, 3 March 2006, Istanbul
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-STC-PDF/06*)
 - ◆ Ms. Cosmina Moldovan, Researcher-Archivist of the PABSEC International Secretariat, in the the BSEC WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, 21-22 March 2006, Athens
(*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-WG-ST/06*)
 - ◆ Ms. Cosmina Moldovan, Researcher-Archivist of the PABSEC International Secretariat, in the Second Conference of the National Academies of Sciences of the BSEC Member States “Research Potential of the BSEC Countries – ResPot Project”, 6-7 April 2006, Antalya.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/ICBSS-TUBA/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 24-25 April 2006, Bucharest. (*Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-SOM2/06*)
 - ◆ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the 9th Meeting of the BSEC-URTA General Assembly, 11 May 2006, Istanbul.
(*Doc. SC27/BP/9BSEC-URTA/06*)

- ♦ Ms. Sanya Konstantakopoulou, Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the Third Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group of Experts on BSEC- EU Interaction, 15-16 May 2006, Mati /Athens.
(Doc. SC27/BP/BSEC-EU/EXP3/06)

C- Other Gatherings

Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the International Conference “Future Development of Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation as a Contribution to Regional Stability”, 12-13 May 2006, Kyiv.
(Doc. SC27/REP/CONF-BSEC/06)

D – Monitoring of Elections

PABSEC Delegation composed Mr. Mekhak Mkhtaryan (Armenia), Mr. Mikhail Machavariani (Georgia) and Mr. Vladimir Katalnikov (Russia) in the monitoring of the parliamentary elections in Ukraine, 26 March 2006.

E-Working Visits

- a) Mr. Miroslav Quzky, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Headquarters of the PABSEC International Secretariat, 6-7 February 2006, Istanbul.
(Doc.GA27/REP/EP/06)
- b) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, and Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia (preparation to the 27th General Assembly), 3 March 2006, Yerevan.
- c) Mr. Artur Baghdasaryan, PABSEC President, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, and Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Working Meeting of the Chairmen of the Chambers of Parliaments of the Eurasian Economic Community Member States, 28 April 2006, Saint-Petersburg.

3. *The Standing Committee decided to hold its Twenty Eighth Meeting on 21 November 2006, in Baku.*

BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Thirty Fourth Meeting of the Bureau

Considered the following items:

- Minutes of the Thirty Third Meeting of the Bureau (Doc.BA33/MIN/06)
- Draft Order of Business of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session Assembly
(Doc.GA27/OB/06)
- Report by the Vice-President on Financial Matters on the execution of the Assembly’s budget
(Doc.BA34/EXE/06)
- Matters of Procedure of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly
(Doc.BA34/MP/06)
- Elections of a Vice-President of the Assembly

- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly *(Doc.GA27/PROG/06)*
- Draft Agenda of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee *(Doc.SC27/AG/06)* and the Draft Agenda of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session *(Doc.GA27/AG/06)*
- Participation by the PABSEC Representatives in the International Gatherings between June-November 2006 *(Doc. BA34/GATH/06)*

The new PABSEC President was authorized to take decisions 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.

The Thirty Fifth Meeting of the Bureau will take place on 21 November 2006 in Baku.

The Ad-Hoc Meeting of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee:

- Discussed and **approved** the Draft Recommendation 90/2006 on “Cooperation in combating the bird flu in the Black Sea region” *(Doc. GA27/EC26/REC90/06)* and submitted the document for the approval of the Plenary Session