

**PROTOCOL AMENDING THE PROTOCOL  
ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY  
AND THE BALTIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

The Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers, amending the Protocol on Co-operation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers, signed in Vilnius on 14 April 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the Co-operation Protocol),

have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

To amend paragraph 1 of the Co-operation Protocol and to set it forth to read as follows:

The Baltic Council is the highest form of co-operation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers.

**Article 2**

To delete paragraph 3 of the Co-operation Protocol.

**Article 3**

To change the number of paragraph 4 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 3 and to set it forth to read as follows:

The Chairman of the Co-operation Council of the Baltic Council of Ministers answers the questions of the members of the Baltic Assembly after presenting the report of the Co-operation Council to the Baltic Assembly session during the Baltic Council.

**Article 4**

To change the number of paragraph 5 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 4 and to set it forth to read as follows:

The members of the Baltic Assembly may submit questions on Baltic co-operation to the Baltic Council of Ministers not later than one month before the Baltic Council. Additional questions on relevant subject may be asked during the Baltic Council.

#### **Article 5**

To change the number of paragraph 6 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 5 and to set it forth to read as follows:

Joint documents may be adopted during the Baltic Council according to the principle of consensus.

#### **Article 6**

To change the number of paragraph 7 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 6 and to set it forth to read as follows:

The co-operation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers is also exercised by Committees of the Baltic Assembly and Committees of Senior Officials of the Baltic Council of Ministers and the Secretariats of the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers.

#### **Article 7**

To change the number of paragraph 8 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 7 and to set it forth to read as follows:

The meeting of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly and the Co-operation Council of the Baltic Council of Ministers during the Baltic Council is held to set priorities for the next calendar year and to consider the issues of common interest.

#### **Article 8**

To change the number of paragraph 9 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 8 and to set it forth to read as follows:

Committees of the Baltic Assembly and of the Baltic Council of Ministers on corresponding areas hold joint meetings to discuss issues of co-operation in their areas.

#### **Article 9**

To delete paragraph 10 of the Co-operation Protocol.

**Article 10**

To change the number of paragraph 11 of the Co-operation Protocol to number 9 and to set it forth to read as follows:

The Secretariats of the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers ensure the exchange of information, coordination of their activities and assistance to the structures of the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers in their co-operation.

**Article 11**

This Protocol shall be an integral part of the Protocol on Co-operation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers signed in Vilnius on 14 April 1996.

This Protocol shall enter into force on the day of entering into force of the Protocol amending the Agreement on Parliamentary and Governmental Co-operation between the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania signed in Vilnius on 28 November 2003.

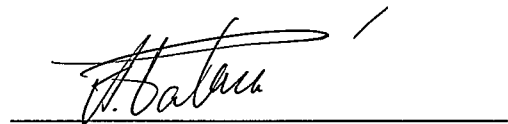
Done in Riga, on 18 December 2004 in two original copies in the English language.

For the Baltic Assembly

For the Baltic Council of Ministers



Jānis Reirs  
President of the Baltic Assembly



Artis Pabriks  
Chairman of the Co-operation Council  
of the Baltic Council of Ministers