

**THE ALA-ARCHA DECLARATION
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF TURKIC-SPEAKING COUNTRIES**

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF TURKIC-SPEAKING COUNTRIES (TURKPA)
7th PLENARY SESSION

ALA-ARCHA DECLARATION

The 7th Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries was held on 7-8 December 2017 in Bishkek with participation of the members of the Milli Mejlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the both houses of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Turkey.

The Participants of the 7th Plenary Session,

- *Expressing* their will to further deepen cooperation amongst the parliaments and in this regard referring to the Istanbul Agreement on the establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries of 21 November 2008 and Nakhchivan Agreement on the establishment of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States of 3 October 2009 and previous TURKPA declarations;
- *Noting* the special role of parliaments in developing close and multifaceted cooperation among Turkic-speaking countries based on common historic, linguistic and cultural links;
- *Welcoming* the remarkable advancement of cooperation within the Assembly's framework since the last 6th Plenary Session in 2015;
- *Emphasizing* that interaction among the parliaments of brotherly countries contributes to sustainable social and economic development, advancement of culture and education, strengthening of the rule of law and fundamental rights and freedoms in the member countries;
- *Being aware* that comprehensive and deepening relations among Turkic-speaking countries strengthen dialogue and facilitates stability and security both in the region and in the world;
- *Reaffirming* its commitments to the norms and principles of international law-enshrined in the UN Charter, especially and the OSCE Helsinki Act, in particular those relating to the such as the principles of national independence, sovereignty equality, territorial integrity, and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of states, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other and inadmissibility of threat or use of force;

Declare the following:

1. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the TurkPA member states on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations as well as the membership

of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic in the UN while reiterates their adherence to widening full-fledged cooperation among them;

2. The Parliamentary Assembly positively assesses the nation-wide constitutional referendums which took place in the Republic of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Turkey and also the Constitutional reforms which has taken place in the Republic of Kazakhstan that aimed at sustainable development, peace and stability of the countries;
3. The Parliamentary Assembly strongly condemns terrorism in all its manifestations and in this context especially the coup attempt in Turkey on 15 July 2016. Member parliaments took note of the information of Turkish side on the involvement of FETO in the coup attempt in Turkey and expressed readiness to assist in bringing to justice all responsible persons;
4. TurkPA Member States are concerned with the growing tension over the situation regarding the status of the city of Jerusalem.
While standing for maintenance of the legal status of Jerusalem as stated in relevant UN resolutions, TurkPA member states reaffirm their commitment to the Middle Eastern settlement based on international law.
5. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Republic of Turkey on successfully hosting the 10th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly under the theme “Sustaining Peace and Development in Asia” in Istanbul on 20-25 November 2017;
6. The Parliamentary Assembly appreciates the efforts of the Kyrgyz Republic in promoting the World Nomad Games, held in 2014 and 2016, which contribute to the development of ethno-historical sports, inter-civilizational and inter-cultural dialogue, and calls upon all Member States to participate at the highest level in the III World Nomad Games on September 2018 in the Kyrgyz Republic;
7. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Kyrgyz Republic on the occasion of its election to the United Nations Human Rights Council for the period of 2016-2018 and extends support to Kyrgyzstan in its activities in this field;
8. The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the efforts of the Kyrgyz Republic on implementation of the high technological program of digital transformation of the Kyrgyz Republic "Taza Koom" and expresses its support to activities in given sphere;
9. The Parliamentary Assembly positively assesses efforts of the Kyrgyz Republic in hosting the International Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Forum held in August 2017 in Bishkek which brought together heads and representatives of the governments of the twelve snow leopard range countries as well as of other interested nations with leaders from international institutions; in this regard, TurkPA emphasizes the role of the Kyrgyz Republic in addressing environmental issues and preservation of biodiversity in the region;

10. Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the use of new technologies in electoral process which took place in the Kyrgyz Republic during presidential elections on 15 October 2017. Hereby, Assembly notes that given elections were held in compliance with the national legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic and high international democratic standards;
11. The Parliamentary Assembly appreciates the efforts of the Republic of Azerbaijan aimed at promoting intercultural dialogue internationally and welcomes, in this light, holding of the 4th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue within the Baku Process on 6-7 May, 2017 in Baku. World Forums became an international platform to enable and encourage peoples, countries and organizations across the globe to take concrete actions to support diversity, dialogue and mutual understanding among nations by raising awareness on the importance of intercultural dialogue worldwide”;
12. The 7th Global Forum of the United Nations' Alliance of Civilizations held in Baku on 25-27 April, 2016 demonstrated the achievements of the Republic of Azerbaijan in building a multicultural society that adheres to the principles of tolerance and respect to the cultural diversity;
13. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Republic of Azerbaijan on holding the Islamic Solidarity Games in Baku on 17-22 May 2017 aimed at fostering amicable relations among the countries;
14. The Parliamentary Assembly reiterates the importance of the earliest settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, on the basis of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
15. Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of TurkPA has made a substantial contribution to the deepening of interaction among the member-parliaments by initiating the 1st joint meeting of the parliamentary committees that deal with economic issues on 26 May 2016 and holding on 27 September 2016 of the joint meeting of the parliamentary committees of the TurkPA member-parliaments that are in charge of culture;
16. Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of TurkPA - Majilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan successfully held the Asian Inter-Parliamentary Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation on 26-28 September 2016 in Astana. This international event positively contributed to the visibility of TurkPA in international relations.
17. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Republic of Kazakhstan on the occasion of its election as non-permanent member of the United Nations' Security Council in the period 2017-2018 and pledges its support to Kazakhstan in its activities in this field;
18. The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Republic of Kazakhstan on successfully holding “Astana EXPO – 2017” International Exhibition, which developed the international cooperation in alternative energy;
19. The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the nomination by the Republic of Azerbaijan of its capital Baku for hosting the World EXPO-2025 and wishes all the success;

20. «The Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Republic of Kazakhstan on successfully holding the First OIC Summit on Science and Technology in Astana on 10-11 September 2017, that emphasized the role of science and technology as one of the priority of sustainable development for the Muslim world»;
21. TurkPA has maintained close ties with Turkic-speaking communities in other countries. Particularly, TurkPA supported the Kazakh community of Europe in holding the events dedicated to the 150th anniversary of Zuqa Batyr, who fought for the dignity of Kazakhs;
22. The 23rd World Energy Congress held in Istanbul on 9-13 October 2016 and 22nd World Petroleum Council held by the Republic of Turkey in July 2017 are vivid contributions of the Republic of Turkey to the world energy dialogue and global energy security;
23. The Parliamentary Assembly emphasize the importance of commissioning of the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway that acts as a bridge between Asia and Europe, serving to strengthen cooperation among Turkic-speaking states, enhance prosperity of nations and revival of the historic Silk Road;
24. The Parliamentary Assembly commends the efforts of the member countries on cooperation in the field of preventing and curbing cybercrimes, including development of relevant national legal framework and implementation of measures set out in the international legal documents on cyber-crime issues;
25. The Parliamentary Assembly encourages continuation of activities and mutual cooperation on core environmental issues and positively assesses the outcomes of the TurkPA workshop on "Combating desertification in Turkic-speaking countries" organized on 7-8 April 2016 in Konya;
26. The Parliamentary Assembly notes that the integrated use of water and energy resources is important in achieving sustainable economic and social development in Member States aimed at achieving a "green" economy;
27. The Parliamentary Assembly encourages the member states to strengthen cooperation on disaster and crisis management issues through the interaction among the relevant national bodies, sharing information, experience and best practices in the areas of mitigation of risks and consequences from natural disasters and man-caused (techno- genic) emergency situations, preparation of qualified personnel and improvement of logistics;
28. The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes TurkPA's widening constructive cooperation with other Turkic cooperation institutions, national academic circles and strategic research centres and in this regard notes that TurkPA has been among the organisers and sponsors of certain events held by the International Turkic Academy, the Third Meeting of Official Foreign Policy Research Centers of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council) hosted by Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies (KISS) under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Astana on 26 May 2016, the International Symposium dedicated to the 25th anniversary of Turkic republics organized by the Ahmet Yassawi International Kazakh-Turkish University in Ankara on 6 October

2016 and the 5th World Turkic Forum organized by the Turkish Asian Centre for Strategic Studies (TASAM) on 1-3 June 2016;

29. The Parliamentary Assembly expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan for opening a new administrative building for the Secretariat that demonstrates strong support of Azerbaijan to Assembly's expanding activities;
30. The Parliamentary Assembly highly appreciates the activities of Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of TurkPA, particularly, its recent efforts aimed at deepening cooperation between the member countries in economic, cultural and social fields as well as on wider exchange of parliamentary experience and sharing of best practices among the member countries;
31. The Parliamentary Assembly expresses its support to the agreement reached during the last meeting of Foreign Ministers of CCTS member states in New York to hold the next summit of the heads of states in the third decade of March, 2018, in Bishkek;
32. The Parliamentary Assembly appreciates the cordial hospitality of the Jogorku Kenesh of Kyrgyz Republic extended in Bishkek as well as the outstanding organization of the 7th Plenary Session of TurkPA;
33. The Parliamentary Assembly decided to hold its 8th Plenary Session in 2018 in the Republic of Turkey.