

Istanbul, 22 December 2015

## SUMMARY

### FORTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### OPENING CEREMONY

The Forty-Sixth General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Bucharest, on 25-27 November 2015, upon the invitation of the Senate of Romania.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Calin Popescu-Tariceanu, PABSEC President, President of the Senate of Romania. Mr. Valeriu Stefan Zgonea, President of the Chamber of Deputies and Mr. Radu Podgorean, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, addressed the participants in the Meeting.

#### PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. *The National Delegations* of the parliaments of: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.
2. *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)*: The Secretary General.
3. *BSEC Related Bodies*: representatives of the Black Sea Trade & Development Bank (BSTDB) and of the Union of Road Transport Associations in the BSEC Region (BSEC-URTA).
4. *Observers*: delegations/representatives of the Parliament of the French Republic, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia (PAUBR), the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IAO), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) and the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC).
5. *Guests*: representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECOP PA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for Mediterranean (PA-UfM), the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council), the Marmara Group Foundation and the Partnership Fund of Georgia.

## THE 46<sup>th</sup> PLENARY SESSION

### 1. *General Debate*

The topic of the General Debate was “*Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in the BSEC Region: the parliamentary engagement*”.

The participants welcomed the adoption – at the World Summit of the United Nations Organization of September 2015 – of the goals for sustainable development covering the period until 2030.

It was noted that the new goals represent an important milestone in putting our world on an inclusive and sustainable course and that they will have an important impact on all countries including their internal policies. They need to cope with the world’s requirements and ask for urgent and concentrated action. Consequently, the necessity to focus on the regional dimension of the sustainable development goals was emphasized.

It was highlighted that connectivity of the Black Sea Region with Southeast Europe, the Middle East and North Africa increases the responsibility to take effective measures to make democracy the ultimate guarantor of peace and man-centred sustainable development.

In this light, the speakers stressed the important role played by international and regional cooperation in order to cope with the challenges facing the Black Sea Region and the key-role of the parliaments in ensuring stability in a changeable and dynamic world.

It was underlined that the parliaments have also an important role in promoting in institutionalizing the sustainable development goals at the national level, by turning them into applicable laws and regulations, guaranteed by legislative and budgetary actions.

The speakers underlined that the PABSEC countries will make all the necessary efforts to adapt and institutionalize the Sustainable Development Goals at regional and national level, by using the various resources of the PABSEC and the opportunities provided by the European policies and instruments for the countries of the Region.

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

- a) Recommendation 146/2015 on Report on “E-Government in the BSEC Countries”  
GA46/EC45/REC146/15
- b) Recommendation 147/2015 on “Role of Parliaments in Providing Legal Framework for Combating Corruption”  
GA46/LC46/REC147/15
- c) Recommendation 148/2015 on “Combating Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Heritage in the BSEC Region”  
GA46/CC45/REC148/15
- d) Declaration on Escalation of International Terrorism in the World

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

- a) Report on “E-Government in the BSEC Countries” GA46/EC45/REP/15
- b) Report on “Role of Parliaments in Providing Legal Framework for Combating Corruption” GA46/LC46/REP/15
- c) Report on “Combating Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Heritage in the BSEC Region” GA46/CC45/REP/15
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly GA46/PROG REP/15
- e) Minutes of the Forty-Fifth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Chisinau on 9-10 June 2015 GA45/MIN/15

### **4. Financial Matters**

The Assembly:

- a) Adopted the Budget for the Financial Year 2016 GA46/BUDG16/15
- b) Adopted the Decision on Execution of the 2016 Budget
- c) Set up a Draft Budget and Auditing Committee composed of Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.

### **5. New Credentials**

The Assembly **ratified** the credentials of the new members and proxies of the delegations of Georgia, Greece, Turkey and Ukraine.

GA46/CRED/15

### **6. Granting the Observer Status**

The Assembly **granted** the Observer status with the PABSEC to the Parliamentary Assembly of the South - East European Cooperation Process (SEECF PA) and to the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank.

### **7. Election of the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in Charge of Administrative and Financial Matters**

The Assembly **elected** Mr. Fuat KÜÇÜKAYDIN (Turkey) as the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in Charge of Administrative and Financial Matters for the term of office of three years, starting with 1 March 2016.

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

In accordance with the PABSEC Rules of Procedure on 27 November 2015 the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation **assumed** the Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation for six months.

### **9. The Forty-Seventh Plenary Session of the General Assembly will be held in Russia on 29-30 June 2016.**

## STANDING COMMITTEE

### The Forty-Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee:

1. **Adopted** the proposals of the Committees concerning the subjects to be taken up in the first half of 2016 and to be placed on the Draft Agenda of the Plenary Session of the 2016 Spring General Assembly.

The main subjects for the Spring Committees Meetings are:

- “Problems of Refugees in the BSEC Member States - Political Aspects”;
- “Problems of Refugees in the BSEC Member States - Economic Aspects”;
- “Problems of Refugees in the BSEC Member States - Social Aspects”.

2. **Approved** the following documents:

- a) Minutes of the Forty-Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee held in Chisinau on 8 June 2015 SC45/MIN/15
- b) PABSEC Calendar for 2016 SC46/CAL2016/15

3. **Granting the Observer status**

The Standing Committee adopted unanimously the decision to grant Observer status with the PABSEC to the Parliamentary Assembly of the South - East European Cooperation Process (SEECF PA) and to the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank.

4. **Examined** the credentials of new members of the Assembly.

5. **Endorsed:**

- a) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly GA46/PROG REP/15
- b) Draft Agenda of the Forty-Sixth Plenary Session GA46/AG/15
- c) Results of the Joint Meeting of the PABSEC Standing Committee and BSEC Committee of Senior Officials and Joint Action Plan for Enhancing Cooperation between BSEC and PABSEC (2016-2018)

6. **Took note of:**

- a) The receipt of Contributions to the 2015 Budget SC46/CONT/15
- b) The information on the participation by the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June - November 2015.

7. **Took the decision** to introduce the amendments to the Staff Regulations of the International Secretariat and the PABSEC Rules of Procedure proposed by the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee.

8. **The Forty-Seventh Meeting of the PABSEC Standing Committee will be held in Russia on 28 June 2016.**

## **BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY**

### **The Fifty-Third Meeting of the Bureau:**

#### ***1. Approved the following documents:***

- Minutes of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Bureau held in Chisinau on 8 June 2015  
BA52/MIN/15
- Draft Programme of the Forty-Sixth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly  
BA53/PROG/15
- Matters of Procedure of the Forty-Sixth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly  
BA53/MP/15

#### ***2. Considered the following items:***

- Report by the Vice-President in charge of Financial matters on the execution of the Assembly's Budget  
BA53/EXE/15
- Participation of the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between December 2015 – June 2016  
BA52/GATH/15

The new PABSEC President was authorized to take decisions on the participation of the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between December 2015 - June 2016. The decision on the participation of the staff of the International Secretariat will be taken by the Secretary General.

- Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly  
GA46/PROG REP/15
- Draft Agenda of the Forty-Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee SC46/AG/15 and the Draft Agenda of the Forty-Sixth Plenary Session.  
GA46/AG/15

***3. Endorsed:*** the candidacy for the election of the PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in Charge of Administrative and Financial Matters.

***4. Decided:*** to appoint Mrs. Senka Pavlović (from Serbia) as Press and Information Officer for the term of office of three years, starting with 1 February 2016.

***5. The Fifty-Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly will be held in Russia on 28 June 2016.***