FOURTH MEETING
14 September 2018, Bishkek

GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS "EFFECTS OF SPREAD OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS"

The Parliamentary Assembly:

**Considering** an important role of GMOs and products containing GMO in solving the world food problem;

**Taking into consideration** concerns over the negative impact of GMO products on human health, biodiversity and environment;

**Mentioning** the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which adopted the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety regulating the transboundary movement of GMOs;

**Supporting** workshops, seminars, forums and other types of events holding in TURKPA member countries on the GMO;

**Mentioning** the important role of the Legislation and Implementation Workshop on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) held by TURKPA on 16-18 April 2018 in Istanbul with the support of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (GNAT);

**Being aware of** the fact that there is a need for cooperation among TURKPA member countries in order to control cultivation, production, import and sale of products containing GMOs,

Came to an agreement in the following issues:

a) **to recognize** biotechnology as an integral component of agricultural development strategy;

b) **to strengthen and coordinate** the efforts on biodiversity and biosecurity;

c) **to adopt** robust, science-based and transparent biosafety regulatory systems;
d) to simplify regulatory norms for GM events of established environment and human safety;

e) to align biosafety related policies under different national competent authorities wherever needed;

f) to generate research data on biosafety related issues, particularly of local relevance, e.g. impact on biodiversity;

g) Include agriculture and biotechnology oriented courses in school syllabi and develop appropriate educational tools

h) Train scientists not just in the field of biotechnology but also in related sciences and communication skills

i) Develop success stories, status reports and web-based information systems on developments in biotechnology and biosafety

j) Organize dialogues between scientists, chief security officer (CSOs), farmers’ organizations and consumer groups

k) Cooperate and harmonize at regional/ sub-regional level GMO risk assessment and risk management protocols

l) Establish regional/ sub-regional information centers on developments in biotechnology, biosafety and intellectual property issues

m) Strengthen some existing national institutions to serve as regional hubs for sustained capacity development

n) to take efforts aimed at expanding efficient regional and bilateral cooperation among member countries on the matter;

o) to identify priorities of cooperation among the TURKPA member countries in the field of GMO.