10th BALTIC COUNCIL
23rd SESSION OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY

17 – 19 December 2004
The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
11Jēkaba Street, Riga, Latvia

P R O G R A M M E

17 December (Friday)

Arrival of delegations and check-in at the hotels

14:00 – 15:30 Meeting of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly

14:00 – 15:30 Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Baltic Assembly

15:30 – 17:00 Meetings of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly
- Economic Affairs, Communications and Informatics Committee
- Education, Science and Culture Committee
- Social Affairs Committee
- Legal Committee
- Environmental Protection and Energy Committee
- Security and Foreign Affairs Committee

17:15 – 18:15 Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Baltic Assembly

Meeting of the Budget and Audit Committee of the Baltic Assembly

20:30 Awards Ceremony of the Baltic Assembly Prizes 2004
Reception in honour of the Baltic Assembly Prize winners hosted by the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly

18 December (Saturday)

08:00 – 08:50 Registration of participants

08:00 – 08:50 Meetings of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly
(if needed)
- Economic Affairs, Communications and Informatics Committee
- Education, Science and Culture Committee
- Social Affairs Committee
- Legal Committee
- Environmental Protection and Energy Committee
- Security and Foreign Affairs Committee

09:00 – 10:30 23rd SESSION OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY
Chaired by Mr. Jānis Reirs, President of the Baltic Assembly, Chairman of the Latvian delegation

09:00 – 09:30 Opening of the Session

Address by H.E. Ingrīda Ūdre, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Address by Mr. Gabriel Romanus, President of the Nordic Council

Address by Mr. Jean-Marie Happart, President of the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council

Adoption of the agenda

Election of the Vote Counting Commission

09:30 – 09:50 Report of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly

09:50 – 10:10 Questions and answers
Discussion

10:10 – 10:30 Greetings by guests

Mr. Stef Goris, President of the Assembly of the Western European Union

10:50 – 11:30 Meeting of the Working Group on planning the 5th Joint Meeting of the Baltic Assembly and the Nordic Council (working languages: English and Russian)

10:50 – 11:40 Joint meetings of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly and the Nordic Council

- Joint meeting of the BA Education, Science and Culture Committee and the NC Culture, Education and Training Committee (working languages: English, Russian and Swedish)

Meetings of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly
(if needed)

- Economic Affairs, Communications and Informatics Committee
- Social Affairs Committee
- Legal Committee
- Environmental Protection and Energy Committee

11:45 – 13:15 10th BALTIC COUNCIL
Co-operation in implementing the Schengen Action Plan (border guarding, fight against illegal migration, joining the Schengen Information System)

Chaired by:
Mr. Jānis Reirs, President of the Baltic Assembly, Chairman of the Latvian delegation
Mr. Artis Pabriks, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Chairman of the Co-operation Council of the Baltic Council of Ministers

11:45 – 12:00  
Mr. Artis Pabriks, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

12:00 – 12:15  
Mr. Raul Mäik, Director General of the Department for Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

12:15 - 12:30  
Mr. Dalius Čekuolis, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania

Co-report
• Mr. Olegas Skinderskis, Director of the International Relations and European Integration Department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania

12:30 – 12:45  
Questions and answers  
Discussion

12:45 – 12:50  
Closing of the 10th Baltic Council

12:50 – 13:00  
Signing of the documents

13:00 – 13:30  
Joint press conference of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers  
Red Hall, 11 Jēkaba Street

14:30 – 18:30  
23rd SESSION OF THE BALTIc ASSEMBLY (continuation)

14:30 – 15:45  

TOPIC I: Mutual information exchange and co-ordination of matters among the Baltic States with regard to the EU and NATO. Co-operation in rendering assistance to and sharing reform experience with third countries

Chaired by Mr. Andres Taimla, Vice-President of the Baltic Assembly, Chairman of the Estonian delegation

