

DECLARATION OF THE BLACK SEA CAPITALS' GOVERNORS AND MAYORS ROUND TABLE

We, heads of the city administrations of the capitals of the Black Sea nations, participating in the the first Black Sea Capitals' Governors and Mayors Round Table held in Istanbul on 6-8 September, 1994 under the auspices of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and at the invitation of the Governor of Istanbul,

emphasize the importance of the Summit Declaration on Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Bosphorus Statement and the Declaration on the Establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation which laid the basis for a new regional cooperation process aiming to bring peace, stability and economic prosperity to the Black Sea area,

stress the major role that the capitals can play in developing mutually advantageous cooperation in the region and therefore in furthering the aims of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation,

acknowledge that social, economic and environmental problems existing in our capitals are to a great degree of common nature and can be better resolved in joint action,

appreciate that the Round Table has provided a good opportunity for the exchange of views, experiences and ideas thus facilitating the identification of specific fields of cooperation.

Therefore,

We are determined to make the best use of the results of the exchange of information and experience in order to jointly concentrate on projects aimed at improving the living conditions of our citizens.

We have decided to give priority to the following fields of our cooperation and joint action:

- safeguarding freedom and democratic values, social and human rights;
- providing adequate infrastructure, affordable housing, social, health, educational and cultural facilities;
- ensuring law and order, public safety and combatting crime in our cities;
- improving urban environmental situation;
- preservation of cultural heritage in our cities.

In this spirit we believe that setting up the Black Sea Trade Centre will contribute to speeding up the economic cooperation among the member countries and we request the concerned authorities of the Participating States to consider this proposal.

At the same time we believe that the establishment of the Black Sea Police Association will substantially assist our joint action in combatting crime, drug trafficking and we also submit this proposal to the concerned national authorities.

We have agreed to intensify our bilateral relations at the mayors' and governors' level, as well as at that of various specialised departments of the capitals' administrations, and in this framework, to encourage twin-city relationships among our cities.

We call on our parliaments and governments, as well as the PABSEC and the BSEC to facilitate the implementation of joint projects undertaken by the capitals of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Participating States.

Taking into account the positive and useful results of the first Black Sea Capitals' Governors and Mayors Round Table, we believe that this meeting should be held on a regular basis and suggest that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and its International Secretariat take necessary steps to facilitate the organisation of the second Round Table in Autumn, 1995 in another capital of the Black Sea region.

We express gratitude to the Governor of Istanbul and our Turkish hosts for their warm hospitality.

Adopted in Istanbul on 7 September, 1994.

Rexhep KARAPICI, Governor of Tirana (ALBANIA)

Sali KELMENDI, Mayor of Tirana (ALBANIA)

Vahagn KHACHATRIAN, Head of the City Administration of Yerevan (ARMENIA)

Gabib S.FATALIEV, First Deputy Head of the Baku City Administration (AZERBAIJAN)

Konstantm KAPANADZE, Vice-Mayor, Prime Minister of the Municipality of Tbilisi (GEORGIA)

Prof Dr. Gheorghe VALCEANU, Prefect of the Bucharest Municipality (ROMANIA)

Lucian RADU, Vice Mayor of Bucharest (ROMANIA)

Vladimir RESSIN, First Vice Premier of the Government of Moscow (RUSSIA)

Erdogan SAHINOGLU, Governor of Ankara (TURKEY)

Hayn KOZAKCIOGLU, Governor of Istanbul (TURKEY)

Recep Tayyip ERDOGAN, Mayor of Istanbul (TURKEY)

Leonid G. KOSAKIVSKIY, Chairman of the Kyiv City Council of People's Deputies, Mayor of Kyiv (UKRAINE)