FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Thirtieth General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Tbilisi on 10-12 December 2007 upon the invitation of the Parliament of Georgia.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Mikheil MACHAVARIANI, Acting Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia, PABSEC Vice-President. The BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office message addressed to the General Assembly was presented by Mr. Kostyantyn Yelisieiev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. The Leadership of the Parliament of Georgia.


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.
   - **BSTDB**: the President
   - **ICBSS**: the Alternate Director General

4. Observers: Delegations/representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the Senate and the National Assembly of the French Republic, the Assembly of the Western European Union (AWEU), the European Parliament (EP), the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative (CEI PD), the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Community of Independent States (IPACIS), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Interparliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community (IPA EurAsEC), and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus-Russia (PAUBR).

5. Guests: the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IPA0), the WHO, BSEC-URTA, BSUN, BSUF and the Marmara Foundation.
THE PLENARY SESSION

1. General debate.

The topic of the General Debate was “Contribution of Energy Security to Economic Growth and Overall Security in the Black Sea Region”.

The heads and members of the National PABSEC Delegations, Senate of the French Republic, representatives of the IPA EurAsEC and the PAUBR, took part in the General Debate, referring to the experience of their countries and organisations within the context of energy security.

The participants stated that currently the relevance of these issues on the political and economic agenda of the Black Sea region, as well as the necessity to fully utilise the transit potential of the area are obvious.

They mentioned the strategic importance of the Black Sea region as a production and transmission area, as well as the need for diversification and security of energy supply not only of the energy transport corridors, but also of the energy sources. Due to the current environmental situation in the Black Sea region, the speakers urged the BSEC Member States to develop and use friendly environmental technologies in the field of energy, and to enhance the cooperation in order to fight against the climate change.

During the debate, it was launched the idea of creating a common data base in the field of energy strategy. The speakers stressed that due to the fact that the current resources are limited, it is vital to think about the future and through collaboration and cooperation, to find new sources of energy. The Russian PABSEC Delegation expressed its readiness to prepare a report on this issue.

The participants also referred to the adoption by the EP on 26 September 2007 of the Resolution “Towards a Common European Foreign Policy on Energy”, conceived as a contribution to the guaranteeing energy security for the whole of the EU and ensuring the sustainability at international level.

The speakers highlighted that given the energy interdependence of all Black Sea countries and their key role in the transit and supply of goods, regional cooperation in the field of energy has become crucial during the recent years. The growing significance of the region in the world energy market must be properly assessed and realized by all concerned parties in order to create reliable and effective coordination activities in the energy sector. The participants welcomed the initiative by the Ukrainian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office to organize a Meeting of the Ministers of Energy in Kyiv in March 2008.

2. Documents adopted by the Plenary Session:

a) Recommendation 98/2007 on “The Priorities of Cooperation between the BSEC Member States in the field of Energy: Oil and Gas spheres”  
(Doc. GA30/EC29/REC98/07)

b) Recommendation 99/2007 on “Global Climate Change: Consequences for the BSEC States”  
(Doc. GA30/LC30/REC99/07)

c) Recommendation 100/2007 on “Improvement of Quality of Life in the BSEC Member States”  
(Doc.GA30/CC29/REC100/07)
3. **Documents approved by the Plenary Session:**

a) Report on "The Priorities of Cooperation between the BSEC Member States in the field of Energy: Oil and Gas spheres "  
(Doc. GA30/EC29/REP/07)

d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly  
(Doc.GA30/PROG/07)

e) The Minutes of the Twenty Ninth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Varna, on 12-14 June 2007  
(Doc.GA30/MIN/07)

f) Statement of the PABSEC in support of the Application of the Republic of Azerbaijan to host the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Baku  
(Doc.GA30/STAT/SOG-2016/07)

4. **The Plenary Session took note of:**

a) Reports of the National Delegations on “The Role of the National Parliaments of the BSEC Member States in the EU Process”

b) Conclusions of the joint PABSEC – ICBSS Seminar “The Role of the Parliaments in Shaping New Relations between the European Union and the Black Sea Region”  
(Doc.GA30/LC/ICBSS/07)

c) The information on the Seventeenth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States, 25 October 2007, Ankara  
(Doc. GA30/REP/BSEC/17CMFA/07)

- Declaration on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary Summit of the BSEC
- Session Statement of the Ministers for Culture of the Member States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, 4 July 2007
- Joint Declaration on Cooperation in the Sphere of Transport in the BSEC Region on the Occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the BSEC, 5 July 2007
- Statement of the Participants of the Meeting of the Undersecretaries and the Heads of Delegations of the Ministries of Education of the BSEC Member States, 28 August 2007
- Istanbul Statement of the Ministers Responsible for Science and Technology of the BSEC Member States, 31 October 2007

5. **Financial matters:**

The Assembly:

- approved the Budget for the Financial Year 2008  
(Doc.GA30/BUDG08/07)
- set up the PABSEC Draft Budget and Auditing Committee composed of the representatives of Russia, Serbia and Turkey.
6. New Credentials:
The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the delegations of Armenia, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia and Turkey. (Doc.GA30/CRED/07)

7. Election of Vice-President of the Assembly:
   • The Assembly elected Mr. Petar Kanev (Bulgaria), as Vice-President of the Assembly to complete the two years’ term of office of Mr. Petar Dimitrov (Bulgaria), until June 2009.