14:30 – 14:45  
Mr. Paulis Klaviņš, Chairman of the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee of the Baltic Assembly, Republic of Latvia

14:45 – 15:00  
Mr. Margus Hanson, Member of the Defence Committee of the Riigikogu, Republic of Estonia

15:00 –15:15  
Mr. Eityvydas Bajarūnas, Director of the Europe Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania

3
15:15 – 15:35 Co-reports
- **Mr. Saulius Pečeliūnas**, Deputy Chairman of the BA Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, Republic of Lithuania
- **Mrs. Rannveig Guðmundsdóttir**, President of the Nordic Council 2005
- **Mr. Jean-Marie Happart**, President of the Benelux Inter-parliamentary Consultative Council

15:35 – 15:45 Discussion

16:15 – 17:45 **23rd SESSION OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY** (continuation)

**Reports of the Chairmen of the Committees**
- **Mr. Igors Solovjovs**, Chairman of the Economic Affairs, Communications and Informatics Committee
- **Mrs. Ināra Ostrovska**, Chairperson of the Education, Science and Culture Committee
- **Mr. Indulis Emsis**, Chairman of the Environmental Protection and Energy Committee
- **Mrs. Jevgenija Stalidzāne**, Chairperson of the Social Affairs Committee
- **Mr. Mihails Pietkevičs**, Chairman of the Legal Committee
- **Mr. Uldis Mārtiņš Klauss**, Chairman of the Budget and Audit Committee
- **Mr. Paulis Kļaviņš**, Chairman of the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee

18:00 – 19:00 **Meetings of the Party Groups of the Baltic Assembly**
- Conservative/Right Party Group
- Centre Party Group
- Social Democratic Party Group

19:00 – 20:00 **Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Baltic Assembly** (if needed)

**19 December (Sunday)**

08:00 – 09:00 **Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Baltic Assembly**

09:00 – 10:00 **Joint meeting of the Presidium with the Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly**

10:00 – 12:25 **23rd SESSION OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY** (continuation)

**10:00 – 11:30**

**TOPIC II: Social aspects of migration**

Chaired by **Mr. Valerius Simulik**, Vice-President of the Baltic Assembly, Chairman of the Lithuanian delegation

10:00 – 10:15 **Mrs. Jevgenija Stalidzāne**, Chairperson of the Social and Employment Matters Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:30</td>
<td><strong>Mr. Alfredas Nazarovas</strong>, Director of the Social Integration Department of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania</td>
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<td>10:30 – 10:45</td>
<td><strong>Mr. Ken Koort</strong>, Adviser to the Minister of Population Affairs, Republic of Estonia</td>
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<td>10:45 – 11:00</td>
<td>Co-reports</td>
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<td>• <strong>Mr. Inge Lönning</strong>, Member of the Presidium of the Nordic Council</td>
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<td>• <strong>Mr. Jean-Marie Happart</strong>, President of the Benelux Inter-parliamentary Consultative Council</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Report of the Drafting Committee of the Baltic Assembly on the draft documents</strong></td>
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<td>Adoption of the documents</td>
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<td>Approval of the Budget Report for the year 2003</td>
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<td>Approval of the Baltic Assembly Budget for the year 2005</td>
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<td><strong>Presenting of the Final Document and its adoption</strong></td>
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<td>Election of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly and Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Committees of the Baltic Assembly</td>
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<td>12:00 – 12:15</td>
<td><strong>Mr. Andres Taimla</strong>, Vice-President of the Baltic Assembly, Chairman of the Estonian delegation</td>
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<td>Closing of the Session of the Baltic Assembly</td>
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<td>12:25</td>
<td>** Signing of the Final Document of the Session **</td>
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<td>12:30 – 13:00</td>
<td><strong>Press conference of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly</strong></td>
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<td>14:15</td>
<td><strong>Awarding of the Baltic Assembly Medals</strong></td>
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<td>14:45</td>
<td>Departure of the delegations</td>
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