

## **REGULATIONS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTY GROUPS (FACTIONS) OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 1. Party Groups (Factions) of the Baltic Assembly**

In order to express similar political interests and views and on the basis of an appropriate joint declaration, the members of the national delegations may form party groups (factions).

### **Article 2. Tasks and Competence of the Party Groups (Factions)**

1. The task of the party groups (factions) shall be to consider the issues which are of importance for the members of the appropriate party group (faction), to take joint stands on such issues, as well as to consider and prepare for adoption the documents which have been referred to them by the Presidium at the sessions.

2. The party groups (factions) shall have the right:

- 1) to initiate the adoption of documents of any form;
- 2) to submit draft documents to the Presidium or the Session, and make proposals to put them to a vote;
- 3) to exercise control over the implementation of the documents prepared by them and adopted by the BA;
- 4) to bring the documents adopted at the BA Session to the attention of the party groups (factions) of the national parliaments to whose competence the matter belongs;
- 5) to submit questions to the Baltic Council of Ministers and to get answers to these questions.

### **Article 3. Appointment of Members of the Party Groups (Factions)**

1. Members of the national delegations may form party groups (factions). A party group (faction) must consist of at least 5 members from at least two national delegations.

2. Any member of the national delegation may belong only to one party group (faction).

#### **Article 4. Chairman and Vice Chairmen of the Party Group (Faction)**

A party group (faction) shall elect the chairman and vice chairmen according to the principle of rotation of presidency, and shall inform the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly thereof.

#### **Article 5. Meetings of the Party Groups (Factions)**

1. Meetings of the party groups (factions) shall be held at least once a year.
2. Meetings of a party group (faction) shall be convened by its chairman, who shall draw up the agenda and set the time and venue of the meetings.
3. The members of other party groups (factions) of the Baltic Assembly, members of the appropriate party groups (factions) of other parliamentary co-operation organisations, representatives of the party groups (factions) of the national parliaments, representatives of the Governments, and experts may be invited to meetings of the party groups (factions).

#### **Article 6. Decisions of the Party Groups (Factions)**

1. The party group (faction) of the Baltic Assembly shall have the power to act, if its meeting is attended by at least one member of each national delegation of the Baltic Assembly, including the chairman or a vice chairman of the party group (faction).
2. Decisions of the party group (faction) shall be adopted by consensus of the members of the party group (faction) who attend the meeting.

#### **Article 7. Financial Support for the Party Groups (Factions)**

Party groups (factions) shall be entitled to equal financial support.

Vilnius, 29 November 2003