

RESOLUTION

ON INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY, ENERGY SAVING AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The Baltic Assembly,

noting the problem of the Baltic “energy island”, the EU energy and climate change policies as well as the conclusions of the BSPC Working Group on Energy and Climate Change;

acknowledging the need for strengthened cooperation and joint actions to reduce the vulnerability to climate change and to improve the adaptability to the consequences of climate change, and to prevent and manage the negative consequences of natural hazards caused by climate change;

understanding that the energy and climate change policy and strategy are closely interlinked with;

taking into consideration the great potential of renewable energy production in the region that has not been fully exploited yet,

calls on the parliaments and governments of the Baltic States and the Baltic Council of Ministers and the Council of the Baltic Sea States,

with regard to economic crisis – recognize it as a challenge and point of departure for developing the Baltic Sea region into a highly energy efficient and growing economy, and at the same time substantially reducing the dependence on fossil fuel based energy sources;

with regard to renewable energy – promote the establishment and use of all kinds of renewable and local energy resources that are appropriate and to develop the necessary infrastructure;

with regard to transmission systems and interconnections – increase investments in construction and upgrading new electricity transmissions in the region, to create a common market for selling Baltic electricity through enhancing interconnectivity within Europe as a whole, and to promote the establishment and harmonization of laws and regulations in the region’s energy sector in order to accelerate the development of an open market to promote competitiveness and security of energy supply;

with regard to energy efficiency and energy saving – promote energy saving and energy efficiency initiatives in all sectors of society, to pay attention to the need for renovating housing and to promote the establishment of combined heat and power production;

with regard to implementation of the Baltic Sea Region Strategy – expect that the European Parliament will focus on the challenges to regional environmental sustainability posed by the implementation of large-scale infrastructural projects and will take notice that the Strategy is aimed at reducing environmental risks;

with regard to climate-friendly transport infrastructure – support and facilitate the development and establishment of climate-friendly and inter-modal transport systems,

with regard to education, research and development and business opportunities – involve civil society, the public and all relevant educational establishments by providing adequate means and financing from the national budgets in the development and implementation of responsible climate solutions and behaviours, and to identify development and export potentials for technologies and production of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy saving.

Vilnius, 28 November 2009