

RESOLUTION
ON COMBATTING CORRUPTION

The Baltic Assembly,

considering, that honourable and selfless work by officials and strict control measures of their activity constitute a necessary precondition of a democratic society,

mindful of the danger posed to the order of a democratic state by corruption,

regards it as imperative, for

the governing bodies of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia to form a single-minded and effective anti-corruption policy, based upon the following principles:

corruption constitutes a negative, illegal and dangerous phenomenon linked with governing, which may and must be actively fought against;

in organising the administrative system of a state, one must be aware of the necessity to consciously fight corruption, while legal acts must clearly define the areas of competence and obligations of all government bodies;

governing of a state must be transparent and publicly supervised;

in barring the way to corruption, special attention must first of all be paid to the areas most affected by this phenomenon, such as state supply and maintenance, privatisation, customs and taxation procedures, licenses and issuance of business permits, investigation of violations in economic and financial law as well as acceptance into state employment, since this phenomenon is most often widespread in those areas;

in combating corruption, it is important to regulate legally, affairs pertaining to party financing, the rights and obligations of the groups engaged in lobbying and the rights of mass media and the competence and activity supervision of certain persons performing important functions (state employees, elected officials, party leaders, legal experts, auditors);

personal, economic interests of officials should be supervised through periodically required declarations, while declarations of at least the top-level state leaders, must be made public;

funds for the investigation of criminal cases linked with corruption must be allocated, corruption investigation must be specialised, and the laws must guarantee the independence of an investigation,

considers it expedient,

in order to effectively combat corruption, to examine the causes of corruption in all aspects, to amend criminal legislation, to prepare and implement special programmes to fight against corruption and to engage in close co-operation on an international scale.