8. Rotation of the Presidency:
   In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Thirtieth Plenary Session in Tbilisi, on 12 December 2007, Mr. Dimitrios Sioufas, the President of the Hellenic Parliament, assumed the six-month’ term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

9. Signing the Protocol of Cooperation with the Marmara Group Foundation
   The Protocol of Cooperation between the PABSEC and the Marmara Foundation was signed by Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, and Mr. Akkan Suver, President of the Marmara Group Foundation.

10. The 2008 Spring Plenary Session of the General Assembly:

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Thirtieth Meeting of the Standing Committee:

1. Adopted the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the first half of 2008 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2008 Spring General Assembly.

   The main subjects for the Spring Meetings are:
   a) Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:
      • “Foreign Investments and Economic Growth in the BSEC Member States”

   b) Legal and Political Affairs:
      • “The Role of the Parliaments of the BSEC Member States in Fighting International Terrorism”

   c) Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:
      • “Social Cohesion within the BSEC Member States: A contribution to Political Stability”
2. Approved the following documents:
   a) Minutes of the Twenty Ninth Meeting of the Standing Committee  
      (Doc. SC29/MIN/07)
   b) PABSEC Calendar 2008  
      (Doc. SC30/CAL/07)
   c) Information on the examination of new credentials  
      (Doc.GA30/CRED/07)
   d) The Work Plan of the PABSEC Committees  
      (Doc.SC30/WPLAN/07)

3. Endorsed the following:
   a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly  
      (Doc. GA30/PROG/07)
   b) Draft Agenda of the Thirtieth Plenary Session  
      (Doc.GA30/AG/07)
   c) The proposal of the Head of the Hellenic PABSEC delegation to organize a Parliamentary Summit in Athens on 27 May 2008, marking the 15th Anniversary of the PABSEC Establishment.
   d) The Draft Declaration on the 15th Anniversary of the PABSEC. The text will be modified subject to the important developments until the date of the Summit and be duly consented with the Speakers of the National Parliaments members of the PABSEC.

4. Took note of:
   i) The receipt of Contributions to the 2007 Budget  
      (Doc. SC30/CONT/07)
   ii) The reports concerning the participation by PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June – December 2007:

   A – International Meetings

   a) Mr. Mikheil Machavariani, PABSEC Vice-President, Head of the PABSEC Georgian Delegation, in the 16th Annual Session of the OSCE PA, 5-7 July 2007, Kyiv  
      (Doc: SC30/BP/16OSCEPA/07)
   b) Mrs. Nino Burjanadze, PABSEC President, and Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Head of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, in the 16th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, 27-28 August 2007, Berlin  
      (Doc: SC30/BP/16BSPC/07)
   c) Mr. Kemalettin Goktas, PABSEC Vice-President, member of the PABSEC Turkish Delegation, in the International Conference “Development of transport infrastructure as a factor of attracting investments in Samara region”, 11-12 September 2007, Samara (Russia).  
      (Doc: SC30/BP/CONF-SAMARA/07)
   d) Mrs. Nino Burjanadze, PABSEC President, in the 117th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, 8-10 October 2007, Geneva
   e) Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Head of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation in the 67th Rose-Roth Seminar “Serbia’s Future in Europe”, 25-27 October 2007, Belgrade  
      (Doc: SC30/BP/67ROSE-ROTH/07)
   f) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee in the 29th Plenary Session of the IPA CIS, 31 October 2007, St. Petersburg  
      (Doc: SC30/BP/29IPACIS/07)
B – BSEC Meetings


b) Mrs. Nino Burjanadze, PABSEC President, Mr. Konstantantinos Agorastos, Member of the PABSEC Greek Delegation, Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General and Mr. Igor Bolbocanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Special Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States and in the 15th Anniversary Summit of the BSEC, 25 June 2007, Istanbul.  
   (Doc: GA30/BP/BSEC-15thSUMM-CMFA/07)

c) Mr. Konstantantinos Agorastos, Member of the PABSEC Greek Delegation, in the Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the BSEC Member-States, 4 July 2007, Sounion (Greece)

d) Mrs. Nino Burjanadze, PABSEC President in the 17th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 25 October 2007, Ankara  
   (Doc: GA30/REP/BSEC-17CMFA/07)

e) Mr. Kemalettin Göktaş, PABSEC Vice-President, member of the Turkish PABSEC Delegation and Mr. Ali Üstündağ, Administrative Officer of the PABSEC International Secretariat in the Midterm Meeting of the Ministers responsible for Science and Technology of the BSEC Member-States, 31 October 2007, Istanbul  
   (Doc: GA30/BP/BSEC-MIN-SCN&TECH/07)

f) Staff of the International Secretariat in the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, Working Groups and other meetings:
   - Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the “Troika” Meeting and the Coordination Meeting of the BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office, BSEC PERMIS and BSEC Related Bodies, 13 November 2007, Istanbul
   - Mr. Igor Bolbocanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 23-24 June 2007, Istanbul
   - Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meetings of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 27-28 September 2007, Istanbul; and 23-24 October, Ankara.  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-CSO/07)
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-TRANS/07)  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-ADWG-EEHCR/07)  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-ENV/07)  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-USA-SYMP/07)  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-PDF/07)  
     (Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-ENERG/07)
   - Ms. Sanya Konstantakopoulou, Secretary of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the WG on Culture, 2-3 July 2007, Sounion
(Greece), in the Meeting of Undersecretaries of Ministers of Educations of the BSEC Member-States, 27-28 August 2007, Istanbul, and in the Meeting of the WG on Cooperation in Tourism 17-18 October 2007, Istanbul

(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-CULT/07)
(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-EDUC/07)
(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-TOUR/07)

- Mrs. Cosmina Moldovan, PABSEC Researcher-Archivist, in the Workshop on “Discussing EU’s Role in Integrating the Black Sea Region”, 8 October 2007, Istanbul

(Doc: SC30/BP/CES-METU/WSH/07)

- Mr. Ali Ustundag, PABSEC Administrative Officer, in the Official ceremony of the 1st Black Sea Games, 2 July 2007, Trabzon (Turkey) and in the BSEC Regional Seminar on Trafficking in Human Beings: Law Enforcement Cooperation in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, 23-24 August 2007, in the WG on SMEs, 4-5 October 2007, in the WG on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance, 5-6 October 2007, Istanbul; in the Meeting of the Ad hoc Expert Group on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen Nationals of the BSEC Member States, 15 October 2007, and in the WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, 30 October 2007, Istanbul

(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-SEM-THB/07)
(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-SME/07)
(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-WG-IRGG/07)
(Doc: SC30/BP/BSEC-AD-VISA/07)
(Doc: SC30/BSEC-WG-SCN-TECH)

C-Other Gatherings


(Doc: SC30/BP/PABSEC-EP/07)


D-Working Visits


b) Mr. Aurel Gabriel Simionescu, Member of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, Headquarters of the PABSEC International Secretariat, 13 August 2007, Istanbul

c) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, to the Parliament of Georgia, 3 September 2007, Tbilisi (preparation to the 30th General Assembly), and TGNA, 19 November 2007, Ankara.

d) Mr. Bilent Arınc, Head of the Turkish PABSEC Delegation, Headquarters of the PABSEC International Secretariat, 5 October 2007, Istanbul

e) Mr. Kemalettin Goktas, PABSEC Vice-President, PABSEC International Secretariat, 31 October 2007
f) Mr. Petko Boyev, Head of the International Relations Department of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, PABSEC International Secretariat, 5 November 2007

5. Considered the proposal by Mr. Georgi Pirinski, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, concerning the introduction of the “Troika” format and instructed the PABSEC Committee on Legal and Political Affairs to discuss this subject at its next meeting in Yerevan in April 2008.

6. Extended the Proposals of the Secretary General on granting the PABSEC Certificate of Merit on the occasion of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Assembly.

7. The Standing Committee decided to hold its next Ordinary Meeting on 27 May 2008 in Athens.

BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Thirty Seventh Meeting of the Bureau:

Approved the following documents:

- Minutes of the Thirty Sixth Meeting of the Bureau (Doc.BA36/MIN/07)
- Draft Order of Business of the Thirtieth Plenary Session Assembly (Doc.GA30/OB/07)
- Matters of Procedure of the Thirtieth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (Doc.BA37/MP/07)

Considered the following items:

- Report by the Vice-President on Financial Matters on the execution of the Assembly’s budget (Doc.BA37/EXE/07)
- Participation of the PABSEC representatives in the international gatherings between December 2007 – June 2008 (Doc.BA37/GATH/07)
- The new PABSEC President was authorized to take decisions on the participation of the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between December 2007 - June 2008. The decision on the participation by the staff of the International Secretariat will be taken by the Secretary General.
- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc.GA30/PROG/07)
- Draft Agenda of the Thirtieth Meeting of the Standing Committee (Doc.SC30/AG/07) and the Draft Agenda of the Thirtieth Plenary Session (Doc.GA30/AG/07)
- Election of Vice-President of the Assembly

Decided:

- To renew the term of office of 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 2008
- To appoint Ms. Evgenia Strati as the Secretary of the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee for a term of office of three years starting with 1 February 2008
- To hold its next Ordinary Meeting on 27 May 2008 in Athens
According to the Plan of Actions on the PABSEC 15th Anniversary, adopted by the 29th Standing Committee held in 12 June 2007 in Varna, an Enlarged PABSEC Bureau Meeting should be organized in February 2008 in Istanbul.

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

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

The Committee elected for a term of office of two years:

- Mr. Alexandros DERMENTZOPOULOS (Greece) – Chairman of the Committee
- Mr. Mehmet CICEK (Turkey) – Vice-Chairman of the Committee.