THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

(IPA CIS)

THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

(PABSEC)

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PROTOCOL

ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE INDEPENDENT STATES AND THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of the Independent States (IPA CIS) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC),

Reaffirming their commitment to the goals and principles enshrined in their statutory documents,

Expressing the common desire to promote the respect for pluralistic democracy, rule of law and protection of human rights through fostering of interparliamentary dialogue,

Convinced that enhanced interaction between the two Assemblies will contribute to strengthening a climate of mutual understanding and trust, promoting cooperation, peace and stability in the Black Sea region as a part of the new European architecture and in a wider Eurasian space,

have agreed as follows:

- 1. The two Assemblies shall exchange the agendas of the plenary sessions and shall invite representatives to attend each other's gatherings. In special cases the President of one Assembly shall address the meeting of the other Assembly;
- 2. The Presidents of both Assemblies or their representatives shall be invited to the conferences and other gathering organized by these Assemblies, if the issues of mutual interest are discussed;

- 3. The committees of both Assemblies shall constructively cooperate with each other. They shall exchange the respective documents and invite, when necessary, upon the consent of the IPA CIS Council and the PABSEC Bureau, Chairmen and/or Rapporteurs of respective committees for the exchange of opinion on the issues of mutual interest.
- 4. The Assemblies shall exchange on a permanent basis their documentation, including reports and other official documents, in order to be fully informed about each other's activities:
- 5. When necessary, the IPA CIS Council and the PABSEC Standing Committee shall have joint meetings;
- 6. The IPA CIS Secretary General and the PABSEC Secretary General or their representatives shall meet, when necessary, for consultations or exchange of views to discuss the issues of mutual interest.

The Protocol shall enter into force upon its signature and shall be valid for five years. It shall be automatically extended for the same period upon the mutual consent of both parties.

DONE in duplicate at St.Petersburg, this eighth day of December, 1998, in the English and Russian languages each version being equally authentic.

Chairman of the Council of the
Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the
Commonwealth of Independent States

Mr. Yegor STROYEV

The IPA CIS Secretary General

Mr. Mikhail KROTOV Myund

President of the Parliamentary
Assembly of the Black Sea
Economic Cooperation

Mr. Gennady SELEZNEV

The PABSEC Secretary General

Seleznes

Mr. Faik KAYTANCI