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THE SEVENTEENTH PLENARY SESSION OF THE PABSEC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RECOMMENDATION 53/2001*

on the Cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters from the Member States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation

- 1. The Parliamentary Assembly:
 - restates its commitment to Recommendation 47/2000 on the Role of Mass Media in Promoting Cooperation in the Black Sea Region, adopted by the 16th General Assembly, which gave expression to the strong determination of the Parliamentary Assembly to pave the way for establishing a solid framework of cooperation at the level of the Public Television Broadcasters from the BSEC Member States;
 - ii. welcomes the adoption of the Bucharest Declaration of the First Meeting of the Public Broadcasters from the Member States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, which underscores the significance of the initiative taken by the Parliamentary Assembly on the proposal by the Romanian PABSEC delegation, demonstrates the potential capacity of the PABSEC to facilitate cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters as a major dimension of the Black Sea multilateral process, with a view of increasing the contribution by the mass media in promoting the principles and goals of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and its Parliamentary Assembly;
 - iii. **highlights** the significance of the Bucharest Declaration, which opens pragmatic prospects of cooperation among the Public Television Broadcasters, and particularly the decisions to produce programs and documentaries on the countries of the region, facilitating accession by the citizens to reliable and

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^{*} Rapporteur: Mr. Yashar Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Vice-President of the PABSEC Assembly debate on 21 June 2001 in Baku.

comprehensive information about the most important political, economic, social and cultural events, as well as about the endeavours by the BSEC, its Parliamentary Assembly and the related bodies to accelerate the progress of economic integration of the BSEC region as part of a free and undivided Europe;

- **iv. states** that the decision to establish an institutional framework of cooperation at the level of Public Television Broadcasters lays down the basis for developing an articulated mechanism, enhancing the role of the Public Television Broadcasters in bringing a substantial contribution to the realisation of the *BSEC Economic Agenda for the Future*, adopted by the 4th Council of Ministers of the BSEC Member States.
- 2. **Therefore, the Parliamentary Assembly** recommends the Parliaments and Governments of the BSEC Member States:
 - i. **to provide** full support to the efforts undertaken by the Public Television Broadcasters, signatories of the Bucharest Declaration, in order to put in place a concrete mechanism, facilitating a better covering of the ongoing developments in the Member Countries as well as the multilateral projects of cooperation aimed at raising the public awareness about the activities of the BSEC, PABSEC and other related bodies, creating necessary background for the peoples of our countries to better understand and support the goals of the Organisation of the BSEC;
 - ii. **to enact and/or update** legislation safeguarding an enhanced role by the Public Television Broadcasters at the national level and at the same time facilitating their cooperation in the Black Sea region by producing a joint documentary film on the main goals and projects of the Organisation of the BSEC and its Parliamentary Assembly, and by creating a BSEC TV channel, which will mark a tremendous step forward in making better known the Black Sea region to our peoples and to the world as a whole.
 - 3. **The Assembly invites** the BSEC Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to consider this Recommendation.