

**STANDING  
COMMITTEE**

093 SC 06 E Rev.1  
Original: English



## NATO Parliamentary Assembly

### DRAFT DECLARATION

on

### SUPPORT FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP FOR ALBANIA, CROATIA AND THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*

approved by

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

The Assembly,

1. **Recognizing** the significant progress made by Albania, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia towards achieving the goal of NATO membership as demonstrated during the Rose-Roth Seminar held in Tirana, Albania from 22-24 April 2006;
2. **Welcoming** the three countries' commitment to strengthening democratic institutions, civil society, rule of law and market economy, and to ensure protection of human rights and liberties on their territories;
3. **Acknowledging** the challenges posed to the stability of the region by the pervasive corruption and organized crime and of the determination to tackle this threat as articulated by the Prime Minister of Albania, Sali Berisha, and the Speaker of the Albanian Parliament, Jozefina Topali at the Assembly's Rose-Roth seminar in Tirana in April 2006;
4. **Recognizing** the key role to be played by Albania, Croatia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in support of the efforts of the international community in resolving the status of Kosovo and in building regional stability, as well as guaranteeing the protection of human rights and minority rights; and
5. **Believing** that, if they continued to pursue a course of ambitious reforms, an invitation to Albania, Croatia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to join NATO should be seriously considered no later than 2008 and that signals of this intent should be given at the NATO Summit to be held in Riga in November 2006;

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\* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia under its constitutional name

6. **PLEDGES** to render Albania, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia all possible assistance in achieving their goal of NATO membership, and particularly in their fight against corruption and organized crime.

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