



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

**DECISION  
ON PRIORITIES OF COOPERATION IN 2007-2008**

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

**having discussed** 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;

**emphasizing** the necessity to introduce amendments to the legal basis of the cooperation between the Baltic Assembly and the Benelux Interparliamentary Consultative Council in order to adapt Baltic – Benelux parliamentary cooperation to the new challenges and conditions of the international environment;

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

**have defined** the following priorities of cooperation between both organizations in 2007 – 2008:

1. Development of rural tourism in the Baltic and Benelux countries;
2. Preservation of cultural heritage and its inclusion in modern architecture;
3. Vocational education and the labour market;
4. Legal and illegal migration;
5. Children and family policy, gender equality;
6. Energy strategy (gasification, European energy strategy);
7. Fight against terrorism.

**Erika Zommere**  
President of the Baltic Assembly

**Bart Tommelein**  
Vice President  
of the Benelux Interparliamentary  
Consultative Council

Riga, 9 February 2007