FINAL DOCUMENT of the 23rd Session of the Baltic Assembly

The Baltic Assembly,

having convened on 17 - 19 December 2004 in Riga, the Republic of Latvia, for its 23^{rd} Session;

having discussed mutual information exchange and co-ordination of matters among the Baltic States with regard to the EU and NATO, development of co-operation in rendering assistance to and sharing reform experience with third countries, as well as social aspects of migration,

adopted the following documents:

Resolution on Labour Market Policy and Migration in the EU Context,

Resolution on the System of Financing Health Care in the Baltic States,

Resolution on Cooperation between the Baltic States and Nordic Countries with Regard to the Quality of Education,

Resolution on Cooperation among the Baltic States in Implementing the Schengen Action Plan,

Resolution on the Need to Assess the Damage Inflicted on the Baltic States by the Occupation,

Resolution on the Situation in Ukraine,

Resolution Regarding Accusations by the State Duma of the Russian Federation,

Decision on Amendments to the Baltic Assembly Statutes,

Decision on Amendments to the Regulations on the Secretariat of the Baltic Assembly;

approved the Baltic Assembly Budget Report for 2003 and the Baltic Assembly Budget for 2005;

defined the following priorities of the Baltic Assembly for 2005:

Co-operation with the new EU neighbouring countries,

Improvement of living standards and the quality of education in the Baltic States after their joining the EU and NATO,

The role of NGOs in forming civil society. Integration into society of people with special needs;

defined the following priorities for co-operation between the Baltic Assembly and the Baltic Council of Ministers in 2005:

Development of the Baltic Sea economic region,

Development of civil defence and civil security in the region,

Protection of the marine environment and enhancing maritime safety; and

decided that the 24th Session of the Baltic Assembly will take place on 24 - 26 November 2005 in Tallinn, the Republic of Estonia.

President of the Baltic Assembly Vice President of the Baltic Assembly Vice President of the Baltic Assembly

Jānis REIRS Republic of Latvia Andres TAIMLA Republic of Estonia **Valerijus SIMULIK** Republic of Lithuania

Riga, 19 December 2004