



**THE PRESIDUM OF THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY AND THE BUREAU OF
THE BENELUX INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL**

DECISION ON PRIORITIES OF COOPERATION IN 2011 - 2012

**The Presidium of the Baltic Assembly and the Bureau of the Benelux
Interparliamentary Consultative Council,**

highlighting that cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council gives additional value within a larger European format and that closer cooperation and a uniform stand in the spheres which affect common interests will lend greater importance to the issues raised and give a chance to positively affect the course of the process;

being aware that parliamentary cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council aims at enabling joint approaches to the opportunities and challenges of the European region;

emphasizing the necessity to promote a deepened cooperation of the Baltic and Benelux countries on parliamentary and governmental level in order to respond to the consequences of global economic and financial crisis by paying special attention to the stabilisation of economies of the Baltic and Benelux countries, provisioning of sustainable growth, and promoting competitiveness and encouraging progress factors, including information society and science development;

underlining that the main goal of cooperation of both organizations is to promote deeper European integration, expansion of welfare, political consensus and economic stabilisation and development;

have defined the following priorities of cooperation between both organizations in 2011 - 2012:

- 1) Establishment of a European energy community;
- 2) Human capital and knowledge based and innovative economies;
- 3) Health care and social policy;
- 4) Fight against illegal migration, organised crime, cross-border cooperation;
- 5) Integration policies and experiences.

Laine Randjärv
President of the Baltic Assembly

Jack Biskop
President of the Benelux
Interparliamentary Consultative Council

The Hague, 17 June 2011