

Istanbul, 28 November 2006

## FOREWORD

### OPENING CEREMONY

The Twenty Eighth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Baky on 21-23 November 2006 upon the invitation of the Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Ogtay Asadov, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Chairman of the Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The message of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, was delivered to the participants to the Plenary Session by Mr. Novruz Namedov, Head of International Relations Department of the Presidential Staff. Mr. Milorad Sekulic, Special Representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office presented the message addressed to the General Assembly by H.E. Mr. Vuk Draskovic, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia.

### PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Chairman of the Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
2. *National delegations* of the Parliaments of : Republic of Albania, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Hellenic Republic, Romania, Russian Federation, Republic of Turkey and Ukraine.
3. *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Related Bodies* :
  - *BSEC*: the representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office; the Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
  - *International Centre for Black Sea Studies*: the Alternative Director General.
4. *Observers*: Delegations/representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the National Assembly and the Senate of the French Republic, the Knesset of the State of Israel, the European Parliament (EP), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of the Independent States (IPACIS), Interparliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community (IPA EurAseC) the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union (PABRU)

5. *Guests:* the European Commission, the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Members States, the Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, the Black Sea University Network (BSUN), the Union of Road Transport Associations in the Black Sea Economic Region (BSEC-URTA), the Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation.

## **THE PLENARY SESSION**

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

The topic of the General Debate was “Ways to enhance the efficiency of the activities of the Organization of the BSEC”.

The heads and members of the National Delegations, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the representatives of the Knesset of the State of Israel, the IPACIS, the PACE, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, as well as the Marmara Foundation, took part in the General Debate.

The speakers in the debate stressed that although BSEC achieved many positive results during almost 15 years of existence, representing an important structure of cooperation and dialogue for the countries of the Black Sea region, it should improve its activity and performance. It was stated that both PABSEC and BSEC should reform their activities in order to meet the new challenges and at the same time they should redefine their priorities on political level and better clarify their targets.

The participants emphasized that the forthcoming accession of Romania and Bulgaria to EU is raising the number of the BSEC Member States which are also EU members. Thus, the European Union will be closer to the Black Sea region and the profile of the region will be enhanced. The BSEC should use this opportunity and reconsider its activities in order to intensify the cooperation and the dialogue with the European Union.

It was also mentioned that in order to have an effective and positive cooperation between the BSEC Member States, the development of economic relations should prevail and not be overshadowed or influenced by the political relations.

The speakers noted that it was important to determine the BSEC position among other regional and international organizations.

Other issues highlighted by the participants were the increase of the role and the contribution of the countries having Observer status to the PABSEC activities, as well as the proposal concerning the simultaneous presidencies of both PABSEC and BSEC. It was also stated that the activities of the PABSEC national delegations in their own parliaments should contribute to a greater degree to the improvement of the PABSEC activities and to the development of the relations among the BSEC Member States.

### **2. *Recommendations adopted by the Plenary Session:***

- a) Recommendation 91/2006 on “Alternative energy sources and their possible application in the Black Sea region” *(Doc. GA28/EC27/REC91/06)*
- b) Recommendation 92/2006 on “Strengthening the legislative framework for protection of intellectual property” *(Doc. GA28/LC28/REC92/06)*
- c) Recommendation 93/2006 on “The process of globalization and the potential threat to the cultural diversity” *(Doc. GA28/CC27/REC93/06)*

### **3. Documents approved by the Plenary Session:**

- a) Report on "Alternative energy sources and their possible application in the Black Sea region" *(Doc.GA28/EC27/REP/06)*
- b) Report on "Strengthening the legislative framework for protection of intellectual property" *(Doc.GA28/LC28/REP/06)*
- c) Report on "The process of globalization and the potential threat to the cultural diversity" *(Doc.GA28/CC27/REP/06)*
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly *(Doc.GA28/PROG/06)*
- e) The Minutes of the Twenty Seventh Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Yerevan, on 7-8 June 2006 *(Doc.GA27/MIN/06)*

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

- a) The Fifteenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 1 November 2006, Moscow. *(Doc.GA28//REP/BSEC/15MFA/06)*
  - ◆ Declaration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States, 1 November 2006, Moscow
  - ◆ Joint Statement of Ministers and Heads of Emergencies and Rescue Governmental Agencies of the BSEC Member States, 6-7 June 2006, Sochi.
  - ◆ Statement of Ministers of Energy of the BSEC Member States, 27 September 2006, Sochi. *(Doc.GA28/REP/BSEC-ENERG/06)*
  - ◆ Joint Declaration on Cooperation in the Sphere of Transport in the BSEC Region 27 September 2006, Sochi. *(Doc.GA28/REP/BSEC-TRANS/06)*
  - ◆ Joint Declaration of the Ministers in charge of Informational Technologies and Communications of the BSEC Member States, 17 October 2006, Moscow.
  - ◆ Memorandum of Understanding on Multilateral Cooperation in the Field of Postal Service
- b) The UN Report "Optimizing international efforts for enhancing study on mitigation and minimization of the consequences of Chernobyl catastrophe" *(Doc.GA28/EC27/IP-UN-CHERNOB/06)*

### **5. Financial matters:**

The Assembly:

- approved the Budget of the Assembly for the Financial Year 2007 *(Doc.GA28/BUDG07/06)*
- set up the PABSEC Draft Budget and Auditing Committee composed of the representatives of Moldova, Greece and Romania.

### **6. New Credentials:**

The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the delegations of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine. *(Doc.GA28/CRED/06)*

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

- The Assembly elected Mr. Asaf HAJIYEV, Head of the PABSEC Azerbaijani Delegation, as Vice-President of the Assembly, for a two-year term of office, until November 2008.

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

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Twenty Eighth Plenary Session in Baky, on 23 November 2006, Mr. Georgi PIRINSKI, the President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, assumed the six-months' term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

#### **9. *The 2007 Spring Plenary Session of the General Assembly:***

The Assembly decided to hold its 2007 Spring Plenary Session of the General Assembly in Sofia on 6-7 June 2007.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE**

- 1. *The Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee*** adopted the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the first half of 2007 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2007 Spring General Assembly.

The main subjects for the Spring Meetings are:

#### **a) Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:**

- “State and prospects of fisheries in the BSEC member states”
- “Cooperation in the field of high technologies among the BSEC states”

#### **b) Legal and Political Affairs:**

- “Partnership and cooperation agreements with the BSEC member states in the context of the enlargement of the European Union”

#### **c) Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:**

- “The Bologna Process and the reforms of higher educational systems in the BSEC countries”
- “Follow up of the Recommendations elaborated by the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee (Greece)”

#### **2. *The Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee:***

- ***approved*** the following documents:

a) Minutes of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee  
(Doc. SC28/MIN/06)

b) PABSEC Calendar 2007  
(Doc. SC28/CAL/06)

c) Information on the examination of new credentials  
(Doc. GA28/CRED/06)

- ***endorsed*** the following documents:

- a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc. GA28/PROG/06)
- b) Draft Agenda of the Twenty Eighth Plenary Session (Doc. GA28/AG/06)
- **took note of:**
  - i) The receipt of Contributions to the 2006 Budget (Doc. SC26/CONT/05)
  - ii) Information on the membership in the PABSEC of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (INC.LET692/09.09.06)
  - iii) The reports concerning the participation by PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June 2006– November 2006:

### A – International Meetings

- a) Mr. Mustafa Bas, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Third part of the PACE Session, 25-30 June 2006, Strasbourg. (Doc. SC28/REP/PACE-3/06)
- b) Mr. Petar Dimitrov, Head of the PABSEC Bulgarian Delegation, in the 15<sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, 3-5 September 2006, Reykjavik. (Doc. SC28/REP/BSPC-15/06)
- c) Mr. Mustafa Bas, PABSEC Vice-President, in the Inaugural Session of the Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly of Mediterranean, 10-11 September 2006, Amman. (Doc. SC28/REP/PAM/06)
- d) Mr. Mikheil Machavariani, Head of the PABSEC Georgian Delegation, in the 115<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the IPU, 16-18 October 2006, Geneva. (Doc. SC28/REP/IPU-115/06)
- e) Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Head of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, in the 64<sup>th</sup> Rose-Roth NATO PA Seminar, 19-21 October 2006, Chisinau. (Doc. SC28/REP/NATOPA-64SEM/06)
- f) Mr. Imamverdi Ismailov, Member of the PABSEC Azerbaijani Delegation, in the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of CEMAT, 26-27 October 2006, Lisbon.
- g) Mr. Asaf Hajiyev, Head of the PABSEC Azerbaijani Delegation, in the CEI PA, 2-3 November 2006, Tirana. (Doc. SC28/REP/CEI/06)
- h) Mr. Ali Temur, Chairman of Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the International Conference on “Black Sea Euroregion”, 3 November 2006, Samsun (Turkey). (Doc. SC28/REP/CLRA-CE/06)
- i) Mr. Asaf Hajiyev, Head of the PABSEC Azerbaijani Delegation, in the Autumn Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, 15-16 November 2006, Moscow.
- j) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the IPA EurAsEC, 15 November 2006, Saint-Petersburg.
- k) Mr. Mustafa Baş, PABSEC Vice-President, and Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary

of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the 27<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the IPACIS, 16-17 November 2006, Saint-Petersburg.

## **B – BSEC Meetings**

- a) Mr. Alexander Dzasohov, Head of the Russian PABSEC Delegation, and Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meetings of the Ministers of Transport and Energy of the BSEC Member-States, 27 September 2006, Sochi, and in 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 1 November 2006, Moscow.

*(Doc.GA28/REP/BSEC-  
TRANS/06)*

*(Doc.GA28/REP/BSEC-  
ENERG/06)*

*(Doc.GA28/REP/BSEC/15CMF  
A/06)*

- b) Mr. Asaf Hajiyevev, Head of the Azerbaijan PABSEC Delegation, in the BSTDB Meetings and the Black Sea Business Day, 10-12 June 2006, Baky.

- c) Staff of the International Secretariat in the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, Working Groups and other meetings:

- ◆ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Meetings of the WG on SMEs, 4-5 July 2006, of the WG on Environmental Protection, 6-7 July 2006, of the Ad-Hoc Working Group with the Task to explore the opportunities for cooperation among Customs Services, 9-10 October 2006, and of the WG on Cooperation in Tourism, 17-18 October 2006, Istanbul.

*(Doc.SC28/BP/BSEC/ BSEC-WG-SME  
/06)*

*(Doc.SC28/BP/BSEC/BSEC-WG-ENV  
/06)*

*(Doc. SC28/BP/BSEC/AHG-  
CUST/06)*

*(Doc.SC28/BP/BSEC/ BSEC-WG-TOU  
/06)*

- ◆ Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Annual ICBSS Conference on the Black Sea Region Issues, 7-8 July 2006, Rhodes (Greece). *(Doc. SC28/BP/ICBSS/CONF06)*

- ◆ Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 3-4 October 2006, Istanbul, and 30-31 October 2006, Moscow. *(Doc. SC28/BP/BSEC-SOM3/06)*

- ◆ Ms. Sanya Konstantakopoulou, Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the WG on Education, 11-12 October 2006, Athens.

*(Doc. SC28/BP/BSEC/WG-  
ED/06)*

### **C- Other Gatherings**

- a) Mr. Borislav Ralchev, Chairman of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the Congress of BSUN, 20-21 September 2006, Varna (Bulgaria).

*(Doc.*

*SC28/REP/BSEC/BSUN/06)*

### **D -Working Visits**

- a) Mr. Bülent Tanla, Reporter of the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, Headquarters of the PABSEC International Secretariat, 14 August 2006, Istanbul.
- b) Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, 15 August 2006, Giresun, (preparation to the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee).
- c) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, and Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 5 September 2006, Baky (preparation to the 28<sup>th</sup> General Assembly).

- *Instructed* the International Secretariat to prepare till the next meeting of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee an Agreement of Collaboration between PABSEC and the Marmara Foundation.

3. *The Standing Committee decided to hold its Twenty Ninth Meeting on 5 June 2007, in Sofia.*

## **BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY**

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

#### *Considered the following items:*

- Minutes of the Thirty Fourth Meeting of the Bureau *(Doc.BA34/MIN/06)*
- Draft Order of Business of the Twenty Eighth Plenary Session Assembly

*(Doc.GA28/OB/06)*

- Report by the Vice-President on Financial Matters on the execution of the Assembly's budget

*(Doc.BA35/EXE/06)*

- Matters of Procedure of the Twenty Eighth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly  
*(Doc.BA35/MP/06)*
- Elections of a Vice-President of the Assembly
- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly  
*(Doc.GA28/PROG/06)*
- Draft Agenda of the Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee  
*(Doc.SC28/AG/06)* and the Draft Agenda of the Twenty Eighth Plenary Session  
*(Doc.GA28/AG/06)*
- Participation by the PABSEC Representatives in International Gatherings between November 2006 - June 2007  
*(Doc. BA35/GATH/06)*

The new PABSEC President was authorized to take decisions on the participation by the PABSEC representatives in 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 Sixth Meeting of the Bureau will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007 in Sofia.*