The Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

THE FOURTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDATION 5 / 1994

ON

"THE BLACK SEA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH"

The State of the Black Sea Ecosystems
with a Special Focus on Environmental Geology

I. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

1. Restates its determination to give utmost importance to the potential of the Participating States and the opportunities for enhancing the mutually advantageous economic cooperation as stated in the "Summit Declaration."

2. Conscious of the importance of the environmental problems of the Black Sea region, recognizes the vitality of ensuring environmental sustainability for the economic development and well-being of the region and its inhabitants and reiterates its determination to make the best use of all possibilities and opportunities for expanding and multiplying the cooperation on the Black Sea environmental issues.

3. Supports the principles of the Odessa Declaration and the Bucharest Convention and its three protocols as well as other international and regional agreements favoring the environmental well-being of the Black Sea region.

4. Encourages closer cooperation with the Global Environment Facility, affiliated with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Bank, in charge of coordinating the Programme for the Environmental Management and Protection of the Black Sea, as well as with the European Union and relevant regional and international Parliamentary Assemblies.

II. The Assembly, therefore,

1. Urges and Recommends the National Parliaments and the Governments of the BSEC member countries:

   a. To ensure coherent cooperation and collaboration of the joint activities, programs and projects in order to stop the dramatic social and economic losses due to environmental pollution of the Black Sea region.

   b. To encourage close cooperation among PABSEC, BSEC and GEF (Global Environment Facility) within the spectrum of the Black Sea Action Plan regarding the conduct and progress of environmental projects.

   c. To ensure the speedy adoption and implementation of the principles of the Odessa Ministerial Declaration and the Bucharest Convention.

2. Calls on specifically the National Parliaments:

   a. To enact and enforce legislation, taking into account all relevant international and regional agreements, declarations and conventions for the preservation, conservation, protection and betterment of the environment in the Black Sea region.

   b. To create broad public awareness at national, regional and international levels for the conservation and protection of the environment in the Black Sea region.

3. Recommends specifically the Governments of the BSEC member countries and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC):

   a. To ensure the implementation and enforcement of the legislation and policies regarding the environmental protection of the Black Sea region.

   b. To actively seek the appropriate sources of credit and funding at governmental and non-governmental levels as well as through international institutions and third parties for implementing specific environmental projects underway or projected of common interest in the Black Sea region.

   c. To take urgent steps for the development of a concrete institutional framework and the concurrent generation of policies to effectively deal with the environmental problems of the Black Sea region.

4. Considering the complexity and urgency of the matter, the Assembly asks the Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee:

   a) To hold a PABSEC Seminar on the Black Sea environmental protection, with a participation of experts of the member countries and the specialized regional and international organizations
b) To seek the elaboration of a short and long term Program on the Black Sea environmental protection for the promotion of joint projects aiming at the preservation and development of the Black Sea bio-productive potential.