FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Seventeenth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Baku on 19-21 June 2001 upon the invitation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The General Assembly was opened by Mr. Murtuz Aleskerov, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan. H.E. Mr. Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, addressed a message to the General Assembly. The message to the participants in the Plenary Session by Mr. Ismail Cem, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, was presented by the Ambassador of Turkey in Azerbaijan.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:


3. *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and Related Bodies:*
   - **BSEC:** the representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office and the Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
   - **International Centre for Black Sea Studies:** Director General of the ICBSS

4. *Observers:* Delegations of the Knesset of Israel, the German Bundestag, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States

5. *Guests:* the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union.

6. **PABSEC International Secretariat.**
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. General debate.

The General Debate was devoted to the “Strengthening of Stability in the Black Sea Region and the PABSEC Contribution”.

Heads of national delegations, observers from the Knesset of the State of Israel, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus-Russia Union, as guest took part in the General Debate.

The delegates welcomed the very first participation by the PABSEC Delegation of the Republic of Armenia in a meeting held in Baku as a significant trend towards strengthening friendship and cooperation in the region and increasing the role of the Parliamentary Assembly within the framework of the BSEC Organisation.

2. Recommendations adopted by the General Assembly:

a) Recommendation 49/2001 on “Black Sea Environmental Protection: New Challenges” (Doc.GA17/EC16/REC49/01)

b) Recommendation 50/2001 on “Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening the Rule of Law” (Doc.GA17/LC17/REC50/01)

c) Recommendation 51/2001 on “The Legal Framework of the Protection of Migrant Workers in the Black Sea countries and the relations between Immigrant Communities and the Host Country” (Doc.GA17/CC16/REC51/01)

d) Recommendation 52/2001 on “The Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States” (Doc.GA17/CMFA4/REC52/01)

e) Recommendation 53/2001 on Cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters from the BSEC Member-States (Doc. GA17/REC53/01)

3. Reports approved by the General Assembly:

a) Report on “Black Sea Environmental Protection: New Challenges” (Doc.GA17/EC16/REP/01)

b) Report on “Cooperation among the PABSEC Member-Countries in Strengthening the Rule of Law” (Doc.GA17/LC17/REP/01)

c) Report on “The Legal Framework of the Protection of Migrant Workers in the Black Sea countries and the relations between Immigrant Communities and the Host Country” (Doc.GA17/CC16/REP/01)

d) Report on the implementation of the PABSEC Recommendation 48/2000 on the “Organisation of the Children and Youth Festival of the BSEC Member-States” (Doc.GA17/REP/CYF/01)

e) Report on the Meeting of the PABSEC Organising Committee of the Children and Youth Festival (Doc. GA17/REP/CYFOC/01)

f) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc.GA17/PROG/01)
As for items 3d) and e), the Assembly decided:
• the presentation festival will be held on 23-30 August 2001 in Sochi,
• the Festival on cruise-liner will be organised in August 2002.

4. Other documents approved by the General Assembly:
   a) Application by the German Bundestag for an observer status with the PABSEC

   The Assembly warmly welcomed the application and decided to grant observer status to the
   German Bundestag. Mr. Helmut Lippelt, the representative of the German Bundestag,
   addressed the Plenary Session.

5. Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation:
   The Assembly reviewed the main activities carried out by the BSEC during the last six
   months. Members of the national delegations and the representatives of the Organisation of
   the BSEC and the International Centre for the Black Sea Studies took part in the debate.

   The Assembly underlined the importance of the adoption by the Fourth Meeting of the
   Council of Ministers, held on 27 April 2001 in Moscow, of the BSEC Agenda for the Future
   as well as of the involvement of the PABSEC in drawing up this strategy. The Parliamentary
   Assembly also appreciated the fact that for the first time the Council of Ministers laid down
   the basis for working out the legal documents on the privileges and immunities of the
   PABSEC and on the Host Country Agreement.

   The message by Mr. Ersoy Volkan, President of the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank,
   was presented by the PABSEC Secretary General.

   The General Assembly adopted the following Reports:

   • The Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-
     States, 27 April 2001, Moscow
     (Doc.GA17/REP/BSEC/MFA/01)
   • In his letter of 20 June 2001 the PABSEC President has kindly asked the Presidents of
     the National Parliaments and the BSEC Chairman-in-Office to support the upgrading of
     the institutional legal status of the Parliamentary Assembly as mentioned in
     Recommendation 52/2001, adopted by the Plenary Session, in Baku.
   • The First Meeting of the Public Television Broadcasters from the BSEC Member-States,
     16-17 May 2001, Bucharest
     (Doc.GA17/PABSEC/TV/01)

6. Financial matters:
   The Assembly adopted the Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2000
   (Doc. GA17/AUDR/01)

7. New Credentials:
   The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new PABSEC delegations from Azerbaijan,
   Moldova and Romania as well as the new members of the delegations of Greece, the Russian
   Federation and Turkey (Doc.GA17/CREC/01).

8. Elections:
   • Election of three Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
     The Assembly elected Messrs. Victor Dallakyan (Armenia), Necati Çetinkaya (Turkey)
     and Olexander Puhkal (Ukraine) as PABSEC Vice-Presidents for 2 years’ term of office.
   • Election of the Treasurer of the Assembly
The Assembly elected Mr. Vladimir Averchenko (the Russian Federation) as the Treasurer of the Assembly for 2 years' term of office.

9. Rotation of the Presidency:

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Seventeenth Plenary Session in Baku, on 21 June 2001, the President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria assumed the six-months’ term Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

10. The 2001 Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly:

The Assembly decided that the 2001 Autumn Plenary Session of the General Assembly will be held on 4-6 December 2001, in Sofia.

The main subjects:

- **General Debate: Globalisation and the Black Sea Region’s Challenges**
- **Economic Affairs, Legal Affairs and Social Affairs**: Topics selected by the Committees and endorsed by the Standing Committee in Baku, mentioned below under the chapter of Standing Committee

11. Calendar 2001 (Doc. SC16/CAL/00)

The General Assembly endorsed the decision of the Standing Committee to organise under the PABSEC auspices “The Forum of the Presidents of the Constitutional Courts of the BSEC Member-States”, in Chisinau, in October 2001, upon the initiative of the Moldova PABSEC delegation.

**STANDING COMMITTEE**

1. **The Seventeenth Meeting of the Standing Committee** positively assessed the inclusion on the agenda of the three Committees, in the second half of 2001, of the following subjects:

- **Economic, Commercial, Technological, Environmental Affairs Committee**:
  - "Promoting Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development"
- **Legal and Political Affairs Committee**:
  - "Cooperation among the PABSEC Countries in Promoting Political Stability through Economic Integration"
- **Additional subjects**:
  - “Preliminary Discussion on the Revision of the Rules of Procedure”
  - Reconsideration of the amendment proposal to Article 24/1 of the Rules of Procedure (upon the decision of the General Assembly in Baku) (Doc. GA17/BP/RULES/01)
  - Proposals of the Working Group on the payment of income taxes and the retirement premiums.
- **Cultural Educational and Social Affairs Committee**:
  - " Black Sea Universities Network: Contribution to the BSEC Academic Cooperation"

2. **The Seventeenth Meeting of the Standing Committee**:

- **approved** the following documents:
  - a) Draft Budget for the Financial Year 2002 (Doc. GA17/BUD/01)
  - b) Receipt of Contributions to the Budget 2001 (Doc.SC17/CONT/01)
• endorsed the following documents:
  a) Application by the German Bundestag for an observer status with the PABSEC (Doc.Inc46/01)
  b) Auditing Report for the Financial Year 2000 (Doc.GA17/AUDR/01)
  c) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc.GA17/PROG/01)
  d) Draft Agenda (Doc.GA17/AG/01) and Draft Order of Business (Doc.GA17/OB/01) of the Seventeenth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly

3. The Standing Committee took note of:

• the reports concerning the participation by PABSEC representatives in international gatherings in the first half of 2001:

  A – International Meetings
  a) Mr. Alexander Popovici, PABSEC Vice-President, and the PABSEC Secretary General in the Second Part of the 46th Session of the Assembly of the Western European Union (The Interim Security and Defence Assembly), 4-7 December 2000, Paris (Doc.SC17/REP/WEU46/00)
  b) Mr. Yevgeny Salov, PABSEC Vice-President, in the 16th Plenary Session of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, 8-9 December 2000, Saint-Petersburg (Doc.SC17/REP/IPACIS 16/00)
  c) Mr. Adnan Uçaş, PABSEC Vice-President, in the First Part of the Ordinary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, 22-26 January 2001, Strasbourg (Doc.SC17/REP/PACE/01)
  d) Mr. Dorel-Constantin Onaca, Head of the Romanian PABSEC delegation, in the 49th NATO Parliamentary Assembly Rose-Roth Seminar, 22-24 March 2001, Dubrovnik, Croatia (Doc.SC17/BP/NATOPA49/01)
  e) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, Deputy Secretary General, in the Second Meeting on Regional Cooperation in the Black Sea Region, 29-30 March 2001, Trabzon, Turkey (Doc.SC17/REP/REGCOOP/01)
  f) Mr. Oleksandr Puhkal, Head of the Ukrainian PABSEC Delegation, in the Meeting of the Committee on the Environment and Agriculture of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, 5-6 April 2001, Brussels (Doc.SC17/REP/PACE/01)
  g) Mr. Adnan Uçaş, PABSEC Vice-President, in the 17th Plenary Session of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member-Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, 18-19 April 2001, Saint Petersburg (Doc.SC17/REP/IPACIS 17/01)
  h) Mr. George Petricu, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Symposium on the Black Sea Cooperation, 20-21 April 2001, Paris (Doc.SC17/REP/IDA/01)
  i) Mr. Eleftherios Tziolos, Member of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the PACE Conference “What lifestyles for the 3rd Millennium?”, 4-6 June, 2001, Santorini, Greece (Doc.SC17/REP/PACE/01)
  j) Mr. Theodoros Kassimis, Chairman of the Economic, Commercial, Technological, and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Global Parliamentary meeting on International Trade, 8-9 June 2001, Geneva (Doc.SC17/REP/IPU/01)
B – BSEC Meetings

a) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in its Organised Form, 7-8 December 2000, Istanbul 
   (Doc. SC17/BP/BSEC/WGCCOF/00)

b) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group on Transport, 11-12 December 2000, Istanbul 
   (Doc. SC17/REP/BSEC/WGTRANS/01)

c) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC Working Group on Transport, 26-27 February 2001, Istanbul 
   (Doc.SC17/REP/BSEC/WGTRANS-2/01)

d) Mr. George Petricu, Secretary General and Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the Meeting of the BSEC Senior Officials, 20-23 March 2001, Istanbul 
   (Doc. SC17/REP/BSEC CS0/01)

e) Mr. Vladimir Averchenko, Head of the Russian PABSEC Delegation, in the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member-States, on 30 March 2001, Sochi
   (Doc. GA17/BP/BSEC TRANSP/01)

f) Mr. Vladimir Averchenko, Head of the Russian PABSEC Delegation, and Mr. George Petricu, Secretary General, in the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 27 April, 2001, and the PABSEC Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of the Senior Officials, 25-26 April 2001, Moscow
   (Doc.GA17/REP/BSEC/MFA/01)

g) Mr. George Petricu, PABSEC Secretary General, in the 1st Coordination Meeting of the BSEC PERMIS with the Related Bodies and Affiliated Centres, 31 May – 1 June 2001, Istanbul
   (Doc.SC17/REP/BSEC/CM/01)

h) Ms. Panagiota Manoli, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC WG on Transport, on 14-15 June 2001 Istanbul
   (Doc. SC17/REP/BSEC/WGTRANS-3/01)

C – Other Meetings

a) Mr. Yashar Aliyev, PABSEC Vice-President, Mr. George Petricu, Secretary General, and Mrs. Naira Khnkoyan, Secretary of the Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, in the First Meeting of the Presidents of the Public Television Broadcasters of the BSEC Member-States, 16-17 May 2001, Bucharest
   (Doc.GA17/REP/PABSEC-TV/01)

   (Doc. SC17/REP/WG/ELI/01)

D – Working Visits

a) Mr. George Petricu, PABSEC Secretary General, in Baku, on 27-28 February 2001, for the preparation of the 17th Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly
   (Doc. SC17/REP/AZ/01)

4. The Standing Committee decided to hold the Eighteenth Meeting on 4 December 2001, in Sofia.
BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY:

The Twenty Third Meeting of the Bureau:

a) Approved the following documents:
- Report by the Treasurer on the execution of the Assembly's budget (Doc.BA23/EXE/01)
- Matters of Procedure of the Seventeenth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (Doc.BA23/MP/01)
- Participation by the PABSEC Representatives in the International Gatherings between 22 June 2001 – 31 December 2001 (Doc. BA23/GATH/01)

It was agreed upon that the new PABSEC President will take decision on the participation in the international gatherings scheduled between 22 June– 31 December 2001 (Doc. BA23/GATH/01)

b) Endorsed the following documents:
- Draft Agenda of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Standing Committee (Doc.SC17/AG/01)
- Examination of New Credentials (Doc.GA17/CRED/01)

c) The Bureau decided to hold the Twenty-Fourth Meeting on 4 December 2001, in Sofia.

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE LEGAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The WG meeting held in Bakü on 20 June 2001 within the framework of the 17th General Assembly considered the two items regarding the payment of the income taxes and payment of the retirement premiums. The proposal of the Working Group will be submitted to the 18th Meeting of the Legal and Political Affairs Committee, on 27-28 September 2001, in Tbilisi.
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COMMITTEES

Officers of the Committees

**

ORGANISATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,  
Moscow, 27 April 2001

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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