RESOLUTION

Concerning Preservation of Ethnic Culture
in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

Ethnic culture is the essence of the existence, survival and strength of nations and the basis of national culture, which assists in preservation the self-awareness of nations, the independent life of society and the state in the community of European and world nations.

In the Baltic states ethnic culture has suffered and may suffer much future damage and penetration by alien cultures, caused by the twists of history.

The Baltic Assembly,

being aware of the importance of ethnic culture for the preservation of cultural and ethnic traits of nations and states;

taking into consideration the importance of ethnic culture for world culture and the peoples of our states;

expressing concern about the growing vulnerability of ethnic culture today;

emphasizing the responsibility of the present generation for the preservation of ethnic culture created by our ancestors and the need to ensure the continuity of inherited tradition;

realizing that the means of preserving ethnic culture must be diverse,

reminds the parliaments and the governments of the Republic of Estonia, Republic of Latvia and Republic of Lithuania of their responsibility in preserving ethnic culture and in continuing the inherited tradition; and

proposes to develop a set of specific measures and to provide financing for them from the national budgets.

Riga, 4 December 1